The Pattern on the Stone: The Simple Ideas That Make Computers Work

By W Daniel Hillis

The Perseus Books Group. Paperback / softback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Pattern on the Stone: The Simple Ideas That Make Computers Work, W Daniel Hillis, Most people are baffled by how computers work and assume that they will never understand them. What they don t realizeand what Daniel Hillis s short book brilliantly demonstratesis that computers seemingly complex operations can be broken down into a few simple parts that perform the same simple procedures over and over again. Computer wizard Hillis offers an easy-to-follow explanation of how data is processed that makes the operations of a computer seem as straightforward as those of a bicycle.Avoiding technobabble or discussions of advanced hardware, the lucid explanations and colorful anecdotes in "The Pattern on the Stone" go straight to the heart of what computers really do. Hillis proceeds from an outline of basic logic to clear descriptions of programming languages, algorithms, and memory. He then takes readers in simple steps up to the most exciting developments in computing todayquantum computing, parallel computing, neural networks, and self-organizing systems.Written clearly and succinctly by one of the world s leading computer scientists, "The Pattern on the Stone" is an indispensable guide to understanding the...

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