

Preface to the 5th Edition

The first edition of the book was published in German at the end of 2002. Since then, *Basiswissen Softwaretest* has been the best-selling book on software testing in the German-speaking world.

Bestseller

This 5th edition in English has been comprehensively revised and updated. It is based on the latest (6th) edition of the German-language book and the current 2018 ISTQB® *Certified Tester – Foundation Level* syllabus.

The *Certified Tester* qualification scheme is extremely successful and is widely recognized and accepted within the IT industry. It has become the de facto global standard for software testing and quality assurance education. By the end of 2020 there were over 955,000 exams taken and more than 721,000 certifications issued in 129 countries around the world [URL: ISTQB]. Many IT employment ads for beginners and experienced workers reflect this, and certified training is often an obligatory requirement. The *Certified Tester* scheme is also part of the curriculum at many universities and technical colleges.

*The Certified Tester
training scheme*

In spite of this rapid development, there is a lot of the grass-roots knowledge in the field of computer science that doesn't change very much over the years. We take the *Foundations* part of our book title seriously and don't discuss topics that have yet to be proven in everyday practice. Specialist topics such as web app or embedded system testing are not part of these foundations.

*Grass-roots knowledge
required in the IT world*

This 5th edition of *Software Testing Foundations* has been comprehensively revised and extended, and its content brought completely up to date.

What's new?

The latest revision of the ISTQB® syllabus has seen some test techniques shifted to higher training levels, so these are no longer part of the *Foundations* syllabus. However, we have kept the corresponding sections in the book and have highlighted them as **side notes**. If you are using the book exclusively for exam preparation you can simply skip the **side note** sections.

*Side notes are not part
of the official syllabus*

*New test techniques
included*

Many readers have told us that they use the book for reference in their everyday work scenarios. This is why we have included a number of additional test techniques that do not appear in the *Foundations* syllabus. These include techniques such as pair-wise testing that weren't covered in previous editions.

The case study that illustrates the implementation of the test techniques has been adapted and comprehensively updated.

We have revised the lists of standards to reflect the changes made by the introduction of ISO 29119, and all the URLs referenced in the text have been updated too.

Online resources

Any future changes to the syllabus and the glossary that affect the book text can be found on our website [URL: Softwaretest Knowledge], where you will also find exercises that relate to the individual chapters in the book. Any necessary corrections or additions to the book text are also made available at the website.

For a book like this, success is rarely down to the authors alone, and we would like to thank all our colleagues at the German Testing Board and the *International Software Testing Qualifications Board*, without whom the *Certified Tester* program would never have achieved the global success that it enjoys. Many thanks also to Hans Schaefer, our co-author of the previous four editions of the book, for his constructive cooperation.

Thanks

We would further like to thank our readers for their many comments and reviews, which have encouraged us during our work and motivated us to keep getting better. Heartfelt thanks also go to our editor Christa Preisendanz and the entire team at dpunkt.verlag for years of successful cooperation.

We wish all our readers success in the practical implementation of the testing approaches described in the book and—if you are using the book to prepare for the *Certified Tester Foundation Level* exam—we wish you every success in answering the exam questions.

Andreas Spillner and Tilo Linz
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