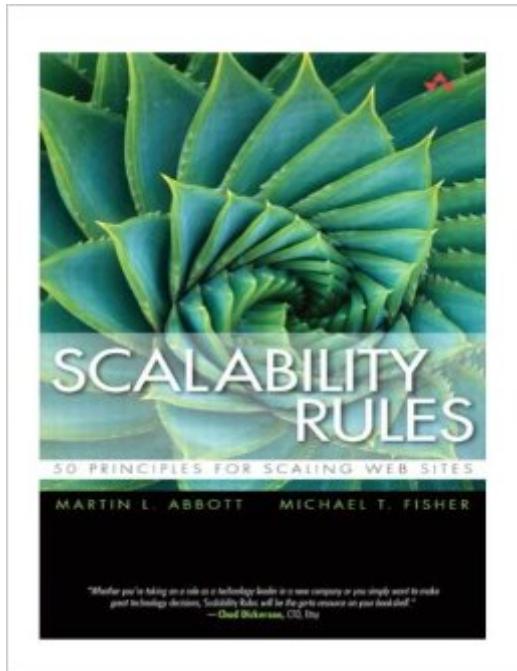


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# Scalability Rules: 50 Principles For Scaling Web Sites



## Synopsis

â œOnce again, Abbott and Fisher provide a book that Iâ™ll be giving to our engineers. Itâ™s an essential read for anyone dealing with scaling an online business.â • â "Chris Lalonde, VP, Technical Operations and Infrastructure Architecture, Bullhorn Â œAbbott and Fisher again tackle the difficult problem of scalability in their unique and practical manner. Distilling the challenges of operating a fast-growing presence on the Internet into 50 easy-to understand rules, the authors provide a modern cookbook of scalability recipes that guide the reader through the difficulties of fast growth.â • â "Geoffrey Weber, Vice President, Internet Operations, Shutterfly Â œAbbott and Fisher have distilled years of wisdom into a set of cogent principles to avoid many nonobvious mistakes.â • â "Jonathan Heiliger, VP, Technical Operations, Facebook Â œIn *The Art of Scalability*, the AKF team taught us that scale is not just a technology challenge. Scale is obtained only through a combination of people, process, and technology. With *Scalability Rules*, Martin Abbott and Michael Fisher fill our scalability toolbox with easily implemented and time-tested rules that once applied will enable massive scale.â • â "Jerome Labat, VP, Product Development IT, Intuit Â œWhen I joined Etsy, I partnered with Mike and Marty to hit the ground running in my new role, and it was one of the best investments of time I have made in my career. The indispensable advice from my experience working with Mike and Marty is fully captured here in this book. Whether youâ™re taking on a role as a technology leader in a new company or you simply want to make great technology decisions, *Scalability Rules* will be the go-to resource on your bookshelf.â • â "Chad Dickerson, CTO, Etsy Â œScalability Rules provides an essential set of practical tools and concepts anyone can use when designing, upgrading, or inheriting a technology platform. Itâ™s very easy to focus on an immediate problem and overlook issues that will appear in the future. This book ensures strategic design principles are applied to everyday challenges.â • â "Robert Guild, Director and Senior Architect, Financial Services Â œAn insightful, practical guide to designing and building scalable systems. A must-read for both product-building and operations teams, this book offers concise and crisp insights gained from years of practical experience of AKF principals. With the complexity of modern systems, scalability considerations should be an integral part of the architecture and implementation process. Scaling systems for hypergrowth requires an agile, iterative approach that is closely aligned with product features; this book shows you how.â • â "Nanda Kishore, Chief Technology Officer, ShareThis Â œFor organizations looking to scale technology, people, and processes rapidly or effectively, the twin pairing of *Scalability Rules* and *The Art of Scalability* are unbeatable. The rules-driven approach in *Scalability Rules* makes this not only an easy reference companion, but also allows organizations to

tailor the Abbott and Fisher approach to their specific needs both immediately and in the future! • "Jeremy Wright, CEO, BNOTIONS.ca and Founder, b5media • 50 Powerful, Easy-to-Use Rules for Supporting Hypergrowth in Any Environment • Scalability Rules is the easy-to-use scalability primer and reference for every architect, developer, web professional, and manager. Authors Martin L. Abbott and Michael T. Fisher have helped scale more than 200 hypergrowth Internet sites through their consulting practice. Now, drawing on their unsurpassed experience, they present 50 clear, proven scalability rules• and practical guidance for applying them. • Abbott and Fisher transform scalability from a •œblack art• to a set of realistic, technology-agnostic best practices for supporting hypergrowth in nearly any environment, including both frontend and backend systems. • For architects, they offer powerful new insights for creating and evaluating designs. For developers, they share specific techniques for handling everything from databases to state. For managers, they provide invaluable help in goal-setting, decision-making, and interacting with technical teams. Whatever your role, you•ll find practical risk/benefit guidance for setting priorities• and getting maximum •œbang for the buck. • • Simplifying architectures and avoiding •œover-engineering • • Scaling via cloning, replication, separating functionality, and splitting data sets • • Scaling out, not up • • Getting more out of databases without compromising scalability • • Avoiding unnecessary redirects and redundant double-checking • • Using caches and content delivery networks more aggressively, without introducing unacceptable complexity • • Designing for fault tolerance, graceful failure, and easy rollback • • Striving for statelessness when you can; efficiently handling state when you must • • Effectively utilizing asynchronous communication • • Learning quickly from mistakes, and much more

## **Book Information**

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## Customer Reviews

Having listened to Marty Abbot and Michael Fisher methodically dissect scalability bottlenecks and hash out fault isolation in large scale enterprise systems, I decided to pick up "50 Principles for Scaling websites" with high hopes and wasn't disappointed. These fifty rules, some of them seemingly obvious and others with specific details serve as a hybrid guide of technical, organizational and managerial concerns regarding scalability in enterprise systems. These principles are broken down to address What, When to Use, How to Use, Why and Key Takeaways; I enjoyed this style of specifics better than their earlier book, the art of scalability which focuses more on people, processes and technology instead of the rules of scaling. There is indeed some vendor-specific-consultant-speak in 50 Principles for Scaling websites such as AKF cube but overall I found this manuscript to be fairly technology agnostic. The use of term "scaling websites" was one of the key reservation I had regarding title of this book; not all enterprise systems are web centric and scaling middle-tier and avoiding big SOA mistakes would have made a more technically accurate title but probably not as lucrative as web. The rules begin with simpler maxims like Don't over Engineer the Solution, Design Scale Into the Solution (D-I-D Process), Simplify the Solution 3 Times Over and then get into specifics like Reduce DNS Lookups, Reduce Objects Where Possible and Use Homogenous Networks. I found fallacies of distributed computing being addressed in a well-rounded fashion by authors as they proceed into latency and boundary crossing concerns.

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