

Ruby on Rails Tutorial

Chapter 3

Mostly Static Pages

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Agenda

- Start the ongoing project used throughout the book
- Introduction to RSpec
- Introduction to TDD
- Dynamic Rails pages

Create Application

- `rails new sample_app -T`
- `-T` option says not to use the `Test::Unit` framework for testing
- Add Rails, Sqlite, and RSpec gems to the Gemfile

Initialize RSpec

- rails generate rspec:install
- Creates:
 - .rspec options file
 - 'spec' directory
 - spec_helper.rb for RSpec configuration

Commit & Deploy Application

- Create improved README file
- Create GitHub repository
- Push committed changes to GitHub
- Deploy to Heroku

Static Pages

- HTML files served from the public directory
- `public/index.html` is the home page by default

Static Pages with Rails

- Create a Git branch to work on the feature
- Generate a Pages controller for home & contact actions
 - rails generate controller Pages home contact

Static Pages with Rails

- Routes generated for the home & contact actions

```
SampleApp::Application.routes.draw do  
  get "pages/home"  
  get "pages/contact"
```

- Methods generated for the Pages controller actions
- Views containing static HTML generated for the corresponding controller actions

Testing Tools

- Autotest & Spork are optional
 - Healthy percentage of people don't use Autotest
- If using Autotest, be sure to install something like autotest-fs
 - Monitors file system changes
 - Polling will fry your laptop and kill the battery

Test Driven Development

- Is about design as well as testing
- Design the code from the perspective of someone who uses it “outside in”

Test Driven Development

- Write a failing test
 - Helps ensure that the test is useful
- Write code to make the test pass
 - Only write enough code to make the test pass
- Refactor
 - Tests ensure the code still works
- Repeat

When not (gasp) to use TDD

- When not sure how to solve a problem
 - In XP, this is a “spike”
- When using it means that nothing will get done
 - Easy to get overwhelmed, especially when learning Ruby & Rails
 - At least write tests after the fact

RSpec Tests

```
describe PagesController do
  describe "GET 'home'" do
    it "should be successful" do
      get 'home'
      response.should be_success
    end
  end
end
```

- Good advice not to test views & helpers
 - Integration tests for views
- Run with 'bundle exec rspec spec/'

Add 'about' Page

- Write a failing controller test
 - Add 'render_views' class method call to ensure page is there
- Add an 'about' controller method
 - Need to add a route & view as well

Slightly Dynamic Pages - Red

- Add a title test
 - 'have_selector' checks for an HTML element in the response
 - Do not have to search for complete element text

```
it "should have the right title" do
  get 'home'
  response.should have_selector("title",
                                :content => "Ruby On Rails Tutorial Sample App | About")
end
```

Slightly Dynamic Pages - Green

- Add HTML to `about.html.erb`, `contact.html.erb`, and `home.html.erb` to make the tests pass

Slightly Dynamic Pages Refactor

- HTML pages contain a lot of duplication
 - Don't Repeat Yourself (DRY)
- Add instance variables for the page title
- Add a layout to define title and page structure
 - HTML from the view inserted at “yield” statement

Conclusion

- All the tests still pass
- Merge the code back into the 'master' branch
 - Delete the branch
- Push to GitHub