

How to install the "dispatcher"

This How-To describes the setup of the plugins (needed to work with forrest:views and forrest:contracts) and a fresh v2 seed site.

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1. Intended Audience

Warning:

The "Dispatcher" (aka "Views") is 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 "dispatcher" development and want to help testing and developing the "dispatcher".

2. Purpose

Quick guide installing the "dispatcher". This is the "getting started" setup guide.

3. Prerequisites

- Need the SVN trunk version of Forrest for using the "dispatcher" because it is in an early stage.
- Read How to Build a Plugin especially the section about using Forrest's own Ant.
- Installing a mozilla browser and the Forrestbar helps a lot in developing.

4. Steps

The process of setting up the plugin should be easy. Still it has too many stages and it will become easier in the future.

4.1. Build the internal.dispatcher and the themes.core plugins

The first step is to build and deploy the internal.dispatcher and the themes.core plugins.

Do your usual 'svn update' on forrest (build it clean and normal), then ...

```
cd whiteboard/plugins/org.apache.forrest.plugin.internal.dispatcher/
$FORREST_HOME/tools/ant/bin/ant local-deploy
cd ../org.apache.forrest.themes.core/
$FORREST_HOME/tools/ant/bin/ant local-deploy
```

4.2. Seed a new project

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

```
cd ~/src/
mkdir dispatcher
cd dispatcher/
forrest seed
```

4.3. Modify forrest.properties

Make sure to tell forrest to use the dispatcher plugins.
Edit forrest.properties to add the required plugins:

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

4.4. Test your new "dispatcher" based project

Now you have finished the preparation and the setup to finally do 'forrest run' and point your browser to `http://localhost:8888/` and you will see the default dispatcher-based site.

4.5. Available contracts

To start working with the dispatcher, you need to know which contracts you can use. Forrestbar is a nice way to see available contracts. See the menu point "Devs" (`ls.contracts` and/or `ls.contracts.project`)

You can point your browser to e.g. `http://localhost:8888/ls.contracts.html` ... On this page you will find all contracts that you can use in your project provided by the core themes.

5. Further Reading

Congratulations you are now able to work with the dispatcher. From here we recommend to read the following How-To's (in this order):

- Getting started with the "structurer"
- Create your own contract implementation

6. Feedback

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