



# The Hitchhiker's Guide to Test Automation: Software Quality Assurance and Test Automation in Practice

*Mark Fink*

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**So, you're bringing Agile methodologies to your web application development projects?** Great idea... but, as you've probably discovered, rapid testing is a headache. Time-consuming, inefficient manual testing routines don't cut it in the short cycles of modern iterative development. Even for small software projects, test automation is the way to go. But the variety of disciplines and techniques that have arisen during the rapid evolution of web application technology and testing tools can look formidable to the most seasoned test engineer. To a newbie, they appear downright scary. If you need to get up to speed on test automation, here's the book for you. Let author and software test maven Mark Fink walk you through the whole contemporary test automation chain, step-by-step. As you work through the book, you'll combine open-source test automation tools including Jenkins, Selenium, FitNesse, and JMeter with Mark's installation scripts to examine a series of test scenarios. In the process, you'll build a complete automated test suite for a working Ajax demo application -- from the ground up. Writing for test engineers, QA specialists, software developers and project managers alike, Mark answers such crucial questions as:

- How does test automation integrate with an Agile development process?
- How can I efficiently maintain large test suites?
- What do I do with my test results?
- How do I make sure my application will remain stable under target load?
- Once I have mastered test automation, will I still need manual testing?
- How do I manage exploratory testing?

Anything but academic, the Hitchhiker's Guide to Test Automation introduces concepts and methodologies from across the entire spectrum of software quality assurance, along with practical test cases for you to examine with that working Ajax demo application. When you've finished reading, you'll have a working continuous integration server that you can adapt for testing your own project -- and you'll have all the skills you need to support your iterative development process with well-rounded QA. "I was impressed with both his knowledge and his ability to drive development teams to do great automated and also manual testing." -- Karsten Papke, Team Lead & QA-Manager "Hitchhiker's" demo at <http://github.com/markfink>.



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