DNS & BIND Cookbook

Solutions and Examples for System Administrators

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Synopsis

The DNS & BIND Cookbook presents solutions to the many problems faced by network administrators responsible for a name server. Following O'Reilly's popular problem-and-solution cookbook format, this title is an indispensable companion to DNS & BIND, 4th Edition, the definitive guide to the critical task of name server administration. The cookbook contains dozens of code recipes showing solutions to everyday problems, ranging from simple questions, like, "How do I get BIND?" to more advanced topics like providing name service for IPv6 addresses. It's full of BIND configuration files that you can adapt to your site's requirements. With the wide range of recipes in this book, you'll be able to check whether a name is registered, register your domain name and name servers, create zone files for your domains, protect your name server from abuse, set up back-up mail servers and virtual email addresses, delegate subdomains and check delegation, use incremental transfer, secure zone transfers, restrict which queries a server will answer, upgrade to BIND 9 from earlier versions, perform logging and troubleshooting, use IPv6, and much more. These recipes encompass all the day-to-day tasks you're faced with when managing a name server, and many other tasks you'll face as your site grows. Written by Cricket Liu, a noted authority on DNS, and the author of the bestselling DNS & BIND and DNS on Windows 2000, the DNS & BIND Cookbook belongs in every system or network administrator's library.

Book Information

Paperback: 240 pages
Publisher: O'Reilly Media; 1st edition (October 2002)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0596004109
Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.6 x 9.2 inches
Shipping Weight: 14.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars  See all reviews (17 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews

This book has turned out to be the best investment I've made so far in my 20 year IT career. I've
always trusted O’Reilly books for their detailed accuracy. However, for the task at hand, I didn’t need a book to explain WHY things work... I needed one to tell me how to GET them to work. This book was perfect! It doesn’t replace the DNS and BIND, 4th Edition, but is a great compliment... Actually, I’m finding the 4th Edition a perfect compliment to the Cookbook.

Like the BIND book, the DNS and BIND cookbook is an invaluable reference for any DNS/Email/Web admin. This book answers many of the questions raised in the BIND book through numerous illuminating illustrations. It explains the differences between BIND 4, 8 and 9. Plus there’s a great section on email and even IPv6. The DNS & BIND cook book coupled with the BIND book are truly the BIND bibles.

If you need to understand the difference between BIND 9 or Windows AD DNS and BIND 8, this is not the book for you. But if your management decides to tell you about the important new product launch on 20 servers in a new domain they just bought and kept under wraps to stun the competition which they need implemented in some novel way that requires a DNS twist, THIS will save you. It will also save you if you are really a Windows admin, but you need to configure something in BIND. Or if you need to do something in BIND that you haven’t done before. Or if you don’t care WHY you have to do task X, Y and then Z to get the desired result, but you need to know HOW? This is your book. The WHY is in the BIND book from O’Reilly.

You don’t have to know a lot about anything to make your own zone files. There are plenty of tutorials on the web, which is all you really need to set up a pair of your own name servers. If you feel the need to know more about what you just did and why it works, the fine folks at O’REILLY could not have made DNS and BIND any easier to understand. I bought my copy second hand and the previous owner never even cracked the cover. O’REILLY puts out the best books for old school programmers like myself. The book’s format makes it easy to find solutions defined by their specific problem. Keep in mind, this is an old book from 2002. There have been changes, but not enough to make this old school cook book completely worthless.

"DNS & BIND Cookbook" is a problem-solving text, which Network Administrators will be glad to read. It displayed utmost rationality in its simple and concise way of dealing with most problems, which arise from Domain Name Systems. It also exposed all the factors, which are likely to escalate Berkeley Internet Name Domain problems, before providing their remedies in a clear sequential
Net Administrators (as well as voracious users of any of the major Operating Systems) would appreciate the inclusion of an easy-to-digest chapter on Internet Protocol version 6, (IPv6). This book clearly made the mark! Apart from the rather summarized information, which I noticed on two of its chapters, (i.e.: 'Create Zone Files For Your Domains' and 'Use Increment Transfer'), there is nothing that I will hold against this book. Cricket Liu did a very good job in writing it.

This is a very good book. It is well laid-out and cover the subject well. I like the cookbook format. I have already used several of the recipes. Cricket works for Infoblox. Infoblox sells an industry leading DNS appliance, which I highly recommend. I have worked with DNS since 1996 and have met Cricket. He really knows the subject matter. I wish him well.

This book has some useful and helpful tips, but spends too many pages (IMO) covering really really basic stuff (whois, etc.). I’m used to the O'Reilly cookbooks covering things that are more insightful, less obvious or creative.

If you are dealing with DNS then it is unlikely that it will be trivial. This book covers the subject well from simple problems to more complex. At the complex end, it remains a very useful reference as you beaver through tough stuff.

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