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Professional Microsoft Office SharePoint Designer 2007
With Professional Microsoft Office SharePoint Designer 2007, you can master all aspects of using SharePoint Designer in an Enterprise environment to enhance Microsoft SharePoint Products and Technologies. Review key integration points, how to use CSS editing tools to create and modify SharePoint themes, how to supplement SharePoint Designer functionality by using Microsoft Visual Studio, and how to create a rich interactive experience. If you need to connect SharePoint with other enterprise resources or create components to integrate into the SharePoint framework, this book will show you how to accomplish these tasks.

**Book Information**

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As you can tell from the title of this review, I am a developer at heart, and as well all know, most developers generally look down upon SPD. However, SPD is a tool, and for certain things, a useful tool. It belongs in the toolbox of every SP professional. If you don't use SPD for the things it is good for, then you are missing out. That said, if you need to get to know SPD and what it can do, then this is the book you want. I like the way the beginning of the book is organized (SharePoint - from the perspective of different user types) because it breaks the basics down in a way that keeps things segmented nicely. I can skip the whole "from a user's perspective" parts as I don't need that stuff. It also helps me see things "from the other side" - that is, not a developer's point of view. From there, it starts to get into functionality of SPD. It starts with Look and Feel - the bane of every developer's existence - and moves into applications without programming and probably the best coverage I
have seen anywhere of programming SharePoint from the client-side (with Javascript and WPSC). I do find it interesting that a book on SPD covers some Visual Studio topics - creating workflow elements and webparts. While I don't think the coverage of either topic is going to make someone an expert at either task, it at least will get them comfortable with what is involved. My only concern is that people will feel like this coverage is sufficient and attempt to move into these more traditional developer roles insufficiently prepared. There is a LOT more to learn before you get there and can play in that space effectively. If I had to pick one negative about the book, I would have to say it would be in its coverage of SPD workflows.

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