Ccda Self Study Designing For Cisco Internetwork Solutions Desgn 640 861 By Teare Diane Cisco Systems Inc 2003 12 14 Hardcover

CCDA Self-Study: Designing for Cisco Internetwork Solutions (Design 640-861) by Teare

This article delves into Diane Teare's "Designing for Cisco Internetwork Solutions (Design 640-861)," a seminal text for aspiring Cisco Certified Design Associates (CCDA). Published by Cisco Systems Inc. in 2003, this hardcover book remains a valuable resource, although some content requires updating for current Cisco technologies. We'll explore its enduring relevance, its strengths and weaknesses, and how it can support your CCDA self-study journey. Keywords throughout this review include *CCDA certification*, *Cisco networking design*, *640-861 exam preparation*, *network design principles*, and *self-study resources*.

The Enduring Value of Teare's CCDA Guide

Diane Teare's book provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles of Cisco network design. While technology evolves rapidly, the fundamental concepts covered—network topologies, routing protocols, WAN technologies, and security considerations—remain crucial to any successful network architect. The book serves as a strong foundation, effectively guiding readers through the complexities of designing scalable and reliable networks. This makes it a valuable addition to even the most modern CCDA self-study plan, providing a solid grounding in the theoretical underpinnings before delving into the latest Cisco technologies and their configurations.

Strengths and Weaknesses of the Textbook

One significant strength lies in Teare's clear and concise writing style. She explains complex concepts in an easily understandable manner, using real-world examples and analogies to illustrate key points. The book is well-structured, guiding the reader

through a logical progression of topics. The numerous diagrams and illustrations further enhance comprehension, making it an ideal resource for visual learners.

However, the book's age is its most significant weakness. Published in 2003, it predates many significant advancements in Cisco technology. Specifically, features of newer IOS versions, advancements in wireless technologies, and the emergence of Software-Defined Networking (SDN) concepts are absent. Therefore, relying solely on this book for CCDA preparation wouldn't be sufficient. It needs to be supplemented with up-to-date Cisco documentation and official training materials.

Utilizing Teare's Book in a Modern CCDA Self-Study Plan

Despite its age, Teare's "Designing for Cisco Internetwork Solutions" remains a valuable component in a modern CCDA self-study plan. Its focus on fundamental network design principles remains timeless. A successful approach would involve using this book to build a solid conceptual foundation. Then, supplement its content with:

- **Official Cisco Documentation:** Explore the Cisco website for up-to-date information on current IOS versions, technologies, and best practices.
- **Cisco Learning Network:** Utilize the vast library of online resources offered by the Cisco Learning Network, including practice exams and labs.
- **Hands-on Labs:** Setting up virtual labs (using GNS3 or EVE-NG) is crucial. Practice designing and configuring the network topologies discussed in the book.
- **Online Forums and Communities:** Engage with other aspiring CCDAs in online forums to share knowledge and discuss challenging concepts.

This multi-pronged approach combines the strong theoretical foundation offered by Teare's book with the necessary up-to-date practical knowledge required to pass the CCDA exam.

Key Concepts Covered in the Book and their Modern Relevance

Teare's book covers core aspects of network design, all of which are still very relevant, though requiring modern context:

- **Network Topologies:** Understanding bus, star, ring, mesh, and hybrid topologies remains fundamental. However, modern network designs often incorporate more complex, layered topologies.
- **Routing Protocols:** The book covers RIP, OSPF, and EIGRP. While still relevant, other routing protocols like BGP have gained significance in larger networks.
- **WAN Technologies:** Frame Relay and ATM, discussed in the book, have largely

been superseded by MPLS and other technologies. However, the core concepts of WAN connectivity are still applicable.
- **Network Security:** The basic principles of network security are timeless, though modern implementations involve advanced security technologies like firewalls, intrusion detection/prevention systems, and VPNs that are beyond the scope of this older text.

By acknowledging the limitations due to its age and supplementing it with contemporary resources, one can effectively leverage this book for building a strong theoretical groundwork for CCDA certification.

Conclusion: A Valuable but Incomplete Resource

While "Designing for Cisco Internetwork Solutions" by Diane Teare offers a strong foundation in network design principles, its age necessitates supplementing it with current Cisco documentation and hands-on experience. Using this book strategically as part of a broader self-study approach will help you grasp fundamental concepts before diving into modern technologies, thereby maximizing its value in your CCDA journey.

FAQ:

Q1: Is Teare's book sufficient for passing the CCDA exam?

A1: No, solely relying on Teare's book is insufficient for passing the current CCDA exam. The book lacks coverage of many modern Cisco technologies and best practices. It should be used as a supplementary resource to strengthen foundational understanding, alongside official Cisco documentation and hands-on practice.

Q2: What are the best ways to supplement Teare's book for self-study?

A2: Supplement Teare's book with official Cisco documentation, the Cisco Learning Network, virtual labs (GNS3 or EVE-NG), and online forums. Focus on acquiring practical skills through hands-on configuration and troubleshooting.

Q3: Are there any updated versions of this book or similar resources?

A3: While there isn't a direct updated version of this specific book, Cisco offers numerous official training resources and certifications covering similar concepts with contemporary technologies. Look for official CCDA study guides and courses on the Cisco Learning Network.

Q4: What are the key areas where Teare's book might lack relevance?

A4: The book lacks information on recent advancements in wireless technologies (Wi-Fi

6, etc.), Software-Defined Networking (SDN), cloud networking, and the latest features of current IOS versions. Security technologies have also evolved significantly since 2003.

Q5: How can I effectively use the diagrams and illustrations in the book?

A5: Actively reproduce the diagrams and network topologies discussed in the book using virtual lab environments. This hands-on approach will significantly reinforce your understanding of the underlying concepts.

Q6: What are the most important chapters in Teare's book for a modern CCDA candidate?

A6: Chapters focusing on fundamental network topologies, routing protocol concepts (even if specific versions are outdated), and basic network security principles will remain most relevant. Focus on understanding the underlying principles, not the specific implementations described in the book.

Q7: Is this book useful for someone already holding a CCNA certification?

A7: Yes, for someone with a CCNA, Teare's book can offer a structured overview of the design principles and provide a valuable theoretical framework before tackling the practical aspects of CCDA. It's helpful to fill gaps in the design methodology.

Q8: Where can I find a copy of this book?

A8: Finding a used copy might be possible through online marketplaces such as Amazon or eBay. However, remember its limitations regarding modern Cisco technologies and use it strategically as part of a more comprehensive self-study plan.

Charting a Course Through Cisco Networking: A Retrospective on "Designing for Cisco Internetwork Solutions"

The publication time of 2003 saw the launch of a important resource for aspiring network engineers: Diane Teare's "Designing for Cisco Internetwork Solutions (DESIGN 640-861)." This book, published by Cisco Systems Inc., served as a cornerstone for many individuals pursuing the coveted CCDA (Cisco Certified Design Associate) certification. While infrastructure has advanced significantly since its initial publication, this textbook remains a valuable artifact of fundamental networking ideas and design strategies. This article will examine the substance of this influential work, highlighting its strengths and considering its relevance in the current networking environment.

The book's format is methodical, gradually introducing difficult networking subjects in

a accessible manner. Teare's style is practical, focusing on real-world implementations of Cisco technologies. Early sections lay the basis by covering essential networking principles, such as the OSI model, IP addressing, routing protocols (RIP, EIGRP, OSPF), and switching technologies. These elementary elements are carefully detailed, often with the help of figures and appropriate examples.

One of the publication's most significant advantages is its focus on network design concepts. Unlike many books that simply describe technologies, Teare's work directs the reader through the entire design procedure. This includes establishing requirements, generating a network architecture, and executing the design. The book consistently emphasizes the importance of scalability, resilience, security, and manageability in network design. This holistic strategy is invaluable for aspiring network engineers.

While the precise technologies described in the text may be slightly outdated – the fast rate of technological advancement in the networking field is undeniable – the underlying ideas remain extremely relevant. Understanding the foundations of routing, switching, and network design is critical regardless of the particular technologies utilized. Moreover, the text's emphasis on problem-solving and design strategies is everlasting.

Furthermore, the text provides numerous illustrations and examples that illustrate the practical implementation of the ideas described. These instances help to solidify learning and provide a useful framework for applying the data gained. The incorporation of exercises allows readers to test their understanding and develop their skills.

The legacy of "Designing for Cisco Internetwork Solutions" is significant. It served as a key resource for a generation of network engineers. While newer manuals and online courses provide more modern information on specific Cisco technologies, Teare's work remains a helpful reminder of fundamental network design concepts that sustain the ever-evolving field of networking. Its methodical approach to network design and its focus on problem-solving remains to be very relevant.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1: Is this book still relevant in 2024 given the advancements in networking technology?

A1: While specific technologies covered might be outdated, the core principles of network design—scalability, redundancy, security, and manageability—remain timeless and crucial. The book's methodical approach to problem-solving is still highly valuable.

Q2: What is the best way to use this book for CCDA preparation?

A2: Use it as a foundational text, focusing on grasping core concepts. Supplement it with newer Cisco documentation and practice labs to cover the latest technologies.

Q3: Are there better alternatives for CCDA study in 2024?

A3: Yes, many updated resources including online courses, official Cisco documentation, and newer textbooks offer more current information. However, this book provides a solid understanding of fundamental design principles.

Q4: Can this book be used by someone with little to no prior networking experience?

A4: While it assumes some basic IT knowledge, the book's structured approach can be beneficial even for beginners. However, supplementing with additional learning resources is recommended for those lacking foundational networking knowledge.

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