With the same style and clarity that characterized their highly acclaimed book The Elements of Programming Style, the authors have written Software Tools to teach how to write good programs that make good tools. The programs contained in the book are not artificial, but are actual programs that are tools which have proved valuable in the production of other programs.

Modern programming techniques such as structured programming and top-down design are emphasized and applied to every program. The programs are presented in a structured language called Ratfor ("Rational Fortran") which can be easily understood by anyone familiar with Fortran or PL/I, Algol, PASCAL, or similar languages.

(Ratfor translates readily into Fortran or PL/I.)

One of the tools presented is a preprocessor to translate Ratfor into Fortran.)

All of the programs are complete and have been tested directly from the text.

The programs are available in machine-readable form from Addison-Wesley.

Software Tools is ideal for use in a "software engineering" course, for a second course in programming, or as a supplement in any programming course.

All programmers, professional and student, will find the book invaluable as a source of proven, useful programs for reading and study.

Numerous exercises are provided to test comprehension and to extend the concepts presented in the text.

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