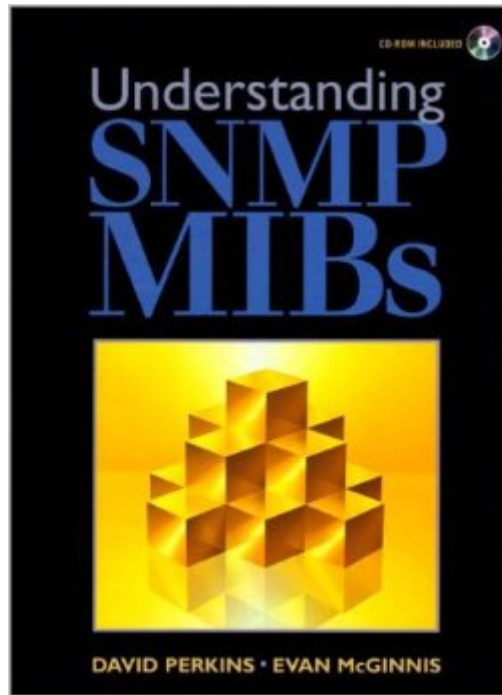


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# Understanding SNMP MIBs



## Synopsis

Shows network professionals how to design, define, write and update useful SNMP Management Information Bases (MIBs) that support standards-based network management. Introduces SNMP MIBs, documents that contain definitions of management information which allow systems to be remotely monitored, configured and controlled. Presents a model of an SNMP-based management network and defines the SNMP management framework. Walks through the construction of MIBs, including name space organization, MIB naming, maintenance, object semantics and object style, and other topics. Presents advanced techniques, including tables within tables, multi-table relationships and linked lists. Shows how to analyze standard MIBs. Discusses front-end and back-end MIB compilers, including SMIC, NetView/6000 SunNet Manager and HP OpenView. Includes a guide to MIB developer's resources. Anyone involved in building systems that must be compliant with the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP), the leading international standard for network management.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have read a pretty good portion of this book, but I just can't continue. My task at work is to learn about SNMP and start monitoring our equipment. This is a simple task that should be fairly straightforward. Unfortunately, I haven't found any two resources that can even agree on the definition of a MIB. Not even this book, one that's dedicated to MIBs, has helped me out. If you're looking for a good beginner's guide, don't waste your money on this book. If you don't know where

to begin to compile MIBs, don't buy this book. Unless you deeply understand SNMP and are to the point where you feel you have to write MIBs, don't buy this book. You'll be sadly disappointed. I'm sure this is a wonderful book for the right audience, and I respect the authors for their technical abilities. My problem is not with the book, but with the way the book is marketed within the SNMP community.

I've been working with networks for almost a year now, a relative new comer to the field. However, I'm a degreed engineer from a pretty good school, and I've worked as an engineer for over six years. This book is for people who have worked with SNMP extensively for a number of years. This is definitely not an intro book, nor is it for anybody who just wants to gain a basic understanding of SNMP. I was lost after the second chapter.

This is simply one of the best books I've come across in any field. If you want to write your own mibs, or if you are writing an snmp agent, this book is invaluable. Very lucid, very neat illustrations. I highly recommend it. Yes, you do need some network management exposure to get the best out of this book.

I have read and reviewed most of these SNMP books. In general, they are not very good. This one is EXCELLENT. However, it is definitely for people developing mibs and not somebody looking to understand how SNMP works. It is a resource as an SNMP developer I could not live without.

This book is for experienced SNMP developers but could be very useful even for a novice willing to spend some time to understand SNMP in-depth. This is the best SNMP book I've read and it is an outstanding addition to SNMP RFCs, not just a copy from RFCs as some other SNMP books.

I found this book to be excellent in helping me write my own SNMP MIBs for my job. No other reference or book was even close. The book focuses on explaining SNMP MIBs and their syntax. This is extremely important, because the SNMP MIB syntax, while standardized by the IETF RFCs, is not followed strictly by vendors (probably because they didn't have this book). The strength of this book is that it provides PRACTICAL information on making your own MIBs. Whereas books like Stalling's SNMP book cover the standard, they don't always give you the practical day-to-day help for your job. The authors experience in SNMP MIBs is genuine as evidenced by their development of a commercial MIB compiler. Now the negatives: 1) This book was published in 1997 and needs

updating2) Book plugs the author's own MIB compiler. These days other MIB compilers are available. Nice to have it included on the CDROM3) Authors periodically express their "Own Opinion" regarding RFCs and make their recommendations. While these are interesting, I don't find them useful. For example, recommending disallowing hyphens from labels from v1 to v2. At this point, the standard is the standard. Again, these may have made more sense in 1997. In summary, buy this book if you are in need to understand MIBs - either a MIB writer or an SNMP developer.

I highly recommend this book for anyone who needs to understand the structure of the SNMP Management Information Base. This book takes them apart and puts them back together. With often irrelevant comments, the information presented will help those who work with MIBs and agents on a daily basis to fully comprehend the purpose and structures.

This book is primarily intended for MIB developers. It teaches you MIB structure and syntax thoroughly enough that you could then author your own MIB. A secondary audience is people who need to be able to **truly** understand the behavior of a managed device - accomplished by reading the device MIB. Learning MIB syntax allows you to read vendor MIB files that accompany your routers, etc. This is the only book of its kind I've ever seen. Highly recommended.

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