Creating a custom input widget

Yii has a very good set of form widgets, but as with every framework out there, Yii does not have them all. In this recipe, we will learn how to create your own input widget. For our example, we will create a range input widget.

Getting ready

Create a new application by using the Composer package manager, as described in the official guide at <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-start-installation.html>.

How to do it...

1. Create a widget file, @app/components/RangeInputWidget. php, as follows:

<?php

namespace app\components; use yii\base\Exception; use yii\base\Model; use yii\base\Widget; use yii\helpers\Html; class RangeInputWidget extends Widget {

public $model; public $attributeFrom; public $attributeTo; public $htmlOptions = []; protected function hasModel()

{

return $this->model instanceof Model&& $this->attributeFrom !== null&& $this->attributeTo !== null;} public function run()

{

if (!$this->hasModel()) {

throw new Exception('Model must be set');

}

return Html::activeTextInput($this->model, $this->attributeFrom, $this- >htmlOptions)

.' &rarr; '

.Html::activeTextInput($this->model, $this->attributeTo, $this- >htmlOptions);

}

}

2. Create a controller file, @app/controllers/RangeController . php, as follows:

<?php

namespace app\controllers; use Yii;

use yii\web\Controller; use app\models\RangeForm; class RangeController extends Controller {

public function actionIndex()

{

$model = new RangeForm();

if ($model->load(Yii::$app->request->post()) && $model->validate()) {

Yii::$app->session->setFlash('rangeFormSubmitted',