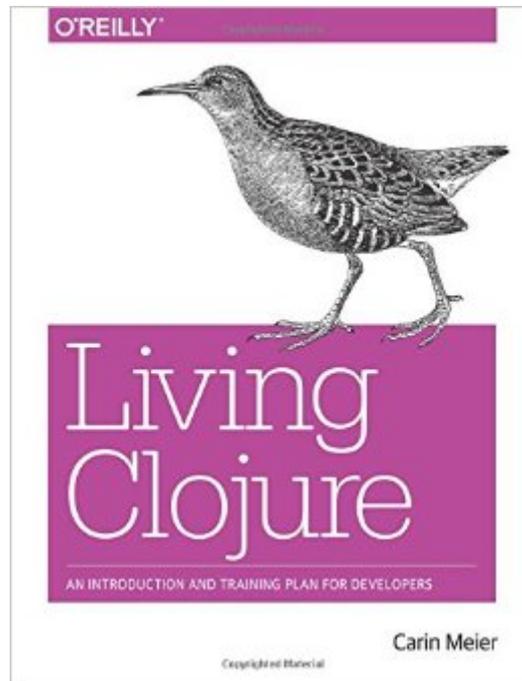


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# Living Clojure



## Synopsis

If you're an experienced programmer who has not worked with Clojure before, this guide is the perfect thorough but gentle introduction for you. Author Carin Meier not only provides a practical overview of this JVM language and its functional programming concepts, but also includes a complete hands-on training course to help you learn Clojure in a structured way. The first half of the book takes you through Clojure's unique design and lets you try your hand at two Clojure projects, including a web app. The holistic course in second half provides you with critical tools and resources, including ways to plug into the Clojure community. Understand the basic structure of a Clojure expression Learn how to shape and control code in a functional way Discover how Clojure handles real-world state and concurrency Take advantage of Java classes and learn how Clojure handles polymorphism Manage and use libraries in a Clojure project Use the core.async library for asynchronous and concurrent communication Explore the power of macros in Clojure programming Learn how to think in Clojure by following the book's seven-week training course

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The book mostly uses examples which is great, except when the examples aren't completely explained. The author occasionally introduces two new concepts into an example yet only explains one. At times the author sneaks in something that hasn't been introduced yet or was explained earlier in a different context. For example the first recursion example uses "conj" which could use a review explanation since we haven't seen it in a dozen pages. You are expected to remember

everything that has been introduced. The "pos?" function is introduced in the "ref" section with no explanation. I guess we're supposed to know it means "positive". Some terms like "lazy" and "in-transaction-value" are used in examples but are never completely explained. This made understanding the concepts more difficult. I occasionally had to Google for a better explanation or I was lost. This is important because Clojure brings along a huge number of unique programming concepts and lingo that don't exist in any other language so you can't expect a typical programmer to be familiar with them. The author uses many of these terms casually and assumes the reader will eventually pick them up like foreign language. Some concepts are said to be powerful but there is no explanation as to why they are powerful. "partial" is said to be powerful but there is no explanation at how it saves any kind of resource and it makes the code confusing. I kept waiting for the payoff but it never came. I also wished the author would stop describing this coding style as "beautiful". The formatting (at least on a Kindle) can impair understanding since formatting can be critical.

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