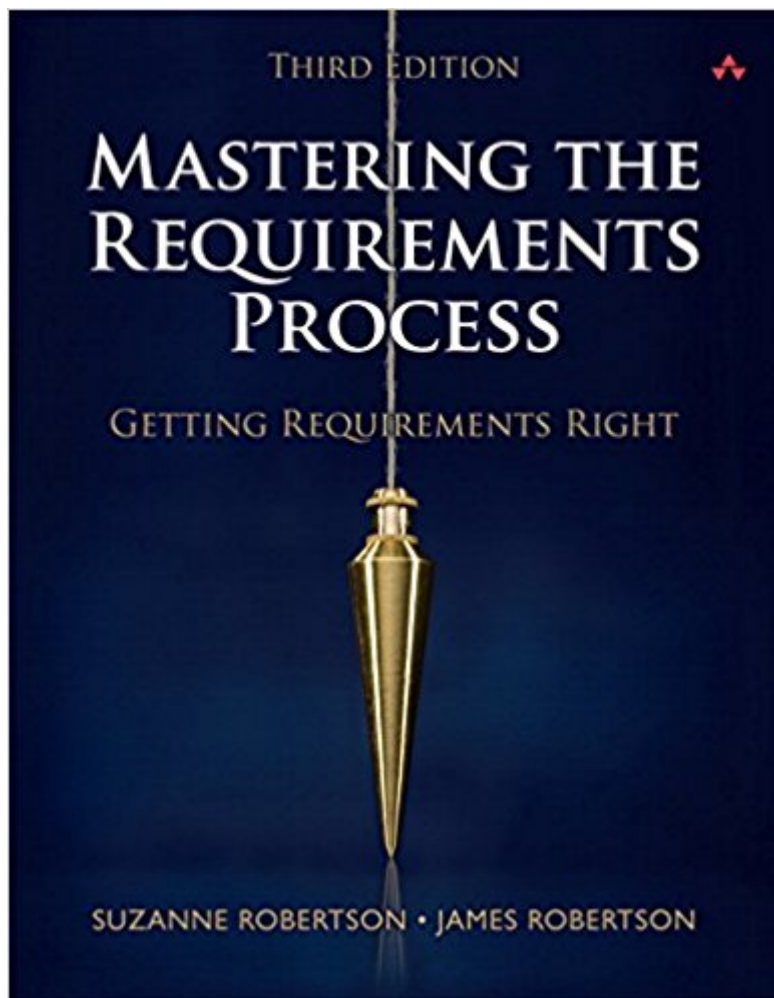




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# Mastering The Requirements Process: Getting Requirements Right (3rd Edition)



## Synopsis

“If the purpose is to create one of the best books on requirements yet written, the authors have succeeded.”

•Capers Jones Software can solve almost any problem. The trick is knowing what the problem is. With about half of all software errors originating in the requirements activity, it is clear that a better understanding of the problem is needed.

Getting the requirements right is crucial if we are to build systems that best meet our needs. We know, beyond doubt, that the right requirements produce an end result that is as innovative and beneficial as it can be, and that system development is both effective and efficient.

Mastering the Requirements Process: Getting Requirements Right, Third Edition, sets out an industry-proven process for gathering and verifying requirements, regardless of whether you work in a traditional or agile development environment. In this sweeping update of the bestselling guide, the authors show how to discover precisely what the customer wants and needs, in the most efficient manner possible.

Features include

- The Volere requirements process for discovering requirements, for use with both traditional and iterative environments
- A specification template that can be used as the basis for your own requirements specifications
- Formality guides that help you funnel your efforts into only the requirements work needed for your particular development environment and project
- How to make requirements testable using fit criteria
- Checklists to help identify stakeholders, users, non-functional requirements, and more
- Methods for reusing requirements and requirements patterns

New features include

- Strategy guides for different environments, including outsourcing
- Strategies for gathering and implementing requirements for iterative releases

“Thinking above the line” to find the real problem

- How to move from requirements to finding the right solution
- The Brown Cow model for clearer viewpoints of the system
- Using story cards as requirements
- Using the Volere Knowledge Model to help record and communicate requirements
- Fundamental truths about requirements and system development

## Book Information

Hardcover: 768 pages

Publisher: Addison-Wesley Professional; 3 edition (August 16, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0321815742

ISBN-13: 978-0321815743

Product Dimensions: 7.9 x 1.3 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #69,179 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 in Books > Textbooks > Computer Science > Software Design & Engineering #152 in Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Software Design, Testing & Engineering > Software Development #369 in Books > Textbooks > Computer Science > Programming Languages

## Customer Reviews

Suzanne Robertson and James Robertson have, over many years, helped hundreds of companies improve their requirements techniques and move into the fast lane of system development. Their courses and seminars on requirements, analysis, and design are widely praised for their innovative approach. The Robertsons are principals of the Atlantic Systems Guild, a well-known consultancy specializing in the human dimensions of complex system building. They are also the coauthors of Requirements-Led Project Management (Addison-Wesley, 2005).

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I was thrust into the position of business analyst, with the only saving grace being given a few months to ease into it. I read several books on requirements, but while they all offered great advice on actually constructing the requirement (I am thinking Karl Wiegers) , what they missed was how you go about discovering the software requirements in a real live situation. This book does exactly that. It provides you with a theoretical approach (the business use case to product use case to functional requirement) that can drive a methodological approach that will steer you toward discovering the actual requirements. This is the greatest value, but the details of the snow card also provide a few clever little tricks to make sure the requirement you write is sound. If you find yourself in a pinch, don't look elsewhere or be cheap, simply start here.

I was initially a bit put off by the graphics in this book, which make clip art look classy. However, the writing is really, really good, and the treatment of the subject area is nothing short of amazing. Unlike other books on requirements that take the approach of a reference book and consequently

read like a phone directory, Mastering the Requirements Process follows a case study from end to end, saving the reference materials for the appendixes, where they belong. Did I mention how good the writing is? The reason that most technical books are impossible to read is the poor quality of the prose and of the organization of the material. This is a happy exception to that tendency. I really like this book.

Everyone has their own style when it comes to writing requirements. And I have always subscribed to the fact that there is no right or wrong way for writing them. After reading this book I have changed my mind. This is the correct way for writing functional requirements. The author breaks things down into simple terms and best of all not only explains how the requirements should be written but also why they should be written in that manner. The Appendix has great examples that give you a practical application for everything that you learned in the book.

The book is really general and generic. everything is common knowledge. the whole book is about being the middle man between developers and understanding what the customer wants in their product being built. Everything is repeated over and over. its very short, the font seems to be bigger on it than other textbooks I have, probably to make it seem like its more information in the book with more pages. I did not enjoy it.

Thought it was a very thorough review of the discipline of Business Analysis, with lots of useful resources that I plan to put to use immediately.

Excellent textbook on requirements process. More so that you can apply to anything not only tech acquisition. It devotes a good number of chapters on how to get a good sense of what the requirements are, how to find them, before thinking of a solution.

Extremely useful text on the overall necessities of a business analyst. Though I bought this book on kindle it's way of pulling out information and organization is quite timeless and certainly belongs on my shelf.

Really great book. Provide detailed steps with explanations as to what, how and why. It really connects the dots.

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