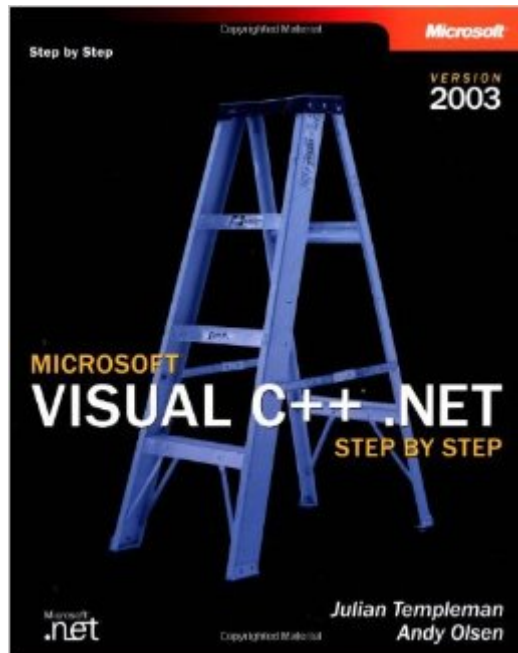


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# Microsoft(r) Visual C++(r) .Net Step By Step--Version 2003 (Step By Step (Microsoft))



## Synopsis

**Description:** 25-Word Description Teach yourself Visual C++ .NET version 2003--and begin developing Microsoft .NET-connected applications--one step at a time. Master core skills with step-by-step lessons and challenge yourself with simple to complex coding problems. 75-Word Description Teach yourself Visual C++ .NET version 2003--and begin developing applications and services for Microsoft .NET--one step at a time. This practical, hands-on tutorial expertly guides you through the fundamentals--from writing managed code to running and debugging your first .NET-ready programs. Work at your own pace through easy-to-follow lessons and hands-on exercises to learn essential techniques. And accelerate your productivity by working with instructive code and best development practices for Visual C++ .NET version 2003. Topics include inheritance and object-oriented programming (OOP) techniques, debugging, exception handling, operator overloading, the .NET Framework version 1.1, integration with Microsoft Windows(R) .NET Server 2003, Windows Forms, Web services, ATL, data access with XML and Microsoft ADO.NET, migrating legacy applications, and more. The authors are highly respected C++ programmers, trainers, and consultants who know how to quickly advance your expertise. **Positioning Statement:** Your hands-on, self-study guide for building applications and services with Visual C++ .NET version 2003

## Book Information

**Series:** Step by Step (Microsoft)

**Paperback:** 608 pages

**Publisher:** Microsoft Press (April 23, 2003)

**Language:** English

**ISBN-10:** 0735619077

**ISBN-13:** 978-0735619074

**Product Dimensions:** 7.3 x 1.6 x 9.2 inches

**Shipping Weight:** 5.1 pounds

**Average Customer Review:** 3.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (30 customer reviews)

**Best Sellers Rank:** #3,008,544 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #79 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Languages & Tools > C & C++ > Visual C++ #1126 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Microsoft Programming > .NET #1215 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Languages & Tools > C & C++ > C++

## Customer Reviews

First off...the reviewer who criticized the editor for having the wrong book is the one who is wrong: this is C++, not C#. So that reviewer's dismissal should be dismissed. Second, as the editor pointed out, some reviews were for the wrong edition: they too should be dismissed. However...I do not recommend this book for beginners. A lot of its "teaching" is done by cookie-cutter programming: find this line of code in the program...don't worry about what it actually means...now type these things under it...now compile. The reader gets working programs without fully understanding what x, y, and z mean. And the authors don't know how to teach step-by-step, despite the book's title. It's as if they can't decide what their target audience is. Are they writing a step-by-step book (as the title implies) that gradually walks beginners through from beginning to end, holding their hands and easing them along? Sometimes. Or are they writing a book for people who already know C++ and just need to learn how to apply it to .NET? Sometimes. The worst part is that while it is possible to do both in one book, I don't feel the authors managed to do either. Beginners will be confused by the disorganized introduction of material (pointers and classes in chapter 2) and lack of explanations, while already-proficient-in-C++ programmers won't learn enough new stuff to make the book worthwhile (unless they are new to programming .NET with C++: then the later chapters will give them new stuff). Here are some details, looked at from a newbie's perspective. \*\*\*\*\*" ... (the endl stream manipulation operator inserts a new-line character in the stream.

Much of this book is wasted on me because I am already experienced in MS C++ MFC programming. I bought it because I wanted to see how it and C++ .NET differed. I do think it was worth it overall for this purpose. I took an interest in the C++ portion because I saw the previously posted reviews and noticed that some reviewers were disappointed with it because they thought it inadequate to learn C++. Skimming those chapters I skipped, I would say too that it would have been inadequate for me to have learned C++, but to do justice to this book no one book was sufficient for me to learn C++ either. For example, much of the power of using C++ as an OOP language lies in abstract classes and virtual functions. Instead of building the narrative towards these features, this book mentions their existence almost in passing. Without these features, there's not much to recommend C++ as an OOP language of choice. The beginner who wishes to learn full C++ and not a particular flavor will need other books. Some books were better at explaining object-oriented concepts; some were better at explaining how C++ features related to OOP. Over time I bought about 16 books on C++ and OOP (object oriented programming). In particular, I think two of Herbert Schildt's books, Teach Yourself C++ and C++, the Complete Reference were good.

You might think of getting a generalized OOP concepts book such as by Booch. Later, I found the C++ FAQ book by Cline and Lomow useful. Unlike when I learned other languages, learning C++ and OOP required many small epiphanies. Most important you just have to try small programs that implement the ideas in the books to "get it". Once you do, learning something like Java seems almost trivial. Make no mistake, learning OOP and C++ is a tough row to hoe.

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