



# STRUTS FRAMEWORK COURSE

## CONVENTIONS IN STRUTS 2 FRAMEWORK




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Hello, Ubaldo Acosta greets you again.

In this lesson we are going to study the topic of Configuration by Convention with Struts 2 Framework.

Are you ready? Come on!

## CONVENTIONS IN STRUTS 2 FRAMEWORK

- The use of conventions allows us to use default settings in Struts 2
- Some of the conventions we can use are:
  - ✓ Mapping of Views (result or JSP to be used)
  - ✓ Mapping of Actions

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The use of Struts 2 conventions allows us to use default settings in many of the features of this powerful framework. It is even possible to completely remove the struts.xml file and use only the Struts 2 convention settings.

Some of the features of the Struts default configuration or configuration by conventions are the following:

- Mapping of Views (result or JSP to be used)
- Mapping of Actions
- Use of results (JSPs)
- Among several other concepts

In such a way that if we follow the conventions of Struts 2 in automatic the framework will make use of our actions, as well as the call to the view (result) corresponding all automatically.

## MAPPING VIEWS

- We can map the view if we deposit the JSPs in the following folder:

**WEB-INF/content**

- Example:  
URL = <http://localhost:8080/myApp/greetings>
- View to call: `greetings.jsp`

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The use of conventions can be applied to our views (JSPs).

We can see that if we place our views inside the folder of **WEB-INF/content** then we can infer and directly access the name of our view only by placing the name of the view (without the extension .jsp) in the path or URL of our application .

This way it will no longer be necessary to specify the result of the configuration of the struts.xml file, and we can avoid this configuration using this Struts 2 convention.



## MAPPING OF ACTIONS

- We can map the actions as follows:
- The package name contains any of the following words:
  - ✓ struts
  - ✓ struts2
  - ✓ action
  - ✓ actions
- The name of the Java class ends with the word Action

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The conventions for the mapping of actions and thus avoid adding this configuration in the struts.xml file, is as follows:

On one hand we must add in the name of the Java package of the class of the action any of the following names before the name of the class of type action.

- struts
- struts2
- action
- actions

On the other hand, the name of the Java class must end with the suffix Action.

Let's see some examples below.

## EXAMPLE OF ACTION MAPPING

- **Example 1: Url to use:**

Nombre del path: /greetings

- <http://localhost:8080/myApp/greetings>
- Name of the package and the Action class:
  - web.actions.GreetingsAction

- **Example 2: Url to use:**

Nombre del path: /users/add

- <http://localhost:8080/myApp/users/add>
- Name of the package and the Action class:
  - mx.com.gm.struts2.users.AddAction

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We can see some examples of how to map an action to the path or url of the client's request to the Action class, with the aim of avoiding adding this configuration to the struts.xml file using the following conventions:

Example 1: In the first example we can see that we are using the path: say hello

This name is what will give us the guidelines to define the name of our class of type Action.

In order to use the convention, what we do is add some of the words struts, struts2, action or actions within the name of our Java package, and the class must also add the word Action to the end of the class name, so both the name of the class is as follows: web.actions.GreetingsAction

We can see that before the word actions e the name of the package can go any other package, as in this case web, however after this name and before the name of the class is where we must add some of the words mentioned so that the Struts framework can find the package and later the name of the class.

Finally the name of the class must end with the word Action, but we can see that the name of the path (/greetings) is also used converting the first letter of the name of the action to upper case. Therefore the name of the class is GreetingsAction.java

In the second example it is very similar, but we can see that instead of the word actions in the name of the package, we use struts2, so we can use any of the words mentioned.

On the other hand the path (/users/add) is different, therefore, after the name of the package we must make the name of the path correspond, for it the name of the package is as follows: struts2.usuarios, in this way we only subtract the name of the action, leaving the fully qualified name of the class as follows:

mx.com.gm.struts2.users.AddAction

Next we are going to create an example to put into practice the concept of configuration by conventions.

## MORE INFORMATION OF CONVENTIONS

- For more information on the topic of conventions with Struts, you can consult the following link:
- <https://struts.apache.org/plugins/convention/>



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There are several other configurations that may be of interest to us. For this you can consult the Struts guides. In this case, the concept of configuration by convention, as well as several other Struts topics, are handled with the concept of plug-ins. In this way it is possible to add new features to Struts 2 simply by adding the library (.jar) corresponding to the feature (plug-in) that we want to add.

So one of the plugins that we can use is precisely the configuration by conventions. For more information you can consult the following link:

<https://struts.apache.org/plugins/convention/>



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