

Enjoying Web Development with Wicket

By

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Foreword

How to create web-based applications easily?

If you would like to create web-based applications easily, then this book is for you. More importantly, it shows you how to do that with joy and feel good about your own work! You don't need to know servlet or JSP while your productivity will be much higher than using servlet or JSP directly. This is possible because we are going to use a library called Wicket that makes complicated stuff simple and elegant.

How does it do that? First, it allows the web designer to work on the static contents and design of a page while allowing the developer to work on the dynamic contents of that page without stepping on each other's toes; Second, it allows developers to work with high level concepts such as objects and properties instead of HTTP URLs, query parameters or HTML string values; Third, it comes with powerful components such as calendar, tree and data grid and it allows you to create your own components for reuse in your own project.

However, do not take our word for it! This book will quickly walk you through real world use cases to show you how to use Wicket and leave it up to you to judge.

How this book can help you learn Wicket?

- It has a tutorial style that walks you through in a step-by-step manner.
- It is concise. There is no lengthy, abstract description.
- Many diagrams are used to show the flow of processing and high level concepts so that you get a whole picture of what is happening.
- Free sample chapters are available on <http://www.ttdev.com>. You can judge it yourself.
- The manuscript of book has been used to train up a team of programmers who had not used Java or written any program at all. The training took only a few months (six hours per week). Now they are developing a core application for their organization using Wicket, Spring and Hibernate.

Unique contents in this book

This book covers the following topics not found in other books on Wicket:

- Works with Wicket v7 (and v6).

- Full coverage of JPA/Hibernate and Spring including conversions (extended sessions).
- How to make a jQuery UI component into a Wicket component supporting self-contained client-server callbacks.
- How to unit test Wicket pages with the Wicket Page Test library (supporting AJAX).

Target audience and prerequisites

This book is suitable for those learning how to develop web-based applications and those who are experienced in servlet, JSP, Struts and would like to see if Wicket can make their jobs easier.

In order to understand what is in the book, you need to know Java, HTML and some simple SQL. However, you do NOT need to know servlet, JSP, Tomcat, Spring, JPA or Hibernate.

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Chapter 1

Getting Started with Wicket

