



Spring Framework 5

Beginner to Guru

Spring Configuration Options



Spring Configuration Options

- XML Based Configuration
 - Introduced in Spring Framework 2.0
 - Common in legacy Spring Applications
 - Newer Spring Applications use Java configuration options
 - Still supported in Spring Framework 5.x





Spring Configuration Options

- Annotation Based Configuration - Annotations introduced in Java 5
 - Introduced in Spring Framework 3
 - Spring beans found via 'Component Scans'
 - A scan of packages for annotated components
 - Spring Beans are found via class level annotations
 - @Controller, @Service, @Component, @Repository
 - More on these later





Spring Configuration Options

- Java Based Configuration
 - Introduced in Spring Framework 3.0
 - Uses Java classes to define Spring Beans
 - Configuration classes are defined with @Configuration annotation
 - Methods returning Spring Beans declared with @Bean annotation





Spring Configuration Options

- Groovy Bean Definition DSL
 - Introduced in Spring Framework 4.0
 - Allows you to declare beans via a Groovy DSL
 - Borrowed from Grails
- Nice to use, but not widely used by the community



Which to Use?

- You can use one or a combination of methods
- All will work seamless together to define beans in the Spring Context
- While XML is still widely used with legacy applications, industry trend is to Java based
- Ideally legacy applications should be migrated to Java based configuration
- Newer applications should use Java based configuration



