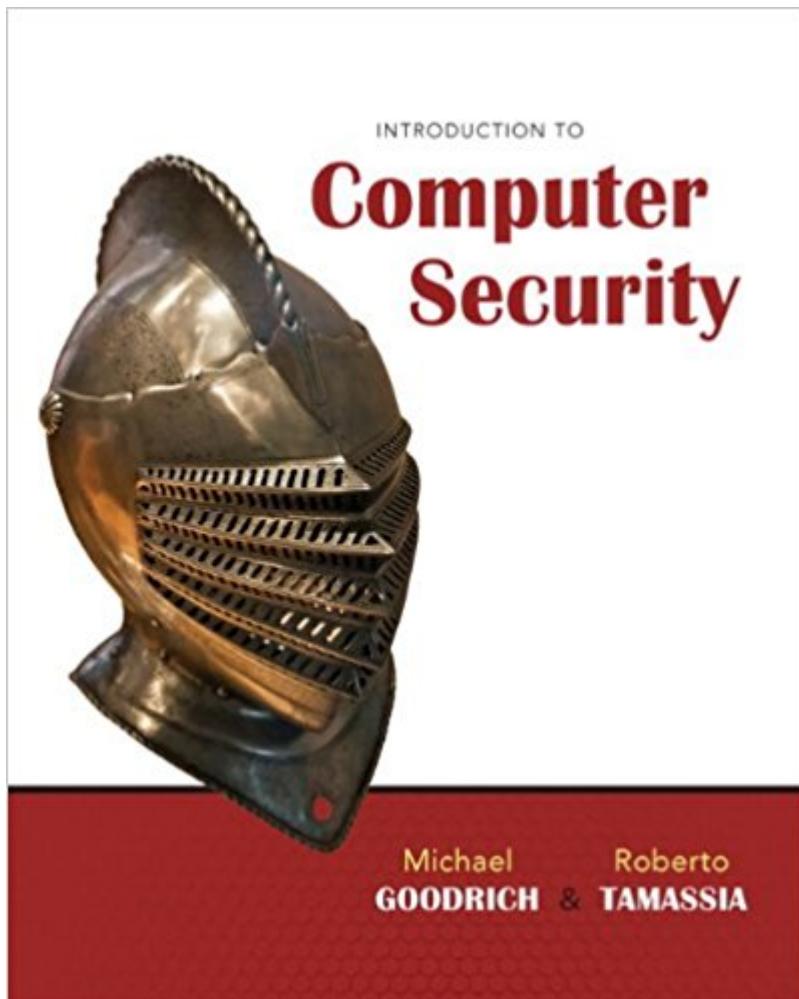


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# Introduction To Computer Security



## Synopsis

Introduction to Computer Security is a new Computer Security textbook for a new generation of IT professionals. It is ideal for computer-security courses that are taught at the undergraduate level and that have as their sole prerequisites an introductory computer science sequence (e.g., CS 1/CS 2). Unlike most other computer security textbooks available today, Introduction to Computer Security, 1e does NOT focus on the mathematical and computational foundations of security, and it does not assume an extensive background in computer science. Instead it looks at the systems, technology, management, and policy side of security, and offers students fundamental security concepts and a working knowledge of threats and countermeasures with a *just-enough* background in computer science. The result is a presentation of the material that is accessible to students of all levels.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A new Computer Security textbook for a new generation of IT professionals. Unlike most other computer security books available today, Introduction to Computer Security, 1e does NOT focus on the mathematical and computational foundations of security, and it does not assume an extensive background in computer science. Instead it looks at the systems, technology, management, and policy side of security, and offers readers fundamental security concepts and a working knowledge of threats and countermeasures with a *just-enough* background in computer science. The result is a presentation of the material that is accessible to readers of all levels. Readers of this book will

learn about common cyberattacks, including viruses, worms, Trojan horses, password crackers, keystroke loggers, denial of service, spoofing, and phishing. They will also learn about techniques for identifying and patching vulnerabilities in machines and networks as well methods for detecting and repairing infected systems. Finally, they will study fundamental building blocks of secure systems such as encryption, fingerprints, digital signatures and basic cryptographic protocols.Â Anyone interested in a very accessible introduction to computer security.

Professors Goodrich and Tamassia are well-recognized researchers in computer security, algorithms and data structures, having published many papers on these subjects, with applications to computer security, cryptography, cloud computing, information visualization, and geometric computing. They have served as principal investigators in several joint projects sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the Army Research Office, and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. They are also active in educational technology research, and they have published several books, including a widely adopted textbook on data structures and algorithms. Â Michael Goodrich received his Ph.D. in computer science from Purdue University. He is currently a Chancellorâ™s Professor in the Department of Computer Science at University of California, Irvine. Previously, he was a professor at Johns Hopkins University. He is an editor for the Journal of Computer and Systems Sciences and the Journal of Graph Algorithms and Applications. He is a Fulbright Scholar, a Distinguished Scientist of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), the ACM, and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Â Roberto Tamassia received his Ph.D. in electrical and computer engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is currently the Plastech Professor of Computer ScienceÂ and the chair of the Department of Computer Science at Brown University. He is a founder andÂ editor-in-chief for the Journal of Graph Algorithms and Applications. He previously served on the editorial board of Computational Geometry: Theory and Applications and IEEE Transactions on Computers. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). Â In addition to their research accomplishments, the authors also have extensive experience in the classroom. For example, Goodrich has taught data structures and algorithms courses, including Data Structures as a freshman-sophomore level course, Applied Cryptography as a sophomore- junior level course, and Internet Algorithmics as an upper level course. He has earned several teaching awards in this capacity. Tamassia has taught Data Structures and Algorithms as an introductory freshman-level course and Computational Geometry as an advanced graduate course.Â Over theÂ last several

years he has developed "Introduction to Computer Systems Security," a new computer security course aimed at sophomores. His teaching of this course since 2006 has helped to shape the vision and topics of this book. One thing that has set his teaching style apart is his effective use of interactive hypermedia presentations integrated with the web.

This book provides an overarching coverage of the concepts of computer security in a very well organized and informative manner, however I did feel it was just a tad bit lacking in depth for topics that are highly central to cybersecurity. There are interesting expansions on topics such as how physical lock mechanisms work (lockpicking), but some of this material seems to be somewhat irrelevant to computer security directly. It seems that more expansion could have been provided for instance on Intrusion Prevention/Detection Systems or something else. Overall though, I would highly recommend this book to anyone looking for a broad coverage of Computer Security. One of the better text books I've read.

We are using this textbook for our Computer Security class. Since it is an introductory textbook, don't expect it to go too deep into any subject, but it does a good job at covering the basics with examples to give you a better idea of the vulnerabilities of computer systems and the techniques to protect them. Each chapter includes a reading list at the end listing all the sources consulted for the material covered in the chapter and for further study.

So, I bought this book because it was required for a class I was taking. It was actually pretty easy to read, so I didn't really have to force myself to read it. It was quite refreshing compared to other textbooks I've had to read. Not that I'll probably read it as a night-time story, but I still have it, just in case for future reference. So, overall, not too bad.

Pros: usually not too technical interesting broad scope doesn't require too much background knowledge (it's an intro book) up-to-date (as of beginning 2012 at least)  
Cons: some explanations can be very unclear (ex. the Kerberos explanation doesn't make complete sense) some questions ask for solutions that aren't covered in the book some questions are unclear While the book can be okay in parts (mainly because I thought it was interesting), while trying to do homework from it I had a significant amount of trouble. Many questions are very unclear and extremely frustrating to try to solve. Some explanations require a lot of extra online work and research to fully understand.

It is clear the author has a good understanding of the topic. The book is over priced. The author frequently uses math formulas to explain things that are not simplified by math formulas. There is a lot of good basic knowledge in the book for someone beginning in Computer Security. I gave it 2 stars because I would have paid a max of \$20 for this book, and after my class which used this book, the most valuable thing I learned was a trick for creating strong but easy to remember password.

Not bad but tends to be a little more about the hardware and information is more general than expected. It worked for a decent reference though.

Decent book, parts of it seem to be long, unnecessary and doesn't make to much sense.

The parts of the book I read were extremely well written (the network security and encryption sections) The topics were very clear to me after a single read through. Examples were interesting and I kept wanting to read more.

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