



## Smart and Gets Things Done: Joel Spolsky's Concise Guide to Finding the Best Technical Talent

*By Avram Joel Spolsky*

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A "good" programmer can outproduce five, ten, and sometimes more run-of-the-mill programmers. The secret to success for any software company then is to hire the good programmers. But how to do that? In Joel on Hiring, Joel Spolsky draws from his experience both at Microsoft and running his own successful software company based in New York City. He writes humorously, but seriously about his methods for sorting resumes, for finding great candidates, and for interviewing, in person and by phone. Joel's methods are not complex, but they do get to the heart of the matter: how to recognize a great developer when you see one.

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**Smart and Gets Things Done: Joel Spolsky's Concise Guide to Finding the Best Technical Talent By Avram Joel Spolsky Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #105729 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Apress
- Published on: 2007-05-31
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.00" h x .46" w x 5.00" l, .30 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 182 pages

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"Programming-employment decisions are a critical managerial process. ... Spolsky asserts that 'the real trick to management is to make people identify with the goals you're trying to achieve.' ... Spolsky concludes with the self-designed 'Joel Test,' which rates the quality of a software team. ... Managers, recruiters, and programmers will enjoy this easy read." (Brad Reid, ACM Computing Reviews, September, 2008)

#### **About the Author**

Joel Spolsky is a globally recognized expert on the software development process. His web site Joel on Software (JoelonSoftware.com) is popular with software developers around the world and has been translated into over 30 languages. As the founder of Fog Creek Software in New York City, he created FogBugz, a popular project management system for software teams. Joel has worked at Microsoft, where he designed Visual Basic for Applications as a member of the Excel team, and at Juno Online Services, developing an Internet client used by millions. He has written two books: User Interface Design for Programmers (Apress, 2001) and Joel on Software (Apress, 2004). Joel holds a bachelor's of science degree in computer science from Yale University. Before college, he served in the Israeli Defense Forces as a paratrooper, and he was one of the founders of Kibbutz Hanaton.

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