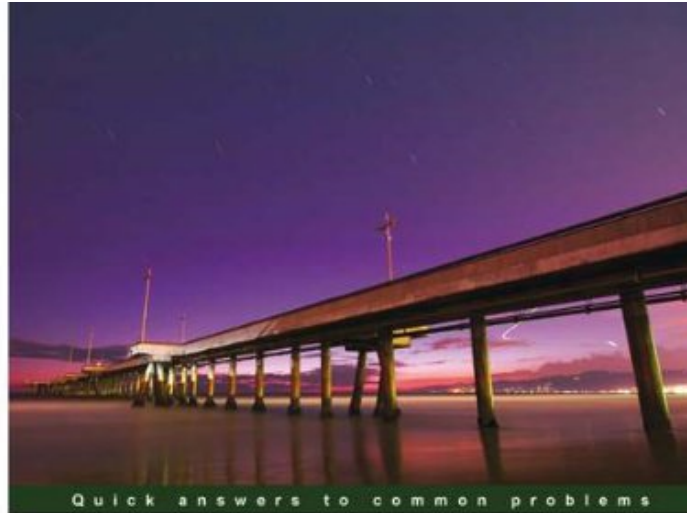


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# IBM Cognos TM1 Cookbook

Ankit Garg

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**Ankit Garg : IBM Cognos TM1 Cookbook** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised IBM Cognos TM1 Cookbook:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Not so much of a cookbook as a basic guide  
By James Webber I was expecting great things from this book. The other cookbooks I have read in this series had really good technical recipes (like the Cognos Report studio one IBM Cognos 8 Report Studio Cookbook). However if you have read the IBM TM1 user guides and done a little surfing on TM1 I don't think this book will give you any major insight into TM1. I certainly felt that I knew at least 90% if not all of the information in this cookbook. I expect this is a good book for learning TM1 from scratch, perhaps cookbook is a misleading title. I was also disappointed because I think very highly of Wim Gielis (one of the contributing authors) ([...] and [...]) didn't see many of his good hints and tricks in the book. Hoping the official guide will be better  
IBM Cognos TM1 The Official Guide  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. cube = intuitive way to encapsulate and analyse business data  
By W Boudville Ok, I have not read the official IBM Cognos TM1 documentation, so I cannot make a first hand comparison between this book and that. Other reviewers have suggested that the book offers little different. Garg's offering might seem to naively and initially portray

TM1 to be in part a souped up spreadsheet. Several sections show a typical spreadsheet layout, with a table populated with data. But TM1 goes far beyond being a pure spreadsheet. Crucially, it has scripts that run in the backend to hook up with the TM1 Data Server. The latter contains what IBM simply calls 'cubes'. An inspired choice of terminology. Compact, with a simple metaphoric visualisation. A cube is considered to be business data in some type of multi-dimensional format. This is not the lowest form of data. The cube is derived from underlying data sets residing in, for example, a CRM source database. The Data Server goes out to this and constructs a cube. The various user interfaces that the book spends much/most of its time on are the views that TM1 lets you have for the cubes. Kudos to IBM for eschewing complex jargon. If I do seem to be emphasising this, it is because notation and terminology can and probably will affect how you use a software package. The simpler and more self evident the jargon, the easier it is for you to mentally build upon it and to leverage off the user interface. The user interface shows how to make a cube. Quite different from a traditional relational database approach of making interrelated tables and using standard normal forms. Arguably, IBM's approach with the cube may be more intuitive for the business user unversed in database theory. In and of itself, you might want to carefully peruse this book, to see if this approach is easier for you. Where possibly you can apply your business expert knowledge in an easier way. This is something I think the book does not emphasise enough. If you read this book, at some point, step back from what are low level details about a given set of steps in the user interface and consider the bigger significance of what TM1 lets you do. That clever avoidance of explicit relational ideas can really expand the audience and potential usefulness of TM1. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Poor book title; A-Z Coverage of TM1 tools. By Ned R. What I like about this book:- A-Z coverage of TM1 tools- A good book for people switching to tm1 tool from another planning platform (such as, EP or SAP BPC) Suggestions for Improvement:- Change title to something like, "Introduction to TM1." - Upload tutorial data files (csv or Excel) to the publisher website, so reader can finish tutorials- Describe in table format TM1 menus and toolbars where applicable

Each recipe comprises step-by-step instructions followed by an analysis of what was done in each task and other useful information. It is packed with useful screenshots to make your learning even easier. The book emphasizes on a learn-by-example approach so as to maximize learning. The book is intended for prospective TM1 developers or analysts who want to successfully build and manage a complete planning, budgeting and forecasting solution with IBM Cognos TM1. No previous knowledge of TM1 is expected. Existing TM1 users and developers will also benefit from the practical recipes covered in the book.

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