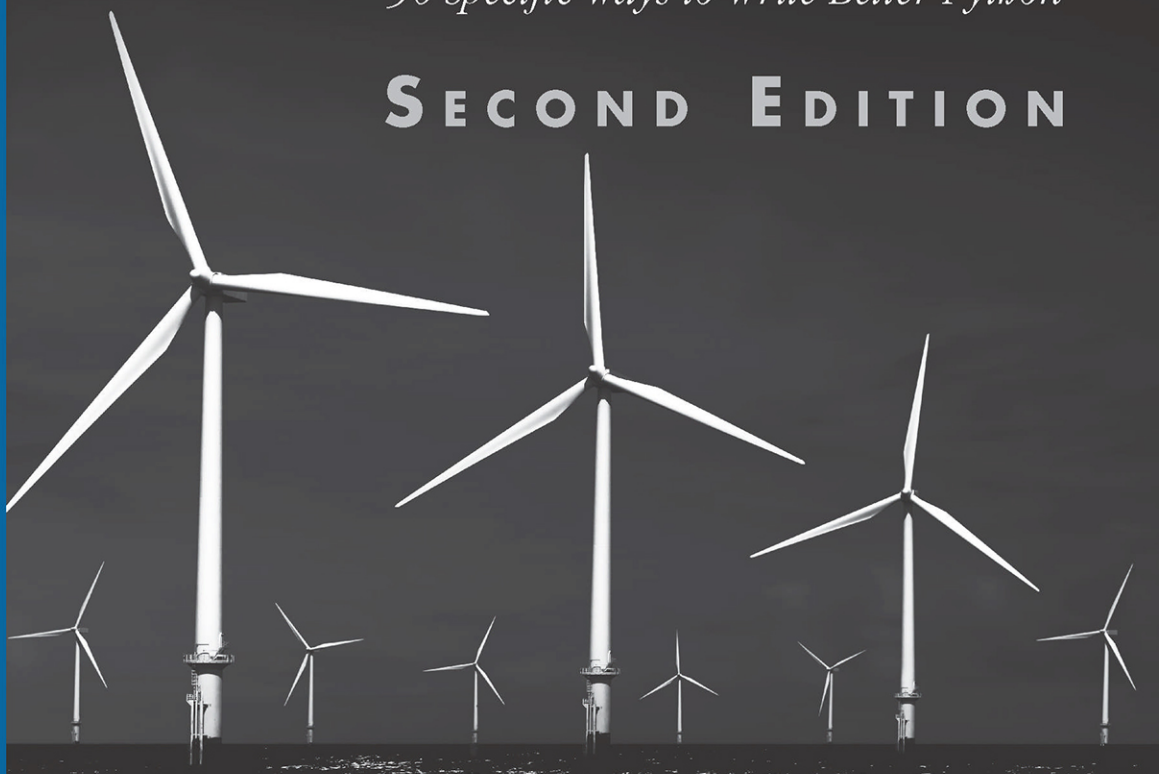
Effective SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT SERIES

Scott Meyers, Consulting Editor

Effective PYTHON

90 Specific Ways to Write Better Python

SECOND EDITION



Brett Slatkin

Praise for *Effective Python*

"I have been recommending this book enthusiastically since the first edition appeared in 2015. This new edition, updated and expanded for Python 3, is a treasure trove of practical Python programming wisdom that can benefit programmers of all experience levels."

—Wes McKinney, Creator of Python Pandas project, Director of Ursa Labs

"If you're coming from another language, this is your definitive guide to taking full advantage of the unique features Python has to offer. I've been working with Python for nearly twenty years and I still learned a bunch of useful tricks, especially around newer features introduced by Python 3. *Effective Python* is crammed with actionable advice, and really helps define what our community means when they talk about Pythonic code."

—Simon Willison, Co-creator of Django

"I've been programming in Python for years and thought I knew it pretty well. Thanks to this treasure trove of tips and techniques, I've discovered many ways to improve my Python code to make it faster (e.g., using bisect to search sorted lists), easier to read (e.g., enforcing keyword-only arguments), less prone to error (e.g., unpacking with starred expressions), and more Pythonic (e.g., using zip to iterate over lists in parallel). Plus, the second edition is a great way to quickly get up to speed on Python 3 features, such as the walrus operator, f-strings, and the typing module."

—Pamela Fox, Creator of Khan Academy programming courses

"Now that Python 3 has finally become the standard version of Python, it's already gone through eight minor releases and a lot of new features have been added throughout. Brett Slatkin returns with a second edition of *Effective Python* with a huge new list of Python idioms and straightforward recommendations, catching up with everything that's introduced in version 3 all the way through 3.8 that we'll all want to use as we finally leave Python 2 behind. Early sections lay out an enormous list of tips regarding new Python 3 syntaxes and concepts like string and byte objects, f-strings, assignment expressions (and their special nickname you might not know), and catch-all unpacking of tuples. Later sections take on bigger subjects, all of which are packed with things I either didn't know or which I'm always trying to teach to others, including 'Metaclasses and Attributes' (good advice includes 'Prefer Class Decorators over Metaclasses' and also introduces a new magic method '__init_subclass__()' I wasn't familiar with), 'Concurrency' (favorite advice: 'Use Threads for Blocking I/O, but not Parallelism,' but it also covers asyncio and coroutines correctly) and 'Robustness and Performance' (advice given: 'Profile before Optimizing'). It's a joy to go through each section as everything I read is terrific best practice information smartly stated, and I'm considering quoting from this book in the future as it has such great advice all throughout. This is the definite winner for the 'if you only read one Python book this year...' contest.

—Mike Bayer, Creator of SQLAlchemy

Effective Python: 90 Specific Ways to Write Better Python

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