Apache Tomcat is an open source software implementation of the Java Servlet and JavaServer Pages technologies and can act as a standalone server for testing [servlets](http://www.tutorialspoint.com/) and can be integrated with the Apache Web Server

Tomcat is   a Servlet Container

Tomcat mainly has a Class loader Hierarchy and a Thread Pool.   
When a web application is deployed into tomcat, tomcat scans the Webapp , reads its deployment descriptor (web.xml or the equivalent) and decides that Servlets (and JSPs) need to be deployed and be made available.   
  
Servlets and JSPs (which are eventually servlets) are class loaded based on a class loader hierarchy, also any listeners and filters relevant are loaded and made available.   
  
When a request comes it is delegated to the appropriate Servlet class (which is run in a separate thread) ,  the servlet does what is necessary to process the request, responds, then the thread is free and will be used to serve the next request)

**Installation Process:**

1. Download latest version of Tomcat from <http://tomcat.apache.org/>.
2. Once you downloaded the installation, unpack the binary distribution into a convenient location.
3. Copy apache tomcat file to any drive and then create the environment
4. Fist create a path under the user for apache tomcat like, CATALINA\_HOME is the path name and value should be path location of your apache tomcat, then then create JAVA\_HOME is path name and value should be where is located your java JDK file,
5. And lastly copy the path of your apache tomcat bin and past it in the system path DONE.

**Apache Tomcat Folder and Others:**

* The port no of apache tomcat is 8080
* **Bin:** basically contents startup and shutdown batch file used to start and stop the server
* **Conf:** conf contains the details with respect to server, context and tomcat users. Where the port no can be change
* **Lib:** contains a set of jar files out of which Servlet-API and JSP-API to import few of the properties.
* **Logs:** basically there are some log messages which will always be display on the server consol.
* **Webapps:** basically needed to deploy any of the web application on to the apache tomcat server
* **Work:** basically used to store the translated servlet