



Being Digital

By Nicholas Negroponte

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Being Digital is both a guide to the present state of our rapidly-changing digital age and a map for the future--how our lives will be shaped and enhanced by computer-related technology. Negroponte--Wired Magazine columnist and founding director of the MIT Media Lab--describes how advancements in computer technology and telecommunications will transform workplaces, households, and educational institutions. He explains how this revolution will change the way we live, think, and interact with one another and with technology, and foresees the challenges that lie ahead in developing truly global systems for delivering multimedia and other forms of digitally based information. Negroponte characterizes the development of future information delivery systems as a battle between atoms, the components of books and other physical resources, and bits, the basic building blocks of information.

The digital age is coming, Negroponte says, and it "cannot be denied or stopped....We're discussing a fundamental cultural change: Computing is not about computers, it's about life; being digital is not just being a geek or Internet surfer or mathematically savvy child, it's actually a way of living and is going to impact absolutely everything."

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

As the founder of MIT's Media Lab and a popular columnist for *Wired*, Nicholas Negroponte has amassed a following of dedicated readers. Negroponte's fans will want to get a copy of *Being Digital*, which is an edited version of the 18 articles he wrote for *Wired* about "being digital."

Negroponte's text is mostly a history of media technology rather than a set of predictions for future technologies. In the beginning, he describes the evolution of CD-ROMs, multimedia, hypermedia, HDTV (high-definition television), and more. The section on interfaces is informative, offering an up-to-date history on visual interfaces, graphics, virtual reality (VR), holograms, teleconferencing hardware, the mouse and touch-sensitive interfaces, and speech recognition.

In the last chapter and the epilogue, Negroponte offers visionary insight on what "being digital" means for our future. Negroponte praises computers for their educational value but recognizes certain dangers of technological advances, such as increased software and data piracy and huge shifts in our job market that will require workers to transfer their skills to the digital medium. Overall, *Being Digital* provides an informative history of the rise of technology and some interesting predictions for its future.

From Publishers Weekly

Negroponte, a *Wired* columnist and founder of MIT's Media Lab, presents an accessible guide to the cutting edge of digital technology and his predictions for its future.

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From Library Journal

Negroponte, popular columnist for *Wired* magazine and founding director for the MIT Media Lab, describes how advancements in computer technology and telecommunications will transform workplaces, households, and educational institutions. He explains how this revolution will change the way we live, think, and interact with one another and with technology and foresees some mind-boggling challenges that lie ahead in developing truly global systems for delivering multimedia and other forms of digitally based information. Negroponte characterizes the development of future information delivery systems as a battle between atoms, the components of books and other physical resources, and bits, the basic building blocks of information. In 1991, he predicted the eventual demise of libraries, those vast storehouses of atoms, in favor of bit-based purveyors of information. An important work for public and academic libraries.

--Joe Accardi, *Northeastern Illinois Univ. Lib., Chicago*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Jon Cerrone:

Hey guys, do you desire to find a new book you just read? Maybe the book with the concept Being Digital suitable to you? Typically the book was written by famous writer in this era. The book entitled Being Digital is one of several books that will everyone read now. That book was inspired many men and women in the world. When you read this publication you will enter the new dimensions that you ever know ahead of. The author explained their plan in the simple way, thus all of people can easily to recognise the core of this

book. This book will give you a great deal of information about this world now. To help you to see the represented of the world within this book.

Donna Casey:

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Roger Cooper:

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specifically book entitled Being Digital your thoughts will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe unfamiliar for but surely will become your mind friends. Imaging each and every word written in a e-book then become one type conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get previous to. The Being Digital giving you an additional experience more than blown away your thoughts but also giving you useful details for your better life within this era. So now let us show you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished studying it, like winning a casino game. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Gary Tawney:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to acquire information. The information will make someone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of references to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You can see that now, a lot of publisher that print many kinds of book. The book that recommended for you is Being Digital this reserve consist a lot of the information in the condition of this world now. This particular book was represented how does the world has grown up. The terminology styles that writer value to explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some analysis when he makes this book. Here is why this book appropriate all of you.

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