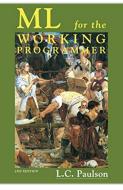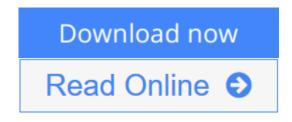# ML for the Working Programmer

By Larry C. Paulson

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The new edition of this successful and established textbook retains its two original intentions of explaining how to program in the ML language, and teaching the fundamentals of functional programming. The major change is the early and prominent coverage of modules, which are extensively used throughout. In addition, the first chapter has been totally rewritten to make the book more accessible to those without experience of programming languages. The main features of new Standard Library for the revised version of ML are described and many new examples are given, while references have also been updated. Dr Paulson has extensive practical experience of ML and has stressed its use as a tool for software engineering; the book contains many useful pieces of code, which are freely available (via the Internet) from the author. He shows how to use lists, trees, higher-order functions and infinite data structures. Many illustrative and practical examples are included.. Efficient functional implementations of arrays, queues, priority queues, etc. are described. Larger examples include a general top-down parser, a lambda-calculus reducer and a theorem prover. The combination of careful explanation and practical advice will ensure that this textbook continues to be the preferred text for many courses on ML.

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Editorial Review

Review
"If you are an experienced programmer who wants to learn Standard ML, then this is the text for you. The book succeeds on two levels: as an introduction both to the strengths of functional programming in general, and to the intricacies of Standard ML in particular. It is filled with well-crafted programs that reveal the tricks of the functional programmer's trade. There is a readable explanation of the sophisticated modules system, and danger signs warn you of the few remaining infelicities in the language.....There is a fascinating collection of search algorithms, which illustrate with good effect how ML can mimic 'lazy' evaluation. These examples culminate in a wonderful final chapter that presents a theorem prover, of just the kind ML was created to support....Paulson writes with vigour and with humor. The book is spiced with jokes and polemics." Philip Wadler, Times Higher Education Supplement

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