



**FREE eBook**

# LEARNING

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# struts2

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**#struts2**

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# About

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# Chapter 1: Getting started with struts2

## Remarks

While the framework is simple to use, creating non-trivial applications assumes a working knowledge of many JEE technologies, including:

- Java
- Filters
- JSP
- Tag Libraries
- JavaBeans
- HTML and HTTP
- Web Containers (such as Tomcat)
- XML

## Examples

### Download

A distribution can be downloaded from the [Apache Struts website](#). The full distribution contains:

- the `struts2-core.jar` file
- related dependencies
- example applications
- a copy of the documentation in HTML format
- the complete source code.

### Blank Application

The blank web application in the distribution's `apps` directory is meant as a template.

There is even a simple batch file in the source code directory that we can use to recompile the application in place.

We can make a copy of the `blank.war`, deploy it to our container, and use the exploded copy as the basis for our application.

### New application from Maven Archetype

For those of us using Maven as a build system, we can use the Maven Archetype to create a new application.

First consult the maven archetype catalog

```
mvn archetype:generate -DarchetypeCatalog=http://struts.apache.org/
```

you can use one of the following archetypes:

### **The Blank Convention Archetype (struts2-archetype-convention)**

It has the following features:

- Convention-based validation
- Example actions
- Package-level resource bundle
- Unit-testing
- Google AppEngine aware

to download it through maven run the command

```
mvn archetype:generate -B -DgroupId=com.mycompany.mysystem \
    -DartifactId=myWebApp \
    -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.struts \
    -DarchetypeArtifactId=struts2-archetype-convention \
    -DarchetypeVersion=<CURRENT_STRUTS_VERSION> \
    -DremoteRepositories=http://struts.apache.org
```

### **The Blank Archetype (struts2-archetype-blank)**

It has the following features:

- XML-based configuration, demonstrates including additional config file
- Example actions
- Package-level resource bundle
- XML-based validation
- Unit-testing

to download it through maven run the command

```
mvn archetype:generate -B -DgroupId=com.mycompany.mysystem \
    -DartifactId=myWebApp \
    -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.struts \
    -DarchetypeArtifactId=struts2-archetype-blank \
    -DarchetypeVersion=<CURRENT_STRUTS_VERSION> \
    -DremoteRepositories=http://struts.apache.org
```

### **The Starter Archetype (struts2-archetype-starter)**

It has the following features:

- Sitemesh integration
- Action example (instantiated both through Spring and Struts)
- Spring integration
- Validation example (action and action-alias level)
- Conversion example (global and action level)
- Resource bundle (both global, action and package level)

to download it through maven run the command

```
mvn archetype:generate -B -DgroupId=com.mycompany.mysystem \
    -DartifactId=myWebApp \
    -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.struts \
    -DarchetypeArtifactId=struts2-archetype-starter \
    -DarchetypeVersion=<CURRENT_STRUTS_VERSION> \
    -DremoteRepositories=http://struts.apache.org
```

## The AngularJS Archetype (struts2-archetype-angularjs)

It has the following features:

- Convention-based Action Configuration
- Example actions with JSON Result
- Example for AngularJS and Struts2 Integration

to download it through maven run the command

```
mvn archetype:generate -B -DgroupId=com.mycompany.mysystem \
    -DartifactId=myWebApp \
    -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.struts \
    -DarchetypeArtifactId=struts2-archetype-angularjs \
    -DarchetypeVersion=<CURRENT_STRUTS_VERSION> \
    -DremoteRepositories=http://struts.apache.org
```

## The Portlet Blank Archetype (struts2-archetype-portlet)

It has the following features:

- View, Edit, and Help mode examples
- Simple form for preferences in Edit mode
- Can be deployed as a servlet or portlet application
- Can use Maven Jetty plugin to deploy with the pluto-embedded profile (usage 'mvn jetty:run -Ppluto-embedded', then access <http://localhost:8080/pluto/index.jsp>)

to download it through maven run the command

```
mvn archetype:generate -B -DgroupId=com.mycompany.mysystem \
    -DartifactId=myWebApp \
    -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.struts \
    -DarchetypeArtifactId=struts2-archetype-portlet \
    -DarchetypeVersion=<CURRENT_STRUTS_VERSION> \
    -DremoteRepositories=http://struts.apache.org
```

## The Portlet Database Archetype (struts2-archetype-dbportlet)

It has the following features:

- Uses Spring and Hsql to show a real database query

- Builtin caching of query results
- View, Edit, and Help mode examples
- Simple form for preferences in Edit mode
- Can be deployed as a servlet or portlet application
- Can use Maven Jetty plugin to deploy as a servlet webapp

to download it trough maven run the command

```
mvn archetype:generate -B -DgroupId=com.mycompany.mysystem \  
    -DartifactId=myWebApp \  
    -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.struts \  
    -DarchetypeArtifactId=struts2-archetype-dbportlet \  
    -DarchetypeVersion=<CURRENT_STRUTS_VERSION> \  
    -DremoteRepositories=http://struts.apache.org
```

### The Plugin Archetype (struts2-archetype-plugin)

It has the following features:

- Example new result type
- Example XML-based configuration

to download it trough maven run the command

```
mvn archetype:generate -B -DgroupId=com.mycompany.mysystem \  
    -DartifactId=myPlugin \  
    -DarchetypeGroupId=org.apache.struts \  
    -DarchetypeArtifactId=struts2-archetype-plugin \  
    -DarchetypeVersion=<CURRENT_STRUTS_VERSION> \  
    -DremoteRepositories=http://struts.apache.org
```

Read [Getting started with struts2 online](https://riptutorial.com/struts2/topic/4823/getting-started-with-struts2): <https://riptutorial.com/struts2/topic/4823/getting-started-with-struts2>

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# Credits

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1	Getting started with struts2	<a href="#">Community</a> , <a href="#">Ruslan López Carro</a>