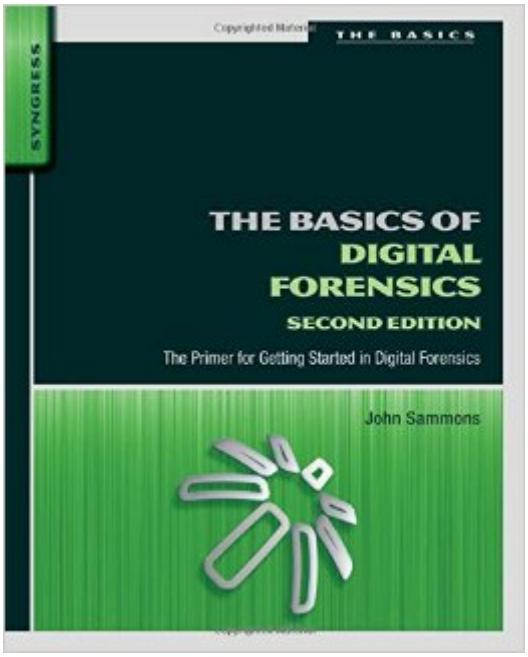
The Basics Of Digital Forensics, Second Edition: The Primer For Getting Started In Digital Forensics



Synopsis

The Basics of Digital Forensics provides a foundation for people new to the digital forensics field. This book teaches you how to conduct examinations by discussing what digital forensics is, the methodologies used, key tactical concepts, and the tools needed to perform examinations. Details on digital forensics for computers, networks, cell phones, GPS, the cloud and the Internet are discussed. Also, learn how to collect evidence, document the scene, and how deleted data can be recovered. The new Second Edition of this book provides you with completely up-to-date real-world examples and all the key technologies used in digital forensics, as well as new coverage of network intrusion response, how hard drives are organized, and electronic discovery. You'll also learn how to incorporate quality assurance into an investigation, how to prioritize evidence items to examine (triage), case processing, and what goes into making an expert witness. The Second Edition also features expanded resources and references, including online resources that keep you current, sample legal documents, and suggested further reading.Learn what Digital Forensics entailsBuild a toolkit and prepare an investigative planUnderstand the common artifacts to look for in an examSecond Edition features all-new coverage of hard drives, triage, network intrusion response, and electronic discovery; as well as updated case studies, expert interviews, and expanded resources and references

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Customer Reviews

Just like the title says, this book is an overview of the basics of digital forensics. And as a primer, it

does a great job of introducing not only the technical basics, but also some of the (just as important!) non-technical basics that entrants to the field should be aware of. Also, I love that this is not just Computer Forensics, but Digital Forensics. Networks and mobile devices are becoming a bigger part of what a typical digital forensic analyst encounters these days and they need some love too - and get it in Chapters 9 and 10.Like the title to my review says, I wish that this book had been around when I started in the field. The information is laid out in a easy to understand manner, and there is a good measure of humor thrown in to keep things fun. My favorite line so far? "A digital forensic report written in plain English is both much appreciated and much more effective (can I get an 'Amen' from the lawyers out there?)." Well, I'm not a lawyer, but you got at least one "amen" here.Bearing in mind that this book is geared toward newer entrants, I would love to see additional books that take the same approach and delve even deeper. All in all, I highly recommend this for those new or newer to the field. Great stuff!

Overall this is a very quick and easy foray into digital forensics. Don't get this if you're expecting a technical study resource or even a theoretical one. It reads much like an in-depth news article or a professor giving a lecture. The technical and theoretical work is going to have be done on your own time and from a different source. But, as an overview of the subject and a motivator for the interested computer forensics professional, I think this is a solid book.As far as delivering exactly what it promises,Â The Basics of Digital Forensics: The Primer for Getting Started in Digital ForensicsÂ deserves a 5 star. But, after finishing the book I'm left with a somewhat unsatisfied feeling as if much of the time spent reading the book was an opportunity cost where I would've learned more had the material been slightly more advanced. A partial credit to the readability of the book is that a lot of what's covered feels like common sense or inconsequential to learning.I would've liked to have seen slightly more technical information in the book at a basic level, so as to give me a quality reason to browse through the book a second and third time and make sure I'd understood the general concepts. Overall it's a solid addition to my collection and probably something I'd recommend to an interested high school student or a college freshman deciding if they should take a course on the subject.

I unfairly, and looking back, embarrassingly, received this book by answering an audience question to which the answer was my name during an AIDE conference in 2012 at Marshall University.I then said, "hey, give it someone else", but the giver insisted I keep it, to my dismay. But, hey, now I get to review it :)This is a very clear and well written introduction to the field of digital forensics. Take note

of the book’s subtitlewhich is nothing less than accurate; It’s a primer, and a very good one at that, but nothing more.Pros:1.) Presented in an easy to read and clear format2.) Short, not overwhelming, as a primer ought to be (IMO)3.) Brief discussions of relevant court cases, crimes, and legal rulings4.) Covered the hierarchy of digital forensic organizations along with leading institutions and standards5.) Focus on procedure and practice with an overview of each technology domain e.g. desktop computer, cellular, gps6.) A chapter devoted to legal aspects and problems in the fieldNotes & Misc:1.) As I would expect, Windows is the only major workstation OS touched upon2.) This book does not focus on specific tools and applicability but, rather, digital forensics as a whole3.) I was recently at a UofL/FBI partnered conference at the University of Louisville where agents mentioned the presence of a RCFL on campus.Thanks to the book I now know a little background on this i.e. FBI started the program and there are 16 facilities in the U.S. (pg. 30)4.) I learned that there are Faraday bags for cellular and mobile devices (pg. 48)5.) Most technical books are riddled with errors and typography problems. I was surprised to see that I didn’t catch anything (Though, I read it in a car on the way to a vacation spot).6.) on page 40. "Examples include DNA, latent prints, hair, and fibers.." Since we use hair because it _contains_ DNA the sentence /seems/ tautological but I don’t believe it is.I give it 5 stars because the book lives up to its purpose by being brief in contents but holistic in approach i.e. a perfect primer.

An excellent introductory book for those who have no experience in the field but remain interested in learning what it involves. So what makes this a 3-star product? It’s the dreadful number of typos, missing punctuation, and the bloated margin widths that seem to serve no function other than to increase page count. The editing is so bad, the editors responsible should be terminated. They either have no command of the English language, they simply did not care, they did not actually read the manuscript before printing, or a combination of all three. Whatever the reason(s), they should be ashamed of themselves. Their performance, at least as far as this book is concerned, should be the source of embarrassment. It’s too bad, too, as the author did a fine job of presenting otherwise technical subject matter in a prose that was easy to understand.

I work in IT and I love the security field however, learning does not come as easy to me and hands-on is the best tool for me. This book was easy to read and kept my interest. I am finally getting deeper into the security area of IT and I LOVE IT!

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