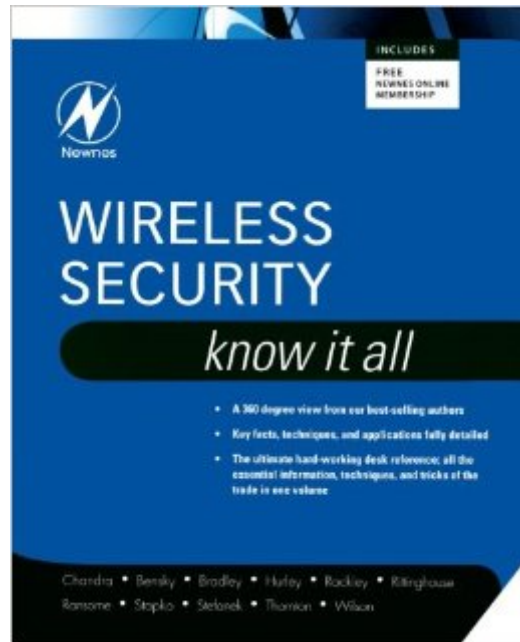


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Wireless Security: Know It All (Newnes Know It All)



Synopsis

The Newnes Know It All Series takes the best of what our authors have written to create hard-working desk references that will be an engineer's first port of call for key information, design techniques and rules of thumb. Guaranteed not to gather dust on a shelf! Communications engineers need to master a wide area of topics to excel. The Wireless Security Know It All covers every angle including Emerging Wireless Technologies and Security Issues, Wireless LAN and MAN Security, as well as Wireless Personal Area Networks. • A 360-degree view from our best-selling authors • Topics include Today's Wireless Technology, Security Definitions and Concepts, and Wireless Handheld devices • The ultimate hard-working desk reference; all the essential information, techniques and tricks of the trade in one volume

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Customer Reviews

This book consists of 24 separate chapters written by various combinations of 11 different authors. I mention this because I think it explains the poor organization and lack of internal consistency that plagues this work. I can only assume that many authors didn't coordinate their plans with one another, because there's a tremendous amount of repeated material. (Oddly, in one case the same author writes two chapters on cryptography that cover almost the same territory.) Another problem is that different authors make different recommendations when covering the same material.

For example, the chapter on implementing "Basic" wireless security (which turns out really to be about security for home wireless networks) advises the use of WEP -- a protocol that's widely recognized as being vulnerable. Later, in the chapter on "Home Network Security", a different author recommends using WPA instead. Some of the material seems to be slightly dated. All references and screen shots for the Windows operating system refer only to Windows XP -- never to the current version, Windows Vista. Given that the book's copyright date is 2009, I would have expected somewhat more current information. The book's physical layout is also a problem in one specific area: The size of screen shots. They're tiny and unreadable. Whoever designed the book's page layout seems to have decided that no diagram would be allowed to fill more than one third of a page -- no matter how much this might reduce its readability. In many cases, this leads to full-screen configuration dialogs appearing just as gray boxes. All that being said, the book does cover a lot of territory. So for effort alone, it gets 3.5 stars. The thing that drops it down to 3 stars is the price -- it really isn't worth what Newnes is charging for it. Much of the information in this book can be found on the Web or in other, cheaper and more specific volumes. I'm on the edge about whether to return this book; I'm leaning slightly toward "yes."

This is an excellent book. I first used this book to secure my home network and then I lent it to my IT dept at work and we had a fully functional fully secure wireless network up in a week! At over 700 pages this book is a compendium of Information on Wireless technologies as well as wireless Security and is a collaboration between 11 authors. Information is well organized and there are plenty of tables and figures which makes the information easy to understand. Most books stick to either theoretical aspects or practical aspects and very rarely both. This one manages to bridge the gap. It features a comprehensive tutorial on wireless technology, from Radio communications as well as architecture perspectives. Then covers security and then there are plenty of practical step-by configuration examples. There is an entire chapter devoted to implementing basic security features on leading name brand Wireless routers and another for advanced features. Home Network security, as well as other wireless technologies such as Bluetooth, Zigbee and RFID are also comprehensively covered. There is also a complete appendix at the end with templates for all the policy and process related aspects of any wireless security policy. Whether you are an advanced home networking enthusiast or a CIO or some other IT related professional entrusted with implementing Security Policies for both fixed and Wireless networks, Then this book is a must read for you.

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