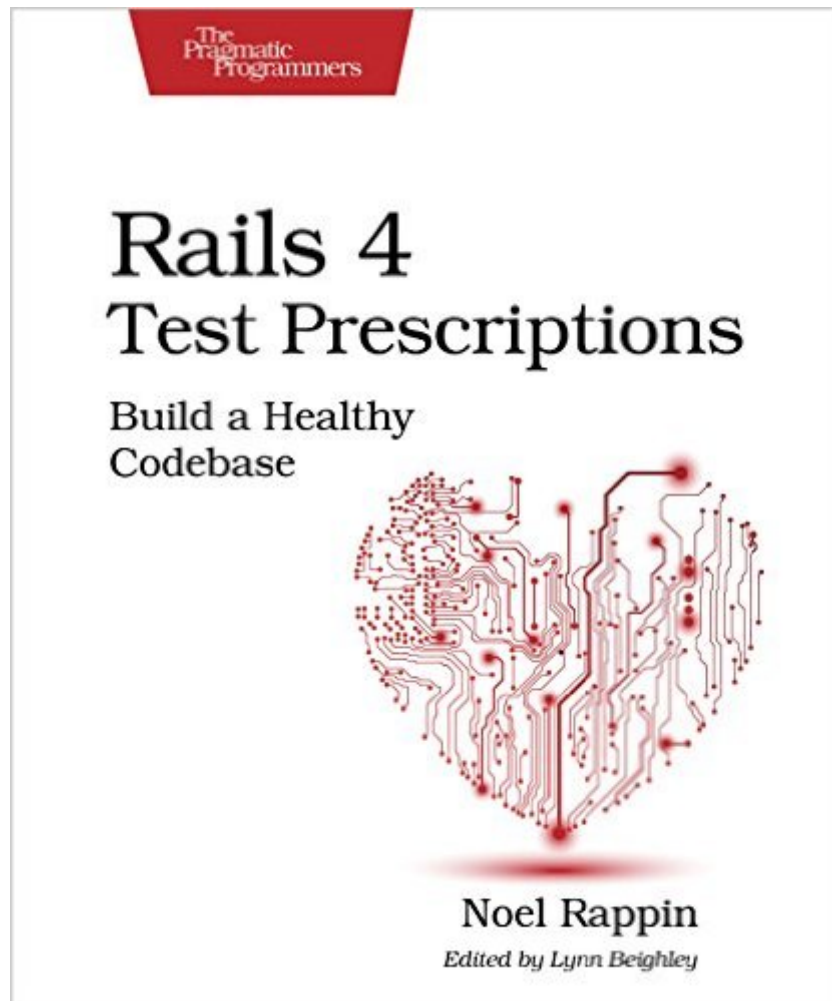# Rails 4 Test Prescriptions: Build A Healthy Codebase

Synopsis

Does your Rails code suffer from bloat, brittleness, or inaccuracy? Cure these problems with a regular dose of test-driven development. Rails 4 Test Prescriptions is a comprehensive guide to how tests can help you design and write better Rails applications. In this completely revised edition, you'll learn why testing works and how to test effectively using Rails 4, Minitest 5, and RSpec 3, as well as popular testing libraries such as factory_girl and Cucumber. Do what the doctor ordered to make your applications feel all better. Side effects may include better code, fewer bugs, and happier developers.Your Ruby on Rails application is sick. Deadlines are looming, but every time you make the slightest change to the code, something else breaks. Nobody remembers what that tricky piece of code was supposed to do, and nobody can tell what it actually does. Plus, it has bugs. You need test-driven development, a process for improving the design, maintainability, and long-term viability of software.Containing both practical code examples and discussion of why testing works, this book starts with the most basic features delivered as part of core Ruby on Rails. Once you've integrated those features into your coding practice, you'll learn how to use popular third-party testing tools such as RSpec, Mocha, Cucumber, and factory_girl. You'll test the component parts of a Rails application, including the back-end model logic and the front-end display logic. Using Rails examples, you'll learn how to use testing to enable your code to respond better to future change. Plus, you'll see how to handle real-world testing situations.This completely revised edition contains a new tutorial, as well as new examples throughout the book. Many chapters, including the JavaScript chapter, have undergone major changes to reflect new tools and new practices. And there are brand new chapters on testing for security, and testing external services.What You Need:Ruby 2.1, Rails 4

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Customer Reviews

DISCLAIMER: I was one of the technical reviewers of the book.With that said, if I was not one of the reviewers, I would have been one of the beta book customers. The reason is that the author is one of those rare human beings who can explain things to you just as effectively in a book form as he can over a more interactive medium. And this book is no exception. It is the best resource out there if you are looking to either learn or improve your ability to test drive Rails applications. But that's not where it stops. The book is filled with nuggets of useful information that comes from the author's experience in the field & specifically with test driven design (TDD).The book starts with a very balanced view towards testing. It emphasizes that accuracy is an important attribute to have in tests but clarifies that TDD is more of a software design technique with verification as a side effect. The author does a wonderful job in identifying which of the reasons that are generally used as a benefit of TDD are useful based on his experience. Even though the book is about TDD, the author does a wonderful job identifying situations where TDD is not going to be effective. The author's explanations on what makes great tests is probably one of my favorite sections in the book and a great example why this book is useful for programmers building applications outside of the Rails framework.The previous edition of this book was the resource that clarified the difference between mocks & stubs for me and this version improves upon that. Furthermore, the book does a wonderful job of exploring how to test applications for different goals & different contexts. This is the most thorough resource on the subject of test driving Rails Applications that I am aware of. You should definitely buy this book!

I bought this book thinking it would just make a "good read", but I was way off: it became the book I couldn't put down. I literally wore out the page corners from constantly reading and referencing such a rich collection of testing knowledge.The title is about test prescriptions, but the subtitle says it all. Through this book, Noel showed me how to write great tests, that in turn caused me write better code. My code wasn't the only code to improve. This book was very instrumental in introducing my co-workers to testing, and helped guide them through the process with ease.Rails 4 Test Prescriptions has been worth far more to me than what I paid for it: I had no idea how valuable this book would become.

If you are a rails developer and want to be able to sleep well at night, this book is for you. This book has so much to offer and definitely is a must have money and/or reputation is at stake.It will take you through the automated testing world of mocks, stubs, spies plus teach you how to setup your fixtures using factory girl. It also covers integration testing using cucumber

I have found this book to be invaluable, and I frankly think it is equally valuable for even the most experienced Rails developers. In Rails 4 Test Prescriptions, Rappin covers nearly every way to test your Rails apps, allowing you to achieve borderline excessive test coverage (although he does not encourage that, and instead offers instruction in how to improve test performance and avoid repetition). With a droll sense of humor that helps make the book accessible, Rappin keeps the reader engaged while providing in-depth discussions and examples of tests for all aspects of Rails apps, including security and JavaScript. Reading this book has made testing nearly painless and helped me understand how, why, and what to test, leading to far less brittle code.

Its an awesome book, led me to tdd and bdd way, seamlessly.

Well written and covers just about everything you need to know for doing proper TDD with Rails. Highly recommended for Rails developers of all levels!

Rails 4 Test Prescriptions is a well written book about the current state of Ruby/Rails testing. If you are new to Rails/Ruby testing world, this book is invaluable. You will find everything you need to test you code from every angle. Testing models, controllers, helpers, views, frameworks... it's all there. However if you are looking for a great intro into TDD/BDD I would recommend you look up classics by Kent Beck: Test Driven Development by Example or if you want to get more advanced grab a copy of Growing Object Oriented Software Guided by Tests by Nat Pryce and Steve Freeman. These are Java books, but game-changing reads.

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