Programming Primer for the Macintosh VOLUME 1

JOHN MAY JUDY WHITTLE

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Programming Primer for the Macintosh®

VOLUME 1

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Programming Primer for the Macintosh®

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JOHN MAY AND JUDY WHITTLE



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Chapter 1

Introduction

Learning to program the Macintosh is not an easy thing to do. Just ask any seasoned Mac application developer. But the effort is worth it when you see the familiar Mac user interfaces like windows, dialog boxes, pop-up menus, and alerts coming up on the screen as your program runs. This book, based on John May's Macintosh programming courses for the University of California at Berkeley, tells you how to develop programs in which you can take pride. The book also has some insights on the Mac that give you a far greater understanding of what many consider the world's best computer.

History of the Macintosh

You may remember the dramatic introduction of the Macintosh computer in a commercial during the 1984 Super Bowl game. That particular ad has been described as the "greatest impact advertisement of all time" and "a brilliant way to launch a new product." True, perhaps, but the product wasn't really new. Here are dates of some of the major events that were important to the development of the Macintosh that we know and love today:

Douglas Engelbart of SRI invents the mouse

◆ 1970s Xerox PARC, Apple Computer

◆ August 1981 IBM introduces the PC

◆ January 1983 Lisa — Apple's forerunner to the Mac