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LPIC-1: Linux Professional Institute Certification Study Guide (Level 1 Exams 101 And 102)
Synopsis
LPIC-1 Linux Professional Institute Certification Study Guide  Here’s the book you need to prepare for the LPI Level 1 exams from Linux Professional Institute. This study guide was developed to meet the exacting requirements of today’s certification candidates, and has been reviewed and designated as LPI Approved Training Material. In addition to the consistent and accessible instructional approach that readers have come to expect from Sybex, this book provides: * Clear and concise information on Linux technologies and topics * Practical examples and insights drawn from real-world experience * Coverage of key topics such as security, the boot process and scripts, and kernel maintenance tools * Linux compatible exam preparation software, including a testing engine and electronic flashcards for your Palm  You’ll find authoritative coverage of key exam topics including: * Linux command line tools * Using regular expressions * Managing shared libraries * Configuring hardware * Designing a hard disk layout * Creating partitions and file systems * Configuring X Window system * Managing GUI logins * Customizing a desktop environment * Creating a custom kernel * Managing the shell environment * Configuring a boot loader * Managing servers * Configuring Samba

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Customer Reviews
I picked this book up to use as a study guide for taking the LPIC-1 102 exam. (I passed, by the way.) This book was good read that kept my interest and proved a good overview to Linux system administration as well as a LPIC-1 study guide. And it covered a few topics in generally better detail than some other Linux books I’ve read. Even after the test is passed, I expect I will refer back to this
book from time to time as one of my Linux references. While the material is good and well-written, it expects you have some basic Linux experience. You will not be able to learn Linux from this book. Also the sample questions are easier than you will encounter on the test, so you may want to use an additional resource for sample questions. However, if you study the material in this book, you will pass the test, so don't let the sample questions put you off. The CD comes with an electronic copy of the book (a big plus, in my consideration), flash card study material that you load on your PDA, and practice tests, which unlike the real test, are all multiple choice. (The real test is multiple choice and fill in the blank.) Despite the problems with the questions, I highly recommend this book as both a study guide for the LPIC-1 test and a general Linux reference book for beginning to intermediate users. The author did a good job.

I just passed LPIC 101 with a good score thanks to this book. It follows the LPIC objectives very closely. Since the publication of the book the objectives were updated at the end of last year, so you might have to read upon those changed ones. The author not only covers the objectives of the exam but gives enough background if you need to fill holes. I'm confident to face 102 with this book in my hand and under my pillow. Please note that I also read Brunson's LPIC I and the just published second edition of LPI Linux Certification in a Nutshell by O'Reilly. The latter one has all four exams covered - 101, 102, 201, and 202. However, it does not give the close following of test objectives as this book does. Enjoy it, I certainly did. Thank you Mr. Smith.

I find the reports from the earlier posters to be based on the test that existed before April 1, 2009. The current version of this book is said to be based on this newer test. I found the book to be severely substandard in preparing for this new test. As the previous poster said, the sample questions are not even in the same league with the questions on the test. I rate this book as a complete waste of money if you are planning on taking the LPIC-1 tests.

This was a good book to help me prepare for the LPIC 101 and 102 exams, which I passed. It is very comprehensive in its coverage and encompasses everything you will face on the LPIC exams. However, the sample questions and the sample exams on the CD are trivially easy compared to the actual exams. If I had to do it over again, I would not use this as my only source to study.

I bought the 2nd edition and found it was perfect preparation for the test. The test is hard, so the book is as-well. My method was to read a chapter, take notes, take the flash cards, next chapter. I
then went through the flash cards and CD tests, once I was getting 90%-100% on the CD test, I was ready for the exam. Enough to pass exam just by knowing the flash cards and CD tests.

My number one complaint is that the practice exam was nothing like the actual exam. The real exam was mostly fill in the blank which is pretty different than multiple choice. I would have paid more attention to the spelling of some commands if I had known. Of course there was no tab completion on the test ;)
The book is also a bit disorganized and covers topics in the same chapter that are not particularly related making it harder to organize my notes. There are also some points in the text where the author says that something is not relevant and won't be covered in the book but then it is mentioned over and over. The example that comes to mind is the older versions of Xorg which are compared to new versions repeatedly despite having mentioned at the beginning of the chapter that the test won't ask about them. Other than that the book was helpful as a starting point for studying, and I passed the test.

+ Chapters too long & varied - Package managers, library files, and top all in the same chapter! Topics run together.
+ Not enough example command usage or important details - Some utilities have two pages dedicated to listing out every single flag they accept, even the less common ones. This is what man pages are for. Yet, important things such as what exactly the three load-average values represent, are omitted!
+ Left to Google for more - As with the last example, vague descriptions of some things are given and you'll be left to set the book down and Google for the answer yourself. You'll be sure to remember it after that, but these are the kinds of things that should be included.

Test was much harder than the review questions in the book. Having a background in C programming helps a bunch.

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