The Data Warehouse Lifecycle Toolkit

Second Edition

Practical Techniques for Building Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence Systems

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**Synopsis**

A thorough update to the industry standard for designing, developing, and deploying data warehouse and business intelligence systems. The world of data warehousing has changed remarkably since the first edition of *The Data Warehouse Lifecycle Toolkit* was published in 1998. In that time, the data warehouse industry has reached full maturity and acceptance, hardware and software have made staggering advances, and the techniques promoted in the premiere edition of this book have been adopted by nearly all data warehouse vendors and practitioners. In addition, the term "business intelligence" emerged to reflect the mission of the data warehouse: wrangling the data out of source systems, cleaning it, and delivering it to add value to the business. Ralph Kimball and his colleagues have refined the original set of Lifecycle methods and techniques based on their consulting and training experience. The authors understand first-hand that a data warehousing/business intelligence (DW/BI) system needs to change as fast as its surrounding organization evolves. To that end, they walk you through the detailed steps of designing, developing, and deploying a DW/BI system. You'll learn to create adaptable systems that deliver data and analyses to business users so they can make better business decisions.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

I took Kimball's class on the data warehouse lifecycle a few years ago. Recently as I was reviewing some of the problems our organization is wrestling with in building our data warehouse, I went back to the book which is now some 4 years old... but the fundamentals are all there and really they
haven't changed much. This is the "bible" I use, and many DW/BI professionals would say the same. If you want to understand the ecosystem for a sound DW/BI solution, this is where you go. There are many other great books that add to it, but start here.

A great read with valuable nuggets littered across every chapter. Years of experience have been laid out in the book. The 2nd edition is much better than its predecessor. Every topic has adequate space allocated to it. One should not expect an extensive review of dimensional modeling techniques in this book even-though, the authors have explained the topic very well. For a more detailed review with examples, you should purchase the toolkit on dimensional modeling. The same applies to designing the ETL sub-system.

The first edition, while very valuable and still relevant was getting long in the tooth - it was published 10 years ago. This book remains pragmatic and useful for just about every role associated with the data warehouse and business intelligence. My favorite chapter is on Collecting the Requirements but you will find sections that will make a difference in your DW/BI project implementation and sustainance.

Another awesome book by the Kimball Group. This 2nd edition is a great improvement over the original with lots of new material and new spins on old material. This is a must read for anybody claiming to be a DW/BI Professional.

A VERY good book on data warehousing. It is quite a heavy read, it is stated to have cca. 500 pages but on my Kindle DX it looked more like 1500 pages. It took me a while to get through it and I read it from cover to cover but it is definitely worth it. The writing style of the authors is quite accessible so you would learn a lot even without much previous experience in this domain.

I had Ralph’s first book, and first edition of the DW, and placed it in the kitchenette of my workplace last year. This is a great book for BI or Star Schema Developers or Designer. A must have for them.

This book is worth every penny of it’s price if, for nothing else, but the excellent development of fact and dimension table architecture. Yes, we have all created our own ad hoc versions of a fact table (intersection table) when many-to-many relationships collide on our ERD, but having the concept take center stage as the prime focus of logical design is wonderfully developed here by Kimball et
Kimball, et. al. really understand the Data Warehouse and the process to build your own. I read the first edition years ago, and it all came back in this book. This edition goes far beyond the original with a better understanding of the challenges businesses face. There are Notes throughout the book that provide valuable recommendations. If you take advantage of the Kimball website, you get tools that help you with building a Data Warehouse.

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