



Tomcat





The Apache Jakarta Project

- The **Apache Jakarta Project** “creates and maintains open source solutions on the Java platform for distribution to the public at no charge”
- Apache Jakarta Tomcat--or just “Tomcat”--is one of those projects
- Tomcat is a **container** for servlets
 - Tomcat can act as a simple standalone server for Web applications that use HTML, servlets, and JSP
 - **Apache** is an industrial-strength, highly optimized server that can be extended with Tomcat



Getting Tomcat

- The Apache Jakarta website is hard to navigate
- If you want to get Tomcat, one reasonable download site is <http://mirrors.xtria.com/apache/jakarta/tomcat-5/v5.0.29/bin/>
- You would need the whole “tarball”, which will have a name such as [jakarta-tomcat-5.0.29.tar.gz](#)
- An excellent tutorial site is *Configuring & Using Apache Tomcat*, <http://www.coreservlets.com/Apache-Tomcat-Tutorial/>
 - This site also contains many examples you can use to test your installation
- Installing Tomcat by itself is much easier than installing Apache and then adding Tomcat to it



Web apps

- A **web application** is basically a web site that:
 - “Knows who you are”--it doesn’t just give you static pages, it interacts with you
 - Can permanently change data (such as in a database)
- A web application can consist of multiple pieces
 - Static web pages (possibly containing forms)
 - Servlets
 - JSP
- Tomcat organizes all these parts into a single directory structure for each web application
 - ...but you have to help with the organization



Directories

- To create servlets, you really should have two directory structures:
 - A **development directory**, in which you can write and partially debug your code
 - A **deployment directory**, in which you put “live” code
- Tomcat requires a particular set of directories for your web application
 - It is extremely picky about having everything in the right place!
- Since your web application must typically co-exist with other web applications, you should use **packages** to avoid name conflicts
 - This further complicates the Tomcat directory structure



Packages

- A **package** statement in Java must be the very first line of code in the file
- Example:
 - `package com.example.model;`
`import javax.servlet.*;`
`import javax.servlet.http.*;`
`import java.io.*;`

`public class MyServlet extends HttpServlet { ... }`
- This implies that
 - This program is in a file named `MyServlet.java`, which is
 - in a directory named `model`, which is
 - in a directory named `example`, which is
 - in a directory named `com`



Tomcat directory structure

`myApplicationDirectory/` -- this is your top level directory

`myWebForm.html`

`myJspPage.jsp`

`WEB-INF/` -- must have this directory, named exactly like this

`lib/` -- mostly for external `.jar` files

`classes/` -- must have this directory, named exactly like this

`com/` -- The `com.example.model` package directory

`example/`

`model/`

`myModel.class` -- in package `com.example.model`;

`web/`

`myServlet.class` --in package `com.example.web`;

`web.xml` -- this is the deployment descriptor, it must have this name



My files

- **myWebForm.html**

- This is the web page with a form that starts up the servlet

- **com/example/web/myServlet.class**

- This is the servlet I intend to use; it will use the **myModel** class, but to do this it needs an import statement:

```
import com.example.model.myModel;
```

- **com/example/model/myModel.class**

- This does the “business logic” it is good form to keep it separate

- **myJspPage.jsp**

- The (optional) JSP page to create the HTML output (could be done directly by **myServlet**)

- **web.xml**

- A file *required* by Tomcat to tell it what class to start with and how to refer to that class



myWebForm.html

```
<html>
```

```
...
```

```
<body>
```

```
...
```

```
<form method="POST" action="NameSeenByUser.do">
```

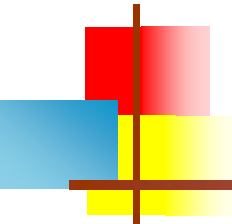
```
  ...various form elements...
```

```
</form>
```

```
...
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```



web.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<web-app xmlns="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/j2ee"
         xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
         xsi:schemaLocation=
             "http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/j2ee/web-app_2_4.xsd"
         version="2.4">

  <servlet>
    <servlet-name>Some internal name</servlet-name>
    <servlet-class>com.example.web.MyServlet</servlet-class>
  </servlet>

  <servlet-mapping>
    <servlet-name>Some internal name</servlet-name>
    <url-pattern>/NameSeenByUser.do</url-pattern>
  </servlet-mapping>

</web-app>
```



Servlet without JSP

```
public class MyServlet extends HttpServlet {  
  
    public void doPost(HttpServletRequest request,  
                        HttpServletResponse response)  
        throws IOException, ServletException {  
  
        response.setContentType("text/html");  
        PrintWriter out = response.getWriter();  
        String value = request.getParameter("name");  
        out.println("<html><body>I got: " + name + " = " +  
                    value + "</body></html>");  
    }  
}
```



Servlet with JSP

```
public class MyServlet extends HttpServlet {  
  
    public void doPost(HttpServletRequest request,  
                        HttpServletResponse response)  
        throws IOException, ServletException {  
  
        String value = request.getParameter("name");  
        ...computation resulting in some Object obj...  
        request.setAttribute("objName", obj);  
        RequestDispatcher view =  
            request.getRequestDispatcher("result.jsp");  
        view.forward(request, response);  
    }  
}
```



JSP (result.jsp)

```
<%@ page import="java.util.*" %>
<html>
<head><title>Your results</title></head>
<body>

<%
    MyObject object =
        (MyObject)request.getAttribute("objName");
    String someResult = ...computations using object...
    out.print("<br>And the answer is: " + someResult);
%>

</body>
</html>
```



Flow

- The user submits an HTML form
- Tomcat finds the servlet based on the URL and the deployment descriptor ([web.xml](#)) and passes the request to the servlet
- The servlet computes a response
- Either:
 - The servlet writes an HTML page containing the response
- Or:
 - The servlet forwards the response to the JSP
 - The JSP embeds the response in an HTML page
- Tomcat returns the HTML page to the user



Alternatives to Tomcat

- Sun's Java Web Server
 - Old, no longer being developed, all in Java
- Java Web Server Development Kit (JWSDK)
 - Official reference implementation
 - Difficult to install and configure
- JBoss
 - Open source
 - Opinions vary on how easy it is to install
 - Comes with built-in database



The End
