

PROFESSIONAL

Active Server Pages 2.0



- Object Model
- Active Server Components
- IIS 4 Administration
- ActiveX Data Objects
- Transactions
- Index Server
- Case Studies

Francis, Fedorov, Harrison, Homer,
Murphy, Sussman, Smith and Wood

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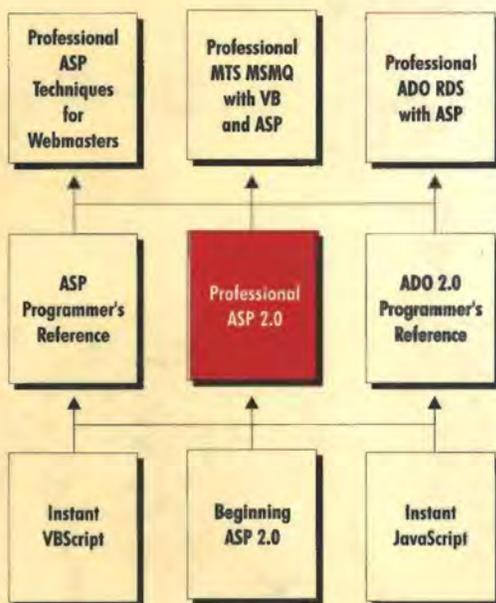
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Active Server Pages 2.0

What is Active Server Pages?

Active Server Pages 2.0 is the latest update to Microsoft's server-based technology which comes free as part of both IIS 4.0 and Personal Web Server 4.0. It is designed to create dynamically generated HTML pages for a World Wide Web site or corporate intranet. It's just part of an all-encompassing concept called the Active Server environment, which has been developed along with Microsoft Windows NT Server, and Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS). In this book we show you how Active Server Pages fits into the grand scheme of things, and how you can use it to build really great web sites and intranet applications.

Who is this book for?

Anybody and everybody who has responsibility for planning, building, or maintaining a web site—on the Internet or a company intranet—will find this book invaluable. This book updates and expands the knowledge of programmers with an existing knowledge of ASP 1.0, and allows anyone with knowledge and experience of VBScript or JavaScript and the Internet to learn this exciting server side web technology.

What does this book cover?

- Discovering what Active Server Pages (ASP) is, and what it can do
- Mastering ASP programming with VBScript and JavaScript
- Using Active Server Components to make ASP programming easier
- Using the ActiveX Data Objects technology for database access
- Understanding client-server programming on the Web
- Building your own Active Server Components to enhance and expand your applications
- Understanding the risks you face on the Internet and learning how to protect your site
- Case studies (with source code) of real-world applications, showing advanced techniques
- A comprehensive, easy look-up, reference section covering all the topics in the book

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Professional Active Server Pages 2.0

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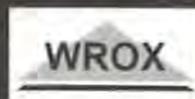
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An Introduction to Active Server Pages

INTRODUCTION



Active Server Pages is the latest server-based technology from Microsoft, designed to create interactive HTML pages for a World Wide Web Site, or corporate intranet. It is just part of an all encompassing concept called the Active Platform which has been developed along with Microsoft Windows NT Server, and Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS). In this book, we start by focusing on what the Active Platform is and how the various technologies such as IIS 4.0, ASP and MTS (Microsoft Transaction Server) fit together. We also look at how you can get hold of ASP, and how to install it together with IIS 4.0 or Personal Web Server 4.0. Then we'll show how Active Server Pages fits into the grand scheme of things, how it has improved in version 2.0 and how you can use it to build really great Web sites and intranet applications.

Who is this Book for?

This is a Wrox 'Professional' series book, so we won't be wasting your time by trying to teach you everything from scratch. We appreciate that most, if not all, of the web page authors and developers who take up Active Server Pages will be reasonably familiar with ordinary HTML, basic scripting concepts, and the simple constructs of the two main scripting languages, VBScript and JavaScript. So, we're assuming that you will know about these basic concepts, and that we won't need to waste time and space by going over them. If you need a quick refresher on either scripting language, you'll be able to find comprehensive references at the back of this book. If you're already familiar with Active Server Pages and want a guide that concentrates on the new features of version 2.0, you won't be disappointed, as there are several chapters devoted to things that weren't possible in IIS 3.0.

Like all Wrox books, this one is written by programmers, for programmers. It's full of practical techniques that you can use to develop your own code. There are also plenty of solid code examples, case studies that produce real, practical, applications, and reference material both throughout and at the end of the book. This means that you can use it as a primer to learn the new techniques, and as a reference for the future— as you develop your skills and your Web sites, you can keep coming back to learn more.

What do I need to use this book?

Most importantly you'll need a copy of Active Server Pages and a web server for your platform (which must be either Windows 95 or NT 4.0). You'll also need a browser (preferably Internet Explorer 4) and a web page or text editor such as FrontPage 98 or Notepad.

Both Active Server Pages and a web server for either NT 4.0 or Windows 95 are available as part of the NT 4.0 Option Pack which is freely downloadable from Microsoft at

<http://www.microsoft.com/ntserver/guide/whatisntop.asp>

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