Computer Repair With Diagnostic Flowcharts: Troubleshooting PC Hardware Problems From Boot Failure To Poor Performance, Revised Edition
Synopsis

THIS EDITION HAS BEEN REPLACED BY THE NEW THIRD EDITION, ISBN 0972380183.

The revised edition was published in 2008 so it includes none of the later technology that is present in most working PCs.

If you've been assigned this book as a text or a lab book in your college class or in a PC technician training program, check with your instructor to see if you can use the third edition instead. The Third Edition is expanded approximately 50% over the previous edition, with new decision points, text, and some reworked flowcharts.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Handy flowcharts with accompanying detailed descriptions. Very logically organized and layed out. It provides you with a structured process for tracking down pc problems. Highly recommended. Having a little troubleshooting experience would be helpful, but not absolutely necessary. A fair number of pc problems have very simple solutions. The author does not overlook the obvious (is it plugged in? are all the mute buttons unchecked?) on way to making a proper diagnosis. If you are at all serious about providing your own tech support (or support to friends and family), get this book. Money well spent.

The cover of this book asks the follow question: Do you know a CPU from a hard drive? Do you? If so, this book is fantastic. In my opinion, the key to diagnosis of any kind is a quick elimination of
possible root causes. This book accomplishes that by forcing the reader into yes/no questions. Drawing on his obvious experience, the author uses flowcharts to continually narrow the tech’s focus until the answer is apparent. The author takes subconscious deduction and lays it out on the page for anyone to follow. After some time it should become second nature to you as well. The book covers the gamut of hardware issues with a straightforward style. In between the various categories is text related to specific points on the flowcharts. There is some real gems in there. I have no doubt the author earns hourly income many times the cost of this book. Buy it.

This book is very short, and it often states the obvious. It is far from complete, but it’s still a handy thing to have around and much more portable than a big O’reilly’s book. The good thing about it is that it’s so damn easy to read. You can follow the flow chart to go straight to the advice you’re looking for. I just wish it was longer and offered more solutions than it does.

This is not a book about hardware; simply it gives you many flowcharts to guide you in the process to isolate a hardware failure. If you are looking for a book to learn “how a PC works”; this book is not for you; but if you want to repair a PC, it’s a good choice.

This is not your only repair book or your A+ exam book. Assuming you are familiar with the insides of a computer and have basic repair skills this book guides you through the basics of diagnostics. It’s not going to teach you how to install a hard drive but will bring you through the steps of testing it.

I built a computer for the first time last year. When I had a problem with it, I was unsure how to troubleshoot the issue. This book was simple to follow and helped me learn a lot and determine the cause for my problem.

Well when I got this product I was expecting it to be more like an actual book. To my suprise it resembles a workbook more than an actual book. It is the typical 8 1/2 by 11 size but it’s MAYBE half a centimeter thick. However, other than that it does have some good information in it and for each flowchart it has about 5 pages or so of written explainations of different parts of the flowcharts which I thought was helpful.

I was expecting much more detail. I purchased this book with the idea of using it as a training tool. I opened the book and traced through 5 of the most common problems I see in my shop. Knowing
the answer beforehand, I wanted to see if the book would agree with my diagnosis and repair options. None of the problems were captured in this book. If you are expecting a more detailed troubleshooting guide, this isn't it. I got the feeling this was a "Reader's Digest" version of something longer.

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