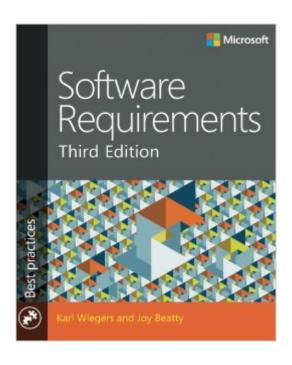# Software Requirements (3rd Edition) (Developer Best Practices)

# Synopsis

Now in its third edition, this classic guide to software requirements engineering has been fully updated with new topics, examples, and guidance. Two leaders in the requirements community have teamed up to deliver a contemporary set of practices covering the full range of requirements development and management activities on software projects.  Describes practical, effective, field-tested techniques for managing the requirements engineering process from end to end. Provides examples demonstrating how requirements "good practices" can lead to fewer change requests, higher customer satisfaction, and lower development costs. Fully updated with contemporary examples and many new practices and techniques. Describes how to apply effective requirements practices to agile projects and numerous other special project situations. Targeted to business analysts, developers, project managers, and other software project stakeholders who have a general understanding of the software development process. Shares the insights gleaned from the authorsâ ™ extensive experience delivering hundreds of software-requirements training courses, presentations, and webinars.   New chapters are included on specifying data requirements, writing high-quality functional requirements, and requirements reuse. Considerable depth has been added on business requirements, elicitation techniques, and nonfunctional requirements. In addition, new chapters recommend effective requirements practices for various special project situations, including enhancement and replacement, packaged solutions, outsourced, business process automation, analytics and reporting, and embedded and other real-time systems projects.

# Book Information

Series: Developer Best Practices

Paperback: 672 pages

Publisher: Microsoft Press; 3 edition (August 25, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0735679665

ISBN-13: 978-0735679665

Product Dimensions:  7.3 x 1.6 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review:  4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (62 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #27,426 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #9 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Computer Science > Systems Analysis & Design   #25 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Computer Science > Software Design & Engineering   #54 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology >

## Customer Reviews

I became a business analyst in 2004 and a co-worker suggested that I read Karl Wieger's books, Software Requirements, 2nd Edition and More About Software Requirements Thorny Issues and Practical Advice. That was the BEST professional advice I've ever received. The books have been integral in helping me to understand the many different skill sets, techniques, and best practices required to do a great job as an analyst.So when I heard that Karl and Joy were co-writing the 3rd Edition of Software Requirements I was elated! The information provided in the new book is current, easy to understand, and so very relevant. Real-life examples and humor have been weaved throughout the book which makes it a very interesting read.I recommend this book as an essential reference guide for anyone involved in software development, not just analysts. All roles should know about business analysis as it relates to system design and software development. This will be a book that you will refer to time after time.

There are a great many friendlier, funnier, more engaging software requirements books on the market. There are very few books as comprehensive and concise as this one. Yes, concise. I know it's huge. It just covers that much information.It provides an analysis of stakeholders and functional vs nonfunctional requirements that was surprisingly informative. We throw those terms around all the time, but rarely consider a formal definition. This book looks at a variety of options, and the one you choose will guide your thinking throughout requirements analysis and harvsting.It covers everything you need to establish your requirements for the waterfall method, though it features substantial information on agile. If you are new to agile, and need ideas on how to gather the backlog, or if you've been using a while but don't feel the backlog is as complete as it should be, grab this book and a notepad. It covers a host of sources that are easy to overlookIt is very, very dry reading, which is the only reason it is four stars and not five. I found it hard to stay focused once in a while, and needed a caffeine boost to keep going. There is an attempt in the beginning to be humorous, but that is quickly lost. It is a little poorly organized. The topic sentence does not always guide the reader to the topic under discussion. You'll need to reset your focus a few times during the book, but it's worth it. The first two editions are often considered required reading for project managers, and the third lives up to that august reputation.

Over the years, when a novice business analyst (or someone with experience handling

requirements) has asked me for a good reference, I've sent them to Karl Wiegers' books. This third edition of Software Requirements is the gold standard I'll now be recommending. Karl and Joy have done an excellent job of enriching the already-great material from the prior version, giving readers an understanding of why solid requirements are needed and illustrating practical techniques for developing and managing requirements. In addition to commonplace stories illustrating the concepts, they provide clear and useful examples of all the techniques. Practical, complete examples are essential to understanding methods an analyst hasn't used before; like many of the subject matter experts we encounter, we "know it when we see it!" The book is written in a flow that helps an analyst see what needs to be done from the point when an idea is first considered, to when it becomes the subject of a project, all the way through the project completion. Not all techniques work well with all types of projects, though, so the book includes sections describing adaptations of the material discussed and the specific needs of particular types of projects. They cover agile, enhancement and replacement, packaged solution, outsourced, business process automation, business analytics, and embedded and real-time projects. While it's a healthy-sized tome at more than 600 pages, the book is well organized and specific topics are easy to access individually. Most business analysts would benefit from reading it cover to cover, though, at least once!

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