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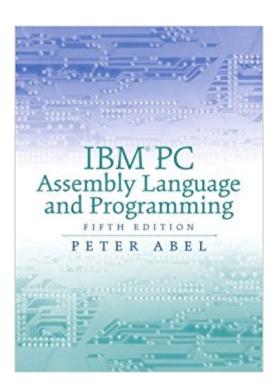# IBM PC Assembly Language And Programming (5th Edition)

IBM PC
Assembly Language
and Programming
FIFTH EDITION
PETER ABEL

Synopsis

Appropriate for undergraduate courses in Assembly Language Programming. Abel has designed the text to serve as both tutorial and reference, covering a full range of programming levels so as to learn assembly language programming. Coverage starts from scratch, discussing the simpler aspects of the hardware and the language, then introduces technical details and instructions as they are needed.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book for the express purpose of learning and programming PC-BIOS Assembly language functions, because I read the 3rd edition of this same book and found it to be excellent. I was severely disappointed to learn that the very chapter I wanted to thoroughly dissect was rewritten from being operating system independent to being operating system dependent, the dependent operating systems being DOS and Windows 95/98. A good deal of the information in this book depends upon these operating systems and will not work with Windows 2000, ME, or XP.The book provides meticulously thorough backgrounds, mundane explanations, and vague and ambiguous examples. Personally, I wish the depth of information was structured completely opposite.If you just want to "learn the ropes" of Assembly and have access to a DOS or Windows 95/98 machine to learn them on, this book will do. If you need something portable, something operating system independent, this book is not for you.

This book is a required text in an undergrad class on Assembly Language that I was taking. I found this book to be too difficult for a beginner simply, not because of the sophisticated concepts introduced here but because of the errors and lack of explanation. The latter half of the book is essentially like a reference and provided no explanation most of the time. Even for the example programs given in the text, there was not sufficient explanation. I also found that most of the programs (particularly in the latter half) do not work at all. I could fix a few bugs in some programs to make them work, however, this is a time consuming effort. Unless you have a really good instructor who can help you with the bugs and explanation of the code, I will not recommend this book. While I struggled with this book and managed to get an 'A' grade, I would look elsewhere if I had to do it all over again!

While not perfect for the beginning x86 assembly language programmer, Abel's text is an excellent overview of the basic and intermediate concepts of x86 assembly. This text covers many of the commands of the x86 instruction set and is an excellent introduction to learning about various BIOS and DOS interrupts. Herein lies a slight problem with the text. Relying too heavily on the "old world" of DOS and Windows 95/98 (and possibly - depending on your system - Windows 2000), this text often takes for granted that you are running on an older Microsoft-based x86 system. As long as you can overcome this compatibility "hurdle", this text is an excellent source for learning about x86 assembly. It covers the topic of machine code, which is of prime importance for those who are interested in writing assembler and compilers (and for writing succinct assembly), and also has copious notes on all the instructions taught in the text.

SO I am in college, and I am a good student. I excel at pretty much all my classes and I work hard to do so. I am great at synthesizing information and I love to learn. So why does this book fail a student like me, who just spent 3 hours trying to answer 2 freaking questions?The most opaque language I have ever read- Physics textbooks are a breeze in comparison. I have taken an MIT class in physics and it was EASIER THAN THIS. OK? If i ever met Peter Abel in a bar, i would buy a drink just to throw it in his face. THIS SUCKS SO HARD.Also, I can understand the concept behind learning about wagon wheels before you build a car engine, but....oh, no, wait, THAT MAKES NO SENSE. This is useless for real programming. Archaic and most machines can't even use assembly language anymore. Why it is still taught in schools is one of those mysteries that, pondered long enough, would make your head explode.This should be banned, set afire in a great pit, and then pissed on by hundreds until its just a sopping, ashen mass, then catapulted into the ocean. I AM

SERIOUS. When you study for hours and hours and hours and STILL don't know the answer to ONE PART of ONE QUESTION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE BOOK, despite all your hard work, and you are an A+ student from pretty much forever, one has to begin BLAMING THE BOOK.Seriously. USELESS. useless. I am going so far as to say that if i had to learn assembly language from this book for my career, I WOULD SWITCH CAREERS. To whit, i am avoiding any class that uses this textbook, for the rest of my life.

This book is not recommended to anyone who just started learning assembly, as they're very hard to understand.For beginners, I would highly recommend "80x86 IBM PC AND COMPATIBLE COMPUTERS (Volumes I & II)" by Muhammad Ali Mazidi, which also covers the subject thoroughly.

This was a purchase for a college class. Buying used on saves us money and it's the exact book in the campus bookstore. We like the option of shopping for better deals and how quickly our purchases arrive. By the way, he aced the class!

As a computer science student with 20 years of programming experience, I encountered Peter Abel's book (Fifth Ed.) published by Prentice Hall while taking an Assembly Language programming class.It is, bar none, the single worst computer language and programming resource I have ever had the misfortune to encounter. Not only does it lack critical details about methodology, it fails to include comprehensible explanations about the examples already provided. If it were simply that it was incomprehensible it might still be acceptable as a resource later on when clearer and more concise means of learning the subject are used. But this book contains more out and out flaws than the Beta release of Windows XP. Many of the programs included as examples of a concept in action DO NOT WORK. In fact, there are serious operative flaws in them. Further, several of the questions do not match the terminology found in the text, there are more typos and omissions in this book than in the average High School newspaper and actually learning anything useful and productive from this book alone would take an IQ higher than 180. If someone has years of programming experience IN ASSEMBLY, then it would probably make sense. As an aid to teaching the subject, not only does Mr. Abel miss the mark, he doesn't even aim in the right direction. For a student, this book is the academic equivalent of a twenty car freeway pile-up. Avoid it at all costs.

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