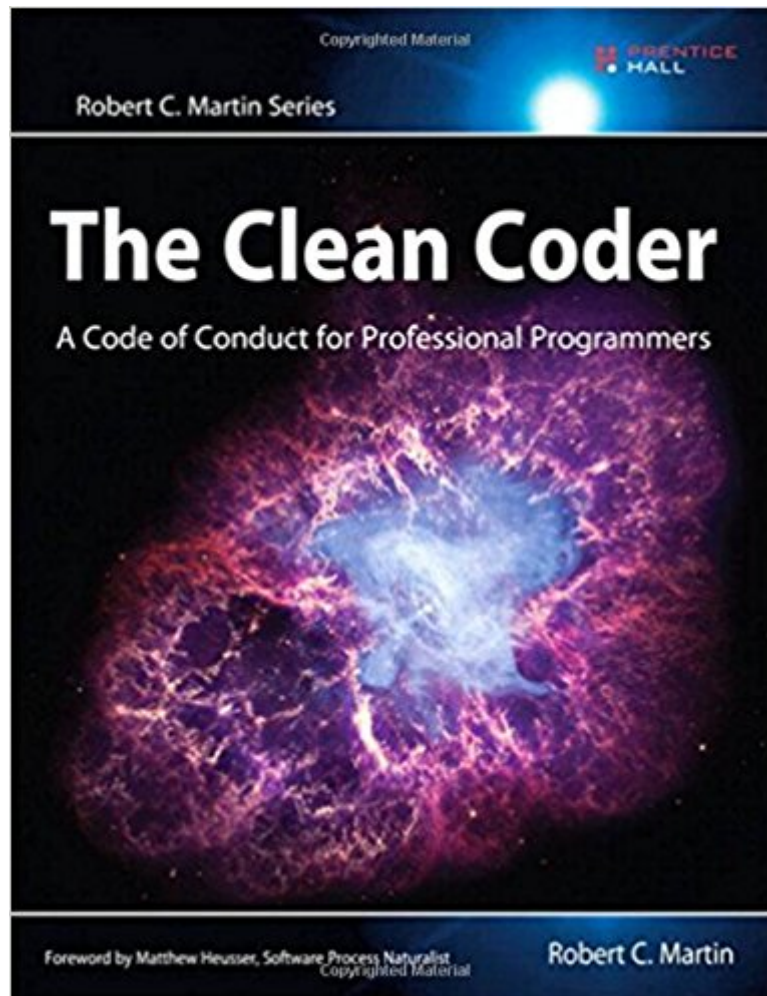




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# The Clean Coder: A Code Of Conduct For Professional Programmers



## Synopsis

Programmers who endure and succeed amidst swirling uncertainty and nonstop pressure share a common attribute: They care deeply about the practice of creating software. They treat it as a craft. They are professionals. In *The Clean Coder: A Code of Conduct for Professional Programmers*, legendary software expert Robert C. Martin introduces the disciplines, techniques, tools, and practices of true software craftsmanship. This book is packed with practical advice about everything from estimating and coding to refactoring and testing. It covers much more than technique: It is about attitude. Martin shows how to approach software development with honor, self-respect, and pride; work well and work clean; communicate and estimate faithfully; face difficult decisions with clarity and honesty; and understand that deep knowledge comes with a responsibility to act. Readers will learn

- What it means to behave as a true software craftsman
- How to deal with conflict, tight schedules, and unreasonable managers
- How to get into the flow of coding, and get past writer's block
- How to handle unrelenting pressure and avoid burnout
- How to combine enduring attitudes with new development paradigms
- How to manage your time, and avoid blind alleys, marshes, bogs, and swamps
- How to foster environments where programmers and teams can thrive
- When to say "No" and how to say it
- When to say "Yes" and what yes really means

Great software is something to marvel at: powerful, elegant, functional, a pleasure to work with as both a developer and as a user. Great software isn't written by machines. It is written by professionals with an unshakable commitment to craftsmanship. *The Clean Coder* will help you become one of them and earn the pride and fulfillment that they alone possess.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

• “Uncle Bob”™ Martin definitely raises the bar with his latest book. He explains his expectation for a professional programmer on management interactions, time management, pressure, on collaboration, and on the choice of tools to use. Beyond TDD and ATDD, Martin explains what every programmer who considers him- or herself a professional not only needs to know, but also needs to follow in order to make the young profession of software development grow.” • “Markus GÃrtner Senior Software Developer it-agile GmbH www.it-agile.de www.shino.de” • “Some technical books inspire and teach; some delight and amuse. Rarely does a technical book do all four of these things. Robert Martin’s always have for me and The Clean Coder is no exception. Read, learn, and live the lessons in this book and you can accurately call yourself a software professional.” • “George Bullock Senior Program Manager Microsoft Corp.” • “If a computer science degree had a required reading for after you graduate,”™ this would be it. In the real world, your bad code doesn’t vanish when the semester’s over, you don’t get an A for marathon coding the night before an assignment’s due, and, worst of all, you have to deal with people. So, coding gurus are not necessarily professionals. The Clean Coder describes the journey to professionalism . . . and it does a remarkably entertaining job of it.” • “Jeff Overbey University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign” • “The Clean Coder is much more than a set of rules or guidelines. It contains hard-earned wisdom and knowledge that is normally obtained through many years of trial and error or by working as an apprentice to a master craftsman. If you call yourself a software professional, you need this book.” • “R. L. Bogetti Lead System Designer Baxter Healthcare www.RLBogetti.com

Even bad code can function. But if code isn’t clean, it can bring a development organization to its knees. Every year, countless hours and significant resources are lost because of poorly written code. But it doesn’t have to be that way. Noted software expert Robert C. Martin presents a revolutionary paradigm with "Clean Code: A Handbook of Agile Software Craftsmanship." Martin has teamed up with his colleagues from Object Mentor to distill their best agile practice of cleaning code "on the fly" into a book that will instill within you the values of a software craftsman and make you a better programmer-but only if you work at it. What kind of work will you be doing? You’ll be reading code-lots of code. And you will be challenged to think about what’s right about that code,

and what's wrong with it. More importantly, you will be challenged to reassess your professional values and your commitment to your craft. "Clean Code" is divided into three parts. The first describes the principles, patterns, and practices of writing clean code. The second part consists of several case studies of increasing complexity. Each case study is an exercise in cleaning up code-of transforming a code base that has some problems into one that is sound and efficient. The third part is the payoff: a single chapter containing a list of heuristics and "smells" gathered while creating the case studies. The result is a knowledge base that describes the way we think when we write, read, and clean code. Readers will come away from this book understanding

How to tell the difference between good and bad code  
How to write good code and how to transform bad code into good code  
How to create good names, good functions, good objects, and good classes  
How to format code for maximum readability  
How to implement complete error handling without obscuring code logic  
How to unit test and practice test-driven development

This book is a must for any developer, software engineer, project manager, team lead, or systems analyst with an interest in producing better code.

This is an enlightened book about the life of a skillfull, ambitious young man who became a professional software developer in time after serious ups and downs. I think this book should be filmed after him. Robert Martins is a humble man, he gives examples from his life for which every want-to-be software developer can learn serious lessons about ethical values what it means to be get respected in the world of software. For example, most of the time in my professional life I never was able to say NO. And that brings about unpleasant experiences for you and for those who try to see the whole picture of the project and make corresponding plans for it. In two separate chapters the book tells you when and why you should take the initiative to say No or Yes to your boss or your employer, or maybe even to yourself in order to get the work really done. You will enjoy the book and won't recognize when you find yourself reading the last page of the book :-).

I found a great wealth of knowledge to be gained out of this book. In the end it did a good job of indicting both myself and the company I work for in what we have been failing at, while at the same time giving great examples for ways to improve the process with the understanding that programmers are not robots, and grinding them with 60+ hour weeks is simply destructive and not at all a desirable goal if you want quality to be a measure. I gave it 4 instead of 5 stars because I can see some younger programmers failing to get invested in the narrative of this book, simply because there is a lot of examples provided of how things were back in the 70s and 80s doing development

on paper tape and punch cards, and if you fail to grasp that these are stories that elucidate where the bad practices we deal with today originate, then you may yawn, skip, or simply put down the book. Tips to potential readers of this book: the talk about the old days of programming, read it with the understanding that it is a history lesson into why the SDLC has faults, where they come from and why they exist. The talk about FITNesse being the absolute solution to all your woes is sadly a really bad attempt at self-promotion, so you should take away why you would use FITNesse, and draw your own conclusions as to whether it or another tool would do the same task for your business. Also, don't be discouraged by your business in that you can't change all the bad practices overnight, just remember, there are measures you can control, so do so and encourage other developers in your section to do the same, eventually you can at least carve out a little professionalism in your day to day.

Team players sometimes say no and professionals make mistakes! So I haven't read the whole book yet, I am around the quarter of it, but I have to tell you: it's great. I bought the book accidentally (I wanted to buy the clean code), but I am really happy about it. This book is not about coding itself, but how to behave in a professional environment as a professional. I remember back in my old days I used to work 12 hours, since I was a 'very committed professional'. Ah, how far I was from that. It is nice, that this book tells you story what does it make and how to behave to be more effective engineer. Oh, and yes...everybody else (even Uncle Bob) make and still does mistakes! Its okay, this comes with professionalism, the question is ... are you take responsibility for your mistakes ?

Uncle Bob is awesome! This was a great book on what is involved in being a professional programmer. Bob Martin is able to explain abstract computer science best practices in such an understandable manner that he makes them seem obvious and straight forward. The service that Bob has done for the world, yes world, because all of our lives are impacted by poor software, "think about how many times your service or billing has been messed up or otherwise incorrect", good chance some highly dependent, highly-coupled code playrd a big part in that. Bob Martin and his programming principles are SOLID.

This is a fantastic book written by a true professional with many years in the field. It's not super dense, making it easy to pick up and read through small sections at a time, but it is filled with lots of good advice for programmers. I highly recommend this book as well as Uncle Bob's video series to anyone who takes their career as a software engineer seriously.

Seminal work by Uncle Bob. Should be required reading for software developers and the bible for software engineering operations. The more I mature as a software engineer the more I appreciate the points highlighted in this specific book. There is certainly a lot more to be said in terms of software artistry, but I think this work nails the biggest and most important heads down. If there's one book that's a must read, this is it.

Robert Martin not only describes the way a developer can go from talented contributor to true professional, but inspires the reader to do so. His insights into the social and organizational factors that affect the lives of programmers are valuable, and will teach the young while confirming what a lot of older developers have been trying to achieve. He articulates the substance of his points well.

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