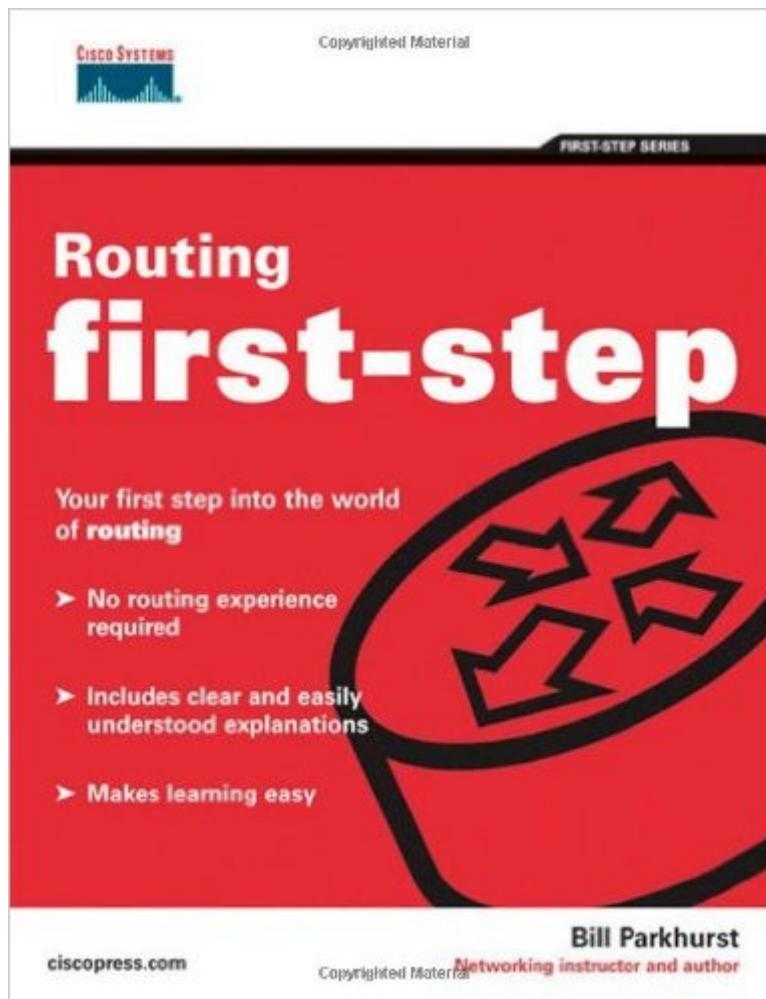


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# Routing First-Step



## **Synopsis**

Your first step into the world of routing. No routing experience required. Includes clear and easily understood explanations. Makes learning easy. Your first step to understanding routing begins here! Learn routing basics simply and easily. Explore how network traffic gets from here to there. Understand routing tools and technologies. Reinforce your understanding with chapter review questions. Welcome to the world of routing!  Routing is the technology that enables worldwide Internet communication. Many people involved with networking technologies or companies need to know how routing works. But learning about routing tends to involve a complex web of terms and acronyms—a language that can be difficult and unfamiliar.  No routing experience needed!  Routing First-Step explains the basics of Internet routing in language all of us can understand. This book takes you on a guided tour of routing, starting with systems you are familiar with: the postal system, the telephone system, and the interstate highway system. From there, you'll learn routing simply and easily. Whether you are looking to take your first step into a career in networking or are interested only in gaining knowledge of the technology, this book is for you! 

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Routing First-Step(Your first step into the world of routing)Reviewer Name: Steve Owen Scheiderer, Network AdministratorReviewer Certification: MCSE NT 4.0, CCNAISBN: 1-58720-122-4To earn my CCNA it took a year's worth of time in Cisco Academy modules, numerous labs,two 990+ page books, a test study guide, and the Cisco Simulator (which I also reviewed).Bill Parkhurst did an

excellant job of summarizing basic concepts in under 400 pages. Iwould recommend Chapters 1 - 6 and 9 for those pursuing CCNA certification.What is difficult to understand, from the perspective of Cisco Academy material, is whytopics like IS-IS and GP are included in this book. Even some of the OSPF discussionseems advanced (pp. 217-227). As a mere, humble CCNA, these sections were somewhat hardto follow and at times produced more questions than answers. On the other hand, theintroduction to these topics was appreciated and could be helpful to some who want a quickoverview of how more advanced protocols work.Those just starting out in routing may wish to skip some of Bill's discussion. For example,a lot of space is devoted to the "Octal Numbering System" which Bill explains "is not usedmuch" (p. 45). Some of the discussion was tedious and more advanced topics seemed out ofplace in a book for beginners. The time spent in the practice Bill recommends would havebeen better spent with the numbering systems more widely used.While I follwed his analogy of post offices and phone systems as they parallel ip addressing,a novice might actually find the parallels hard to follow.

The First-Step series are introductory books intended for those new to the topic and assumes no previous experience. Routing First-Step, by Bill Parkhurst guides the reader through the intricacies of routing by building upon situations experienced in everyday life. Throughout the book are useful illustrations, tables and configuration examples making it easier for the reader to understand the concepts presented. Each chapter ends with a series of review questions that reinforce the material read and gauge the readers understanding of the chapter. There is also a glossary provided to help the reader understand and become more familiar with industry terms.The first chapter begins with comparing routing to events that occur in everyday. How the delivery of mail, driving from point A to point B and establishing a telephone call are synonymous with routing. In addition, the author has the foresight to begin laying the foundation for route summarization. Throughout the book, these everyday events are referenced to reinforce the concepts conveyed, making them easier to understand.The next two chapters move into numbering systems and IP Addressing, discussing topics from converting between numbering systems to hierachal IP Addressing schemes. For an entry level book the author went a bit overboard on the different numbering system conversions but it makes a good reference for those of us who do not remember the steps. The IP Addressing chapter is very useful, taking the binary numbering system already learned in the previous chapter and applying the concepts to hierarchical addressing, subnetting and summarization. Having a solid understanding of these concepts is necessary for anyone involved in designing an organizations IP Addressing scheme.

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