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## Sams Foxpro 2.6 for Windows

# Foxpro 2.6 for Windows Developer's Guide User Manual

Model: Foxpro 2.6 for Windows

## INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides comprehensive guidance for users of the *Foxpro 2.6 for Windows Developer's Guide*. It is designed to assist both new and experienced FoxPro users in mastering the skills required for application development within the FoxPro 2.6 for Windows environment. The guide includes numerous examples and applications to demonstrate specific techniques.

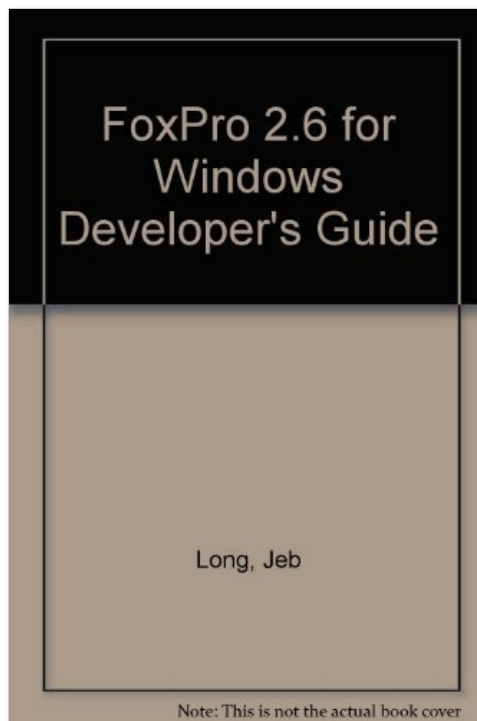


Image: Cover of the Foxpro 2.6 for Windows Developer's Guide book. The cover features the title "FoxPro 2.6 for Windows Developer's Guide" at the top, and "Long, Jeb" (the author's name) in the middle. A note at the bottom states, "Note: This is not the actual book cover."

## SETUP AND INSTALLATION

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This section outlines the general steps for setting up your development environment to work with FoxPro 2.6 for Windows,

as described in the guide. While the book itself is a physical guide, successful application of its contents requires a properly configured software environment.

## System Requirements

- Compatible Windows Operating System (e.g., Windows 3.1, Windows 95, or later versions capable of running FoxPro 2.6).
- Sufficient RAM and hard disk space for FoxPro 2.6 installation and application development.
- CD-ROM drive (if installing from physical media) or network access for digital distribution.

## Software Installation

1. **Prepare your system:** Ensure your operating system meets the minimum requirements for FoxPro 2.6.
2. **Insert Installation Media:** If using a physical disk, insert the FoxPro 2.6 installation CD-ROM into your drive. For digital versions, locate the installation files.
3. **Run Setup Program:** Navigate to the installation directory and execute the setup program (e.g., **SETUP.EXE**).
4. **Follow On-Screen Prompts:** Adhere to the instructions provided by the installation wizard, including accepting license agreements, choosing installation directories, and selecting components.
5. **Verify Installation:** After completion, launch FoxPro 2.6 to ensure it starts correctly.

Refer to the official FoxPro 2.6 documentation for detailed installation instructions specific to your version and operating system.

## OPERATING PRINCIPLES

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This section covers the fundamental operating principles and key concepts of FoxPro 2.6 for Windows, as detailed in the developer's guide. Understanding these principles is crucial for effective application development.

### Key Concepts

- **Database Management:** FoxPro is a relational database management system (RDBMS). Learn about tables, fields, records, and indexes.
- **Programming Language:** The guide focuses on the xBASE language, which is central to developing applications in FoxPro.
- **User Interface (UI) Development:** Understand how to design and implement graphical user interfaces using FoxPro's tools.
- **Wizards and Tools:** Utilize built-in wizards and development tools to streamline application creation.
- **Event-Driven Programming:** Grasp the concept of responding to user actions and system events.

### Application Development Workflow

1. **Planning:** Define application requirements, data structures, and user interface design.
2. **Database Design:** Create and structure tables, define relationships, and set up indexes.
3. **Form Design:** Develop user interfaces using the Form Designer, adding controls like text boxes, buttons, and grids.
4. **Code Implementation:** Write xBASE code to handle events, manipulate data, and implement application logic.
5. **Debugging and Testing:** Identify and resolve errors, and thoroughly test the application's functionality.
6. **Compilation and Distribution:** Compile the application into an executable file for distribution.

The guide provides numerous examples and source code to illustrate these concepts and the development process.

## MAINTENANCE AND BEST PRACTICES

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Maintaining FoxPro applications and the development environment is crucial for long-term stability and performance. This section outlines key maintenance practices and development best practices.

## Application Maintenance

- **Data Integrity:** Regularly back up your databases and use FoxPro's built-in commands (e.g., **PACK**, **REINDEX**) to maintain data integrity and optimize performance.
- **Code Management:** Implement version control for your source code to track changes and facilitate collaboration.
- **Performance Tuning:** Optimize queries, index usage, and code logic to ensure applications run efficiently.
- **Security:** Implement appropriate security measures for your applications and data.

## Development Best Practices

- **Modular Design:** Break down complex applications into smaller, manageable modules or procedures.
- **Consistent Naming Conventions:** Use clear and consistent naming for variables, functions, and objects.
- **Comments:** Document your code thoroughly with comments to explain logic and functionality.
- **Error Handling:** Implement robust error handling routines to gracefully manage unexpected situations.
- **User Experience:** Design user interfaces that are intuitive and easy to navigate.

## TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

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This section addresses common issues encountered during FoxPro 2.6 development and operation, providing general troubleshooting steps. For specific error messages, consult the FoxPro 2.6 documentation or relevant online resources.

### Installation and Launch Issues

- **"File not found" errors:** Verify that all necessary FoxPro files are in the correct directories and that environment paths are set up properly.
- **Application crashes on launch:** Check for conflicts with other installed software or corrupted FoxPro installation files. Reinstallation might be necessary.

### Application Development Issues

- **Syntax errors:** Carefully review your xBASE code for typos, incorrect command usage, or missing delimiters. Use FoxPro's debugger.
- **Logic errors:** Step through your code using the debugger to trace variable values and execution flow.
- **Data corruption:** If data appears corrupted or inaccessible, try using **REINDEX** or **PACK** commands. Always work with backups.
- **Slow performance:** Analyze queries, ensure proper indexing, and optimize loops and data access routines.

### General Tips

- **Consult Documentation:** The FoxPro 2.6 help files and the *Developer's Guide* itself are primary resources for resolving issues.
- **Community Forums:** Online communities and forums dedicated to FoxPro can provide solutions to common and complex problems.
- **Isolate the Problem:** Try to narrow down the issue by simplifying the code or data that causes the problem.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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This section provides key specifications related to the *Foxpro 2.6 for Windows Developer's Guide* book itself.

Attribute	Detail
Title	Foxpro 2.6 for Windows Developer's Guide
Author	Jeb Long
Publisher	Sams
Publication Date	July 1, 1994
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Print Length	1400 pages
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Item Weight	4.65 pounds
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## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

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As this product is a published book, standard software warranties do not apply. However, support for the content and errata may be available from the publisher or author.

### Publisher Information

For inquiries regarding the book's content, potential errata, or future editions, please contact the publisher:

- **Publisher:** Sams
- **Website:** Refer to the publisher's official website for contact information or support resources related to their publications.

### Community Support

For technical support related to FoxPro 2.6 software itself, consider exploring historical online forums and communities dedicated to FoxPro development. These resources often contain valuable archives of discussions and solutions.

