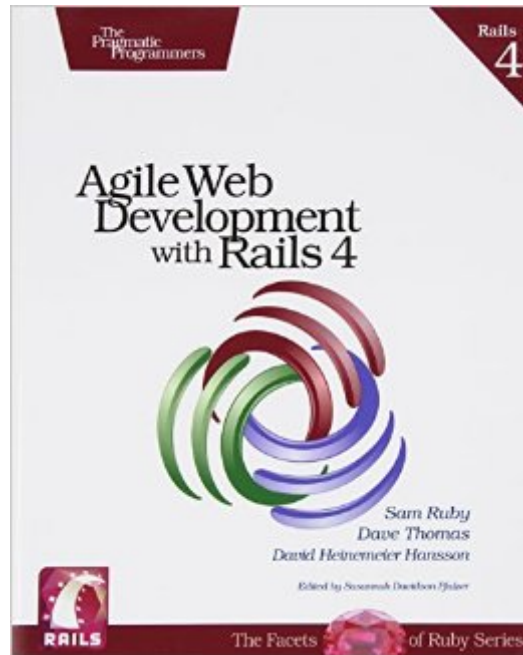


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# Agile Web Development With Rails 4 (Facets Of Ruby)



## Synopsis

Rails just keeps on changing. Both Rails 3 and 4, as well as Ruby 1.9 and 2.0, bring hundreds of improvements, including new APIs and substantial performance enhancements. The fourth edition of this award-winning classic has been reorganized and refocused so it's more useful than ever before for developers new to Ruby and Rails. Rails 4 introduces a number of user-facing changes, and the ebook has been updated to match all the latest changes and new best practices in Rails. This includes full support for Ruby 2.0, controller concerns, Russian Doll caching, strong parameters, Turbolinks, new test and bin directory layouts, and much more. Ruby on Rails helps you produce high-quality, beautiful-looking web applications quickly. You concentrate on creating the application, and Rails takes care of the details. Tens of thousands of developers have used this award-winning book to learn Rails. It's a broad, far-reaching tutorial and reference that's recommended by the Rails core team. If you're new to Rails, you'll get step-by-step guidance. If you're an experienced developer, this book will give you the comprehensive, insider information you need. Rails has evolved over the years, and this book has evolved along with it. We still start with a step-by-step walkthrough of building a real application, and in-depth chapters look at the built-in Rails features. This edition now gives new Ruby and Rails users more information on the Ruby language and takes more time to explain key concepts throughout. Best practices on how to apply Rails continue to change, and this edition keeps up. Examples use Concerns, Russian Doll caching, and Turbolinks, and the book focuses throughout on the right way to use Rails. Additionally, this edition now works on Ruby 2.0, a new release of Ruby with substantial functional and performance improvements. This edition is for Rails 4.0 and beyond.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The product description for AWDWR4 includes this paragraph:"Rails 4 introduces a number of user-facing changes, and the ebook has been updated to match all the latest changes and new best practices in Rails. This includes full support for Ruby 2.0, controller concerns, Russian Doll caching, strong parameters, Turbolinks, new test and bin directory layouts, and much more."Shockingly, AWDWR4 includes no discussion of some of the aforementioned changes, including Turbolinks and strong parameters, which are the first two subjects I searched for in my copy of AWDWR4. The authors simply included a link to Turbolinks' GitHub repo, and there is literally not one mention of the term "strong parameters" in the whole book! AWDWR4 seems to be a hastily-updated version of AWDWR3, which I also own.If you already know Rails 3, I recommend that you not waste your time or money on AWDWR4. After realizing that AWDWR4 is worthless, I bought PDF copies of Rails 4 in Action and The Rails 4 Way. (The print versions of these books are available for pre-order at .) These two books are currently in beta, but they're already over 700 pages long and they include sections devoted to strong parameters, Turbolinks, etc.In the past, I bought Pragmatic books without bothering to evaluate them beforehand because their books had always been high-quality. This seems to no longer be the case, and I won't buy another Pragmatic book until one is recommended to me by someone I trust. Pragmatic joins O'Reilly in this regard.----Update (2014-01-22):In response to a comment on my review, I compared the indexes in AWDWR3 and AWDWR4. What motivated me to compare the indexes was the fact that AWDWR4's index doesn't include entries for either strong parameters or Turbolinks, which is surprising for a Rails 4 book. I checked the first pages of both indexes and here's what I found:AWDWR3: Action Controller, 309, 321-332AWDWR4: Action Controller, 309, 319-330Same number of pages. (These are the pages in AWDWR4 that should have included discussion about strong parameters.)AWDWR3: Action Dispatch, 309-319AWDWR4: Action Dispatch, 309-319Same exact page numbers.AWDWR3: Action Mailer, 177-183AWDWR4: Action Mailer, 177-183Same exact page numbers.AWDWR3: Action View, 343-368AWDWR4: Action View, 341-366Same number of pages.As I wrote above, AWDWR4 seems to be a hastily-updated version of AWDWR3.

This is the second book on Rails that I purchased to learn new features in Rails 4 (the first one

being Ruby on Rails Tutorial - I bought the paper copy which covers Rails 3 but the free online version covers Rails 4). As someone relatively new to Rails, I found this book easy to follow. I tried all the sample code and it worked without any problems. The explanations accompanying code is clear for the most part. Since I already learned the Rails way of doing things in Ruby on Rails Tutorial book, the main value addition in this book for me was in Part III - Rails in Depth - a lot is discussed and several ideas tossed around for someone to use in a real project. The main downside of this book is that some of the treatment is superficial. For example, an authentication mechanism is developed in the book which is good for illustrative purposes but it's not replaced with a relevant gem that's ready to use (such as devise). This book uses MiniTest for the most part for automated tests. In my work place MiniTest is considered to be too basic in terms of functionality/scope and therefore cucumber/rspec/capybara are used instead. This book barely mentions these gems and capybara is not mentioned at all. Another thing to note is that this book does not use TDD but develops tests as after the fact - which is not necessarily bad in itself (depending on your style of development) but something to be aware of. If you are a beginner to Rails, you can checkout either this book or Ruby on Rails Tutorial book - both will get you started. If you have preference towards TDD, then go with Ruby on Rails Tutorial. Personally I liked the TDD style of Ruby on Rails Tutorial. I suspect that neither of these two books will be very useful to intermediate/advanced Rails developers.

I have some experience for C# .net web development as a business information technology student. I'm a complete noob with practically zero knowledge of ruby and ruby on rails. Regardless I find this book very intuitive to follow, and I think if you know any object oriented language to some degree, you can pick this up and start learning ruby and rails easily at the same time. To make the point clear, I think this book is NOT for total newbies due to the way many concepts are just thrown around without explanation, but great for those who know the basic programming concepts already and just want to read something that makes them see the big picture of rails and get started as fast as they can. I think I won't be going back to .NET for a long time..

I used this book for a Frameworks class in college, and i was quite impressed. The "depot demo" it walks you through creating touches on lots of great material, like database tables, relations, and AJAX just to name a few. This isn't everything you will need to know to go make millions on your great idea, but it forms the foundation of understanding of Ruby on Rails. The writing style is excellent as far as textbooks go - i really like all the books written by Dave Thomas (yea yea, no not

the Wendy's guy).

This book is a step back from previous versions. They've shuffled things around, but not in a good way. They've also pruned down information, and no longer mention details that I relied on such as examples on how to do things using both sqlite and mysql! This book now leans toward sqlite, and leaves you to search the net for how to do the same thing with mysql. I loved the earlier versions, but don't recommend this one at all. Do yourself a favor and choose another book.

This is a great book for anyone looking to learn the Ruby on Rails framework. Little to no knowledge of Ruby needed. You will learn along the way if your familiar with the concepts of object oriented programming.

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