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Synopsis

This authoritative, Apple-Certified training course is designed both for professionals who support Apple computers as well as Macintosh enthusiasts who want to upgrade, service, or troubleshoot their favorite systems. Fully revised, this third edition includes Apple’s new models with Intel processors, the MacBook Pro, Mac mini, and iMac. Keyed to the learning objectives of the Apple Desktop Service and Apple Portable Service certification exams, this is the companion curriculum used in AppleCare Technician Training courses worldwide. The book starts out with basic computer theory and underlying technologies, then moves on to cover everything from networking to the nitty-gritty steps and diagrams for upgrading and troubleshooting six sample computer models.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is one of many in the Apple Training Series covering fundamental aspects of Apple Hardware, OS X, and Pro Aps. A search of .com for Apple Training Series should uncover the other titles. Recently Apple Computer made some changes that readers may want to know about. These changes affect Certification of Apple Technicians who service, troubleshoot, upgrade, maintain and support Apple systems. As of February 7, 2008, the distinction between Apple Desktop and Portable Systems is removed in favor of a single certification, Apple Certified Macintosh Technician (ACMT). This book addresses the needs of those pursuing this Apple Certified Macintosh Technician (ACMT) and includes instruction about Resources and how to find more information about servicing and supporting Apple’s premier hardware equipment. But you may be interested in purchasing this
book if you need or want to delve deeper into the workings of your Apple hardware, are on the path to becoming a technician, or work for an AASP or are an Apple Self-Servicing Customer. Apple Desktop and Portable Systems, 3rd Ed. covers the five main computers in Apple’s front line, including the iMac, Mac Mini, MacBook, MacBook Pro and Mac Pro. Topics include troubleshooting and take-apart of these systems, including the Apple Troubleshooting Workflow Chart for diagnosing hardware woes and includes a complete step-by-step description of the Apple Troubleshooting method. The section covering the troubleshooting methodology is very useful for technicians because it teaches us how to solve problems and become a more insightful technician.

The reason I've read this book is because I’m planning on taking the exams for the ACMT (Apple Certified Macintosh Technician) certification. This book and other Apple Training Series books are the only books out there authorized by Apple as training material for the exams. This one in particular is to prepare you for the 9L0-008 exam, which is one of the two exams you have to take to get the ACMT certification. I knew beforehand that this book was going to be dated. It’s last revision was done in 2007. So that was something that I expected and willing to deal with. But I wasn’t expecting it to point to so many extra reference material. It sends you to read Apple Knowledge Base articles, there are extra chapters to download, and 5 service manuals you’ll be using throughout the book. At times it felt like the book is extra reference material for each of the Mac models’ service manuals. The first 8 chapters, or lessons, deal with stuff like using the resources Apple provides, safety precautions, tools to use, and some general networking theory. The rest of the book deals with 5 of the Mac family computers: The iMac, the Mac Mini, and the Mac Pro on Desktops, and the MacBook and MacBook Pro on Portables. There are no MacBook Airs. Each of the models follow a four lesson format. The first lesson is a quick and short intro, an upgrading lesson, a taking apart lesson (in these lesson you might as well read the service manuals) and a troubleshooting lesson. The troubleshooting lessons are a series of symptoms and the steps to take to fix the problem. It still remains to be seen if the book will do it's job. I'm hoping on taking the 9L0-008 exam before the year ends. There’s still some extra material I have to read.

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