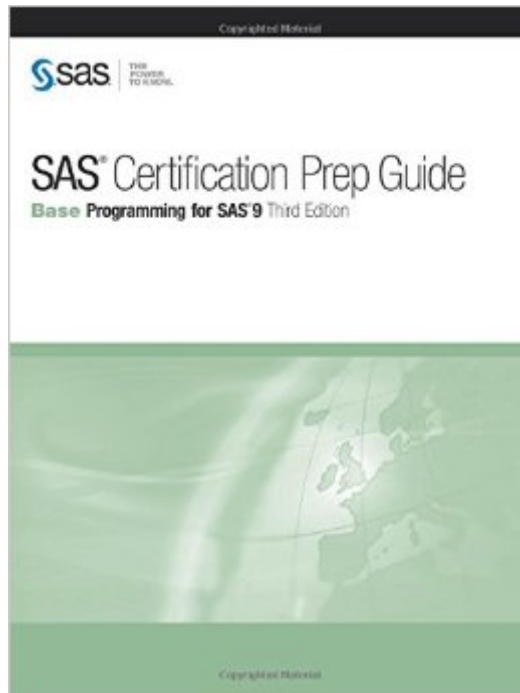# SAS Certification Prep Guide: Base Programming For SAS 9, Third Edition

Synopsis

New and experienced SAS users who want to prepare for the Base Programming for SAS 9 exam will find the SAS Certification Prep Guide: Base Programming for SAS 9 to be an invaluable, convenient, and comprehensive resource that covers all of the objectives tested on the exam. Major topics include importing and exporting raw data files, creating and modifying SAS data sets, and identifying and correcting data syntax and programming logic errors. You will also become familiar with the enhancements and new functionality that are available in SAS 9. Each chapter includes a quiz on the chapter's contents. This guide provides you with a solid study resource as well as a go-to reference for your library.

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Customer Reviews

The book was rife with formatting atrocities, typos, and inane repetition. (I believe I counted 3 instances of exact same "operators in SAS" table, and the topic was introduced each time as though you'd never seen it before). Sometimes it felt like the author(s) were attempting to fill whitespace.On the whole, the book reads like it was written by a non-native English speaker and evidence of editorial review is noticeably absent.But...As poorly written as the book is, it does the job of preparing you for the exam and lets you know what to study.It is written by SAS, and they are the ones who ultimately write the exam. Still, I expect better.

This is the first E-book I've read that had programming errors in it. I don't mean error in the SAS code (though there are some of those too) but errors in the way the book is read by the Kindle

Reader for Android. More than once, I turned the page to find myself on the same page, and turned the page again to land on the same page, and again and again and again...yes the book gets stuck in an iterative loop. Ironically it is a book about programming.Also, some of the quiz questions are tricky, which I guess is good, but some of the "correct" answers aren't correct in all circumstances. This may cause an experienced programmer to choose the "wrong" answer when in fact their choice makes better sense. For example, the correct answer to one question is that formats assigned in the data step are assigned permanently. This is NOT true if the dataset is a work dataset...I would choose temporarily, but according to the book, this is wrong.If you want to study for the SAS Certification exam cheaply, this is the way to do it, in spite of the problems.ADDENDUM: I have now taken the SAS Certification test and can add that this book does NOT COVER EVERYTHING ON THE TEST. Though I think there is enough information in this book to pass the test, it is no substitute for practical experience.

The SAS base exam is nitpicky... You really have to watch placement, semicolons, dollar signs, and periods. However, there are so many typos in this book that I worry about learning things incorrectly. I have found several errors that aren't listed on the errata, and I am only halfway through the book. I find myself wondering what errors I haven't found, and double checking almost every line I read in the SAS documentation (maybe this is part of the preparation strategy?).The book also repeats things in dumb ways, for example, tables 1.5 to 1.11 are the EXACT same table repeated over and over! I wasted several minutes trying to figure out what was different before I realized there was no difference... It seems like they tried to cobble together several different powerpoint slides instead of writing a book from scratch. It is really painful.The chapter summaries tend to read better than the chapters themselves and can be used as a jumping point to what you should look up in your other SAS books or papers or documentation. However, the real selling point for this book are the quizzes, assuming that the questions are modeled off the real exam (I will update this review after I take the exam.)Overall, if you are taking the exam you really should get this book so you have an idea of the content and format of the questions. But don't rely on this book exclusively (double check everything!). Hopefully SAS will overhaul it.

Well, don't use this to learn statistical techniques.It is design to PREPare you for the ceertification exam, that's it.The chapter end quizes taught me that the cert exam will be nit-picky.The expectation is to get you to know "exactly" situational appropriate knowledge.There are errors in the text that I have run into in many chapters, and some areas that contradict each other.But I have found this a

very good reference for using SAS and will be buying the next text in the series.I think a more CD practice as you go approach would be much better but I couldn't find one.So if your like me, and know some SAS programming and want to assure yourself of what you know and learn the finicky particulars before you sit for the certification exam....then this is a great text for you.Pair this with some SAS by statistical example text and you have the makings of the start of a good SAS library.

Much cheaper than doing the course.Suitable for people who never used sas or programmed.The exam questions were very close to the book's curriculum, however I wouldn't have passed without solvingadditional questions from exams that can be found on the web for free.Will get the advanced study guide as well.

This book does an decent job of presenting all the information you will need to pass the Base SAS Certification Test. Yes, there are typos, but this is not uncommon in programming books, and the amount in this book (while annoying) are on par with what I'd typically expect from a book of this type. I've definitely seen books more.However, the practice tests at the end of each chapter are relatively easy compared to what is on the exam. DO NOT USE ONLY THE END OF CHAPTER TESTS AS EXAM PREP. I am a generally very good in standardized testing environments, and I could answer all the end of chapter tests with at least 90% accuracy, but when I sat for my exam I was shocked to see that THE QUESTIONS ON THE EXAM ARE DIFFERENT AND REQUIRE A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE MATERIAL THAN YOU WILL EXPECT BY JUST DOING THE BOOK'S SAMPLE QUESTIONS. I did not pass the exam the first time - I was livid. I don't think it's unreasonable to expect that the sample questions in an official exam prep guide (purchased at significant cost) should give an accurate representation of what you will see on the exam. I ended up buying the practice exam (ya, you have to pay for a practice exam from SAS - I feel like it should come with the exam prep guide), and that was a more accurate representation of the test. I passed the second time.Because this book provides the material but misrepresents the difficulty of the exam, I took of two stars. You need this book - there's nothing out there by a third party to replace it - but be careful. The exam is different than the book represents.

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