

# Enjoying Web Development with Tapestry

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Book website: <http://www.agileskills2.org>

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Edition: Third edition 2006

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## Foreword

### How to create AJAX web-based application easily?

If you'd like to create AJAX 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're going to use a library called "Tapestry" 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, don't take our word for it! This book will quickly walk you through real world use cases to show you how to use Tapestry and leave it up to you to judge. It is best said by Geoff Longman, a Tapestry expert and the creator of a famous Eclipse plugin for Tapestry, "this is material designed to get your feet dirty \*right away\* and not really intended to debate whether Tapestry is right, wrong, the best, or the worst framework for you, me, or my brother."

### How this book can help you learn Tapestry?

- 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's happening.
- Free sample chapters are available on <http://www.agileskills2.org>. You can judge it yourself.

## Unique contents in this book

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

- How to work with Tapestry 4.1, including the AJAX features.
- How to use FireBug to debug AJAX effects.
- How to do test-driven development (TDD) with Tapestry and HtmlUnit.
- How to integrate Struts with Tapestry.
- How to use PostgreSQL and DBCP connection pooling with Tapestry.
- How to apply the four layered architecture in a Tapestry application.

## 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 Tapestry can make their jobs easier.

In order to understand what's in the book, you need to know Java, HTML and some simple SQL. However, you do NOT need to know servlet, JSP, Tomcat, HtmlUnit or Hibernate. The chapter on Struts integration does assume that you know Struts. If not, you may skip that chapter.

## Acknowledgments

I'd like to thank:

- Howard Lewis Ship for creating Tapestry.
- Mike Bowler, the creator of HtmlUnit, for reviewing the chapter on HtmlUnit.
- Helena Lei for proofreading this book.
- Eugenia Chan Peng U for doing book cover and layout design.

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