Programming Microsoft LINQ In .NET Framework 4 (Developer Reference)
Synopsis

Dig into LINQ -- and transform the way you work with data. With LINQ, you can query data from a variety of sources -- including databases, objects, and XML files -- directly from Microsoft Visual Basic or C#. Guided by data-access experts who’ve worked in depth with LINQ and the Microsoft development teams, you’ll learn how .NET Framework 4 implements LINQ, and how to exploit it. Clear examples show you how to deliver your own data-access solutions faster and with leaner code. Discover how to: Use LINQ to query databases, object collections, arrays, XML, Microsoft Excel files, and other sources Apply LINQ best practices to build data-enabled .NET applications and services Manipulate data in a relational database with ADO.NET Entity Framework or LINQ to SQL Read, write, and manage XML content more efficiently with LINQ to XML Extend LINQ to support additional data sources by creating custom operators and providers Examine other implementations, such as LINQ to SharePoint Use LINQ within the data, business, and service layers of a distributed application Get code samples on the Web

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Customer Reviews
I've been using LINQ for about a year (mostly LINQ-to-objects and LINQ-to-Xml) but recently started a new project using extensive LINQ-to-SQL. The book begins by laying a solid, easy to understand foundation, explaining the core concepts in just the right amount of detail, before building up to more complicated topics. Reading this book helped me finally understand LINQ in ways that I could only guess at before (like, what really is the difference between IEnumerable and IQueryable). Aside from one or two very minor errors, this is probably one of the best technical books I've read in a long time and I would recommend it for anyone wanting to truly understand LINQ inside & out.

This is a rock solid book on LINQ. It starts with an introduction that tells us why we need LINQ. The introduction also includes a ton of samples that show the different features of LINQ the rest of the book digs into. This book is packed full of examples. If you can't find what you need in this book, you won't find it. The book covers all the basics like LINQ to Objects, LINQ to SQL, LINQ to Entities, LINQ to DataSet, and LINQ to XML. It then goes beyond that and covers Expression Trees, Parallelism, Multitier Solutions, and Data Binding. My favorite part of the book is the coverage of expression trees. They did a great job of covering them in great detail. The best part about all the code samples in the book is that they are available for download in a very organized and usable download. I have been dragging this book around in my backpack for months. If you are doing anything with LINQ, this book is one you want by your side. I highly recommend it.

This book was crucial for me in teaching myself LINQ. I had to learn LINQ fast as part of an app I was building. There is a limited amount of information on the web and most of it really didn’t apply to what I needed.

This is what a technical book should be. Perhaps it isn't a 'classic,' but it is clear and well crafted, well organized, and gets right to the point. I'm also convinced that the authors know their SQL very well, so I feel like they are very worthy teachers of data access; in fact, I really wish they had gone off on a few more SQL tangents just because I trust the depth they bring. It doesn't put on kid gloves, though, so if you are new to LINQ you might start with the Magennis book and develop some comfort with LINQ to Objects first, just to have a foothold to work from, which will increase your comfort with the implementation facets that support LINQ, such as extension classes, generic classes, object initializers, and anonymous types.

I have been using LINQ for quite a sometime before I finally decided to read a book to fully
understand the basics of LINQ. This book has done a good job of clearing many of my questions especially, deciding when to use LINQ to SQL vs LINQ to Entities. This book also devotes a full chapter to "Modeling Data with Entity Framework" which was a great help. The chapters "Advanced LINQ" and "Applied LINQ" were very insightful and informative with focus on the architectural design choices. In a nutshell, a good read.

I wanted to understand the skills needed to develop a data layer for our company. I am a SQL Server and Oracle developer working mostly in the development of triggers, procedures and functions within the database. I wanted to make the transition into a C# coder to expand my skill level. This book did a nice job of explaining the topics and techniques used for my learning. I initially tried to jump right into the N-Tier chapters, which is what I wanted to learn, but found that I needed to go through the earlier chapters that lay the groundwork of understanding for the later more complex chapters. I would recommend this to a new learner of the LINQ to SQL and LINQ to Entities topics.

This is a good book to explain how LINQ works inside and out. Also in this book, there are lot C# examples. I am looking information on how LINQ works with SQL. This book definitely meets my expectation. It has good chapters about query, manager data, and data binding.

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