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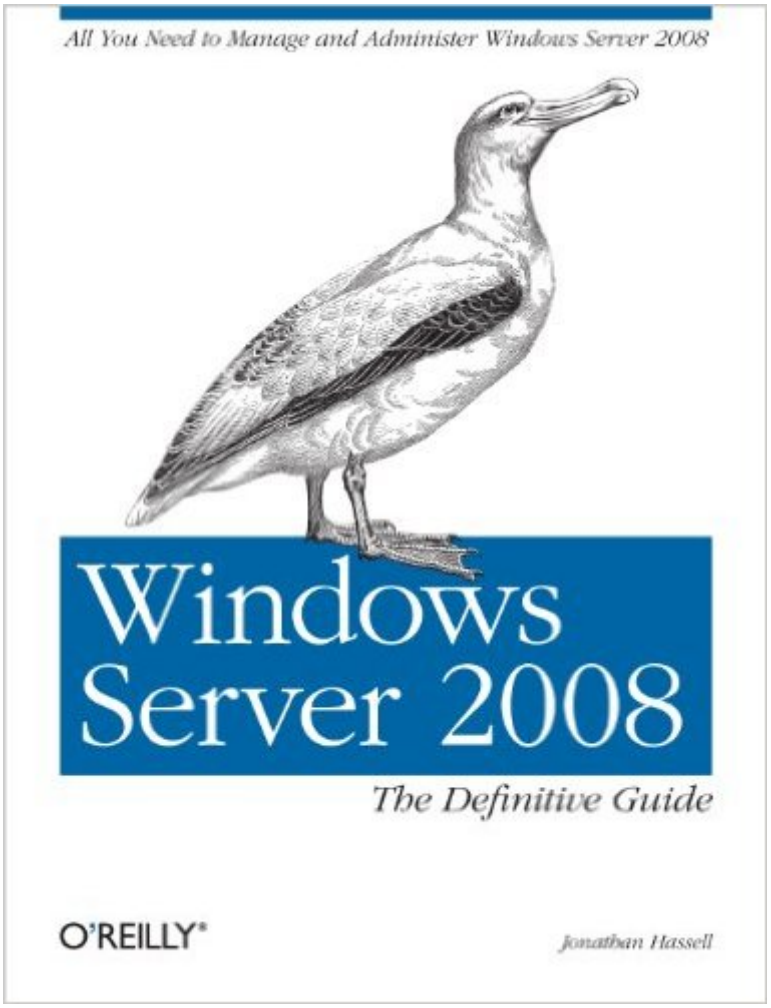
Windows Server 2008: The Definitive Guide



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Synopsis

This practical guide has exactly what you need to work with Windows Server 2008. Inside, you'll find step-by-step procedures for using all of the major components, along with discussions on complex concepts such as Active Directory replication, DFS namespaces and replication, network access protection, the Server Core edition, Windows PowerShell, server clustering, and more. All of this with a more compact presentation and a tighter focus on tasks than you'll find in bulkier references.Windows Server 2008: The Definitive Guide takes a refreshing approach. You won't find the history of Windows NT, or discussions on the way things used to work. Instead, you get only the information you need to use this server. If you're a beginning or intermediate system administrator, you learn how the system works, and how to administer machines running it. The expert administrators among you discover new concepts and components outside of your realm of expertise.Simply put, this is the most thorough reference available for Windows Server 2008, with complete guides to:Installing the server in a variety of different environmentsFile services and the Windows permission structureHow the domain name system (DNS) worksActive Directory, including its logical and physical structure, hierarchical components, scalability, and replicationGroup Policy's structure and operationManaging security policy with predefined templates and customized policy plansArchitectural improvements, new features, and daily administration of IIS 7Terminal Services from both the administrator's user's point of viewNetworking architecture including DNS, DHCP, VPN, RADIUS server, IAS, and IPSecWindows clustering services --- applications, grouping machines, capacity and network planning, user account managementWindows PowerShell scripting and command-line technologyWith Windows Server 2008: The Definitive Guide, you to come away with a firm understanding of what's happening under the hood, but without the sense that you're taking a graduate course in OS theory. If you intend to work with this server, this is the only book you need.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was obviously written before Windows Server 2008 was actually released and thus I don’t think "The Definitive Guide" part of the title quite fits for the title. "A First Look" would be more appropriate instead.It gives you a great overview of SOME of the new features but it isn’t quite thorough as I have discovered a lot of features not even touched in the book. One example is that there is an entire chapter devoted to Active Directory but that chapter only covers the Domain Services role leaving you in the dark about the other Active Directory roles that you can pick from:Active Directory Certificate ServicesActive Directory Federation ServicesActive Directory Lightweight Directory ServicesActive Directory Rights Management ServicesHere are some other roles that the book does not cover at all or barely mentions:UDDI ServicesStreaming Media ServicesPrint ServicesFax ServerAnother thing to note about this book is that it is not a how to book. It does provide some instructions and examples but no where near enough to where you can use this book to start deploying Windows 2008 servers.I would buy this book strictly if you don’t know about the new features of Window Server 2008. It gives you a great overview of many of the features. If your looking for a how to or reference book, stay clear of this title to avoid disappointment

O’reilly does a wonderful job writing books in a logical well organized manner.For a first edition I was hard pressed to find many obvious mistakes. They did their due diligence.This book is written for the IT PRO, not someone looking to learn Active Directory or other services in Windows Server 2008 hoping to pass a paper cert test. It’s assumed you have a broad understanding of Microsoft’s

culture and product lines and are looking for a practical review of technologies in 2008.You don’t have to be a AD guru to get a lot out of this book either. I would actually recommend it above Microsoft Press books, because instead of trying to indoctrinate you on a set of "standards" Hassell simply gives you a working set of parts under the hood. He doesn’t get caught up on the politics or test taking.I do not recommend this book as a project management guide to upgrading from 2003 to 2008. This isn’t one of "those" books. Instead, it’s a good book for someone exploring the idea and reasons for upgrading, by being exposed to what is inside 2008 Server first.As with almost any O’Reilly book, I think this is a definite buy for your IT library. It’s well priced too.

Windows Server 2008: The Definitive Guide by Jonathan Hassell is "all you need to manage and Administer Windows Server 2008". That’s what the book cover so boldly states. Let’s look...Inside you will find 14 chapters (449 pages) that cover:- Introduction to Windows Server 2008- Installation and Deployment- File Services- Domain Name System- Group Policy and IntelliMirror- Windows Security and Patch Management- IIS 7- Server Core- Terminal Services- DHCP and Network Access Protection- An Introduction to Clustering Technologies- PowerShell- HyperV.This is a truly helpful book to any server and network administrator, including those with years of experience in the "Windows Server world" and those who are just starting out. Unlike some of the O’Reilly books, this one is filled with crisp and informative screenshots that will guide you through many of the installation and configuration tasks.It seems like the author did not skip anything, the coverage of the subjects is extensive and well thought-out. While some of the topics may require additional resources if you need in-depth knowledge on them, I’ve never seen a book that was written to cover all of the possible issues you may encounter as a server administrator working on Windows Server 2008.Microsoft has introduced a few new things in this server OS and this book does an excellent job covering many intricate details of Windows Server 2008; especially those that differentiate Windows Server 2008 from Windows Server 2003.Admittedly, some of the chapters - PowerShell or HyperV - just scratch the surface of these complex subjects. However, one would realize, the same publisher offers a plethora of books on the above-mentioned topics. Therefore, such light coverage of HyperV or PowerShell does not diminish the value of this book.Strong 4 stars.

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