

How to install the views

This How-To describes the setup of the plugins (needed to work with `forrest:views` and `forrest:contracts`) and a fresh seed site.

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1. Intended Audience

Warning:

"Views" are new functionality which is still in development phase. That is why it is in the "whiteboard" section of the Forrest distribution. This HowTo is a good start but still needs more work.

Developers who want to get started with view development.

2. Purpose

To help with installing views. This is the "getting started" setup guide.

3. Prerequisites

- Need the SVN trunk version of Forrest for using views because it is in an early stage.
- Read How to Build a Plugin especially the section about using Forrest's own Ant.

4. Steps

The process of setting up the plugin is quite heavy. We promise it will be easier in the future. Some of the instructions need to be modified with your local settings.

4.1. Build the internal.structurer and the output.themes plugins

The first step is to build and deploy the internal.structurer and the output.themes plugins. Change to a terminal window of your choice and go (cd) to the trunk version of forrest {forrest-trunk}. Then do an SVN update and after this deploy both plugins locally.

```
cd {forrest-trunk}
svn up
cd whiteboard/plugins/org.apache.forrest.plugin.internal.structurer/
ant local-deploy
cd ../org.apache.forrest.plugin.output.themes/
ant local-deploy
```

Alternatively, run the script `etc/structurer.sh`

4.2. Upgrade the JXPath library

Replace `lib/core/commons-jxpath-20030909.jar` with `commons-jxpath-1.2.jar`

Note:

That will introduce Issue FOR-675 - please help to fix it.

4.3. Seed a new project

Go to the directory where you want to seed a new project and seed it.

```
cd ~/src/newSeed
forrest seed
```

4.4. Modifying forrest.properties

Tell forrest that we are using the view plugins. Edit forrest.properties to add the required plugins:

```
project.required.plugins=org.apache.forrest.plugin.output.themes,org.apache.forrest.plugin
```

Change the project skin to leather-dev. The reason is that the plugins are still not independent from the "old fashion skins".

Note:

We are exchanging only site2xhtml.xsl of leather-dev skin with the plugins, and some contracts are based on e.g. document2html.xsl output of leather-dev.

```
project.skin=leather-dev
```

4.5. Test your new view based project

Now you have finished the preparation and the setup to finally do

```
forrest run
```

Then point to `http://localhost:8888/` and you will see the default views-based site.

4.6. Available contracts

To start working with views, you need to know which contracts you can use. For this we will install another plugin `org.apache.forrest.plugin.input.viewHelper.xhtml.ls`. The setup is:

```
cd {forrest-trunk}
svn up
cd whiteboard/plugins/org.apache.forrest.plugin.input.viewHelper.xhtml.ls/
ant local-deploy
```

The newly installed plugin will show the available contracts as html pages. First we have to tell Forrest that we are planning to use the new plugin. We will do that by editing the forrest.properties of the newSeed to add the plugin:

```
project.required.plugins=org.apache.forrest.plugin.input.viewHelper.xhtml.ls
```

Now point your browser to `http://localhost:8888/ls.contracts.html`. On this page you will find all contracts that you can use in your project.

5. Further Reading

Congratulations you are now able to work with views. From here we recommend to read the following How-To's:

- Getting started with forrest:view DSL
- Create your own contract implementation

6. Feedback



Please provide feedback about this document via the "dev" mailing list.