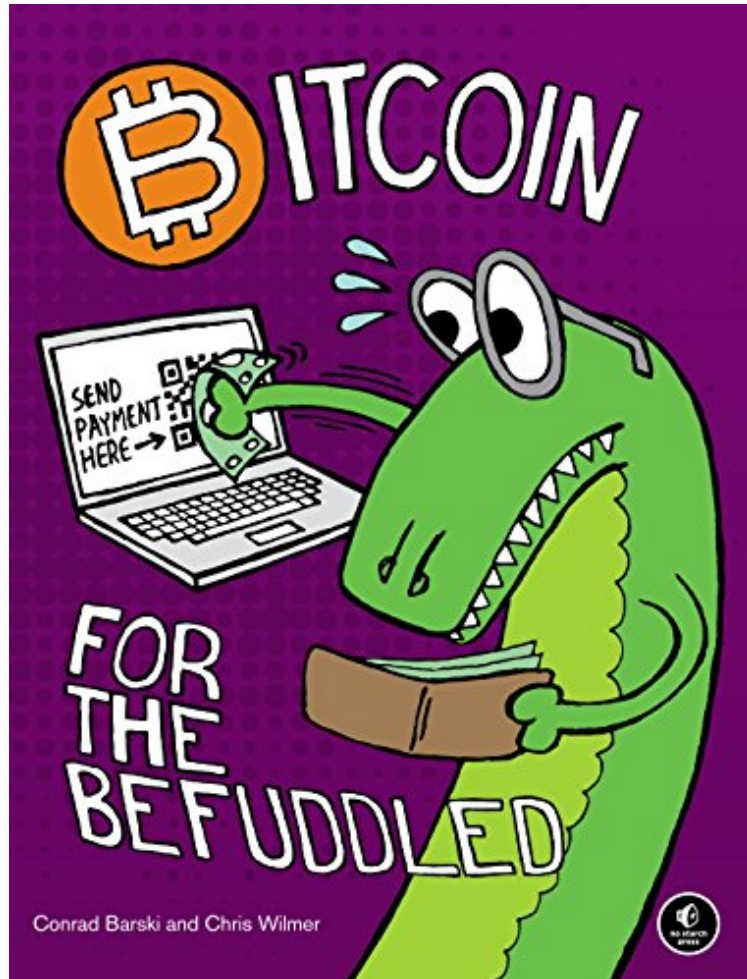


(Read now) Bitcoin for the Befuddled

## Bitcoin for the Befuddled

Conrad Barski, Chris Wilmer

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**Conrad Barski, Chris Wilmer : Bitcoin for the Befuddled** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Bitcoin for the Befuddled:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars  
By Ryan Essex  
A really great introduction to cryptocurrencies, the blockchain, and bitcoin.  
8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. This is the bitcoin book I wish I had read a year ago  
By TLKW  
This is the bitcoin book I wish I had read a year ago when I first tried to figure out what bitcoin is all about. Barski and Wilmer explain it all - the pros and the cons - in a wonderfully clear, accessible and entertaining way. Some of the elliptic curve mathematics and the programming guides in the annexes were way above my head and, perhaps, would have been more comfortable in a different book for more advanced bitcoin programmers, but please don't let that put you off if you are a dummy like me. This is an excellent and comprehensive introduction to bitcoin for absolutely anyone.  
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book for Bitcoin Newbies and beginning coders stepping into the Bitcoin Realm.  
By ronnieB Idaho Bitcoin Group  
Cons

First: Ok, there were a couple things I wasn't fond of in this book. There were lots of comic strip explanations, examples and metaphors. I felt some of the examples/metaphors were a little questionable but all in all the book really is great and a beneficial contribution to the space. Pros Next: The book covers: Wallets and Nodes are covered with light talk about Authoritative Nodes and SPV Nodes. Nodes are explained in a way that is sufficient for the Newbie or lesser informed Bitcoiner. Blockchain is explained decently but still simply enough that everyone gets it. Symmetric and asymmetric key encryption is demonstrated in a very simple way using easy to follow examples, step-by-step, walking you through the process and showing you how it relates to Bitcoin Signatures. Elliptic Curve Cryptography and where it lies within Bitcoin Address creation is covered in a layman's way so that anyone can get it. They go over Bitcoin Mining with pretty good detail and discourage mining for profit. The two authors describe details about hash rates and difficulty levels simply so that the average person can understand, but developers will benefit as well. Price volatility is also slightly covered with references to valuation increases and decreases over time. It's actually presented as a "Caveat emptor" but leaves you feeling very optimistic about the future of Bitcoin. Code writing is also covered. Node.js, Bitcoin Core Client deployment, Java, JSON-RPC are all very thinly covered but in a way a novice developer can get started and continue with research online. Great door opener for developers who haven't yet investigated Full Bitcoin Nodes and interacting with such. I am sure there was more covered in the book than I have listed here. I read it a while ago and haven't had the time to post my review until now. All in all I would tell everyone to add this book to their Bitcoin Collection from novices to experts. EDIT: Make sure when you are doing the Transaction examples in the book (code writing) you are using the Bitcoin Testnet instead of the Bitcoin Network. This will ensure you don't lose real bitcoins!! This is not covered in the book but should have been.

Unless you've been living under a rock for the last couple of years, you've probably heard of Bitcoin—the game-changing digital currency used by millions worldwide. But Bitcoin isn't just another way to buy stuff. It's an anonymous, revolutionary, cryptographically secure currency that functions without the oversight of a central authority or government. If you want to get into the Bitcoin game but find yourself a little confused, Bitcoin for the Befuddled may be just what you're looking for. Learn what Bitcoin is; how it works; and how to acquire, store, and spend bitcoins safely and securely. You'll also learn:—Bitcoin's underlying cryptographic principles, and how bitcoins are created—The history of Bitcoin and its potential impact on trade and commerce—All about the blockchain, the public ledger of Bitcoin transactions—How to choose a bitcoin wallet that's safe and easy to use—How to accept bitcoins as payment in your physical store or on your website—Advanced topics, including Bitcoin mining and Bitcoin programming With its non-technical language and patient, step-by-step approach to this fascinating currency, Bitcoin for the Befuddled is your ticket to getting started with Bitcoin. Get out from under the rock and get in the Bitcoin game. Just make sure not to lose your shirt.

About the Author Conrad Barski has an M.D. From the University of Miami, as well as nearly 20 years of programming experience. Barski is a cartoonist, programmer, and the author of Land of Lisp. He's been using bitcoins since 2011.