

## STRUTS FRAMEWORK COURSE

# TAGS WITH STRUTS 2 FRAMEWORK



By the expert: Ubaldo Acosta



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Hello, Ubaldo Acosta greets you again.

In this lesson we are going to study the topic of Tags in Struts 2.

Are you ready? Come on!



In this lesson we will see the theme of tags in Struts 2.

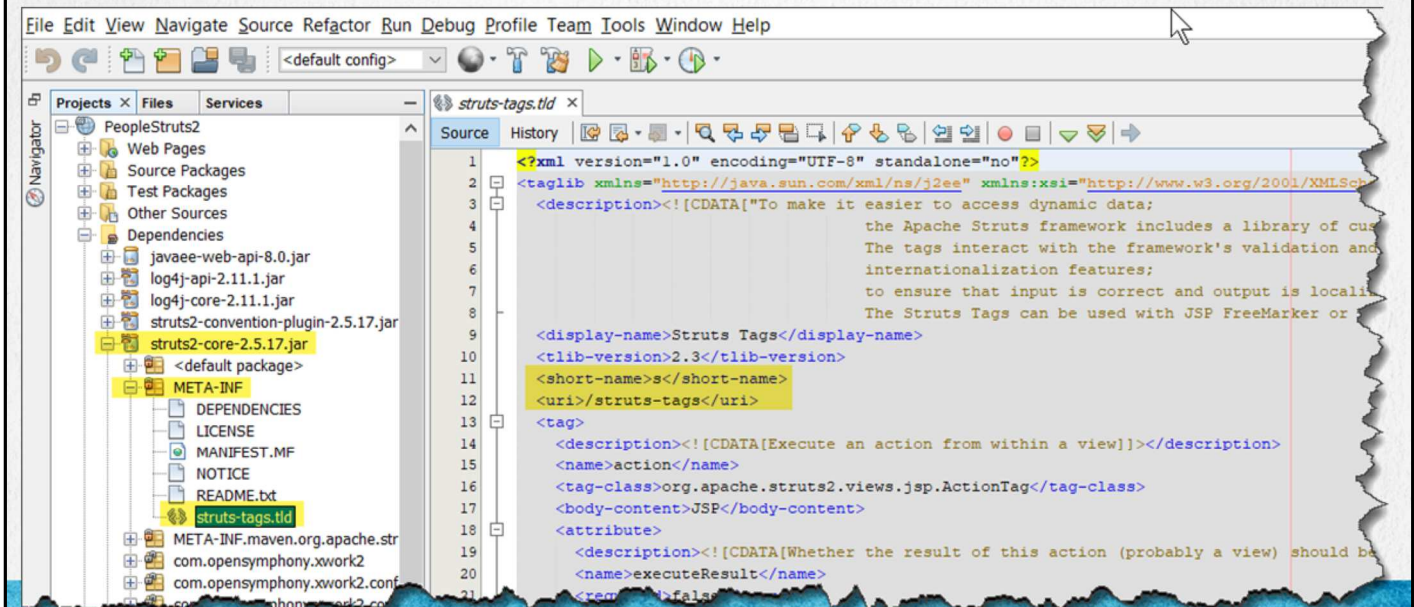
We have previously worked with the Struts tags, however in this lesson we are going to formalize this concept.

A tag is a label or component of the view, which will serve to access the model information in the MVC design pattern.

There are several types of tags depending on the need for information in our JSP view, or any other technology that has been selected for the presentation layer.

Let's see how to configure and where this configuration of the Struts tags comes from.

## LOCATION OF THE TLD OF THE STRUTS TAGS 2



Example of using the Struts TLD in a JSP view :

```
<%@taglib prefix="s" uri="/struts-tags" %> ...
```

We can observe the configuration to use the lib tag of struts. First of all we must locate the struts2-core.jar library (the version can change depending on the one being used).

Later we enter the META-INF folder, and inside this folder is the struts-tags.tld file, which is where we will find the definition of how to use the tld file.

Once we have entered this file we see the tags of <short-name> and <uri>, these are the 2 values that we will use in our view to be able to access the library of struts-tags.tld.

So finally we put an example of use of the Struts library.

```
<%@taglib prefix="s" uri="/struts-tags"%>
```

And this is precisely what we will use in our JSP so that we can access the Struts tags.



## USING THE TLD OF STRUTS TAGS

Example of using tags in a JSP view:

```
<%@taglib prefix="s" uri="/struts-tags" %>
<html>
  <head>...</head>
  <body>
    <s:form>
      <s:textfield label="Name" name="person.name" />
      <s:submit value="Send"/>
    </s:form>
    ...
  </body>
</html>
```

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Once we have seen where we are getting the prefix and uri values for the @taglib directive, we can start using the tags from this Struts 2 library.

We can observe that once the location of the library lib lib has been declared, it is enough to use the prefix <s:> to be able to access the labels contained in this library.

For example, the tag <s: form>, <s: textfield>, <s: submit>, etc. are examples of these tags and are the ones that we will commonly use to generate in our HTML forms with Struts 2 and be able to access the model of our Web application.

Let's create another example in front of an example of how to use some of the Struts 2 tags.

## TYPES OF TAGS IN STRUTS 2

### Control

- Ex. If, iterator, etc

### Data

- Hyperlinks, url, action, etc

### Form

- form, button, inputText, etc

### UI (No Form)

- Error messages, div, etc

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Struts 2 adds different types of tags depending on the task we want to perform. For example there are tags for:

**Control:** They allow to indicate what and how the components of the user interface should be displayed. These tags are mainly used as flow control and a bit of data handling. Some examples of this type of tags are: `<s: if>`, `<s: elseif>`, `<s: iterator>`, among others.

**Data:** They are used to manage some information values, as well as data creation and manipulation. For example `<s: a>`, `<s: url>`, `<s: text>`, `<s: property>`, `<s: param>`, etc.

**Forms:** The components that can be part of a form. For example: `<s: form>`, `<s: checkbox>`, `<s: select>`, `<s: textfield>`, `<s: submit>`, etc.

**(UI no forms):** Extra information that is displayed but does not belong to a form (error messages or results of actions). For example, `<s: actionmessage>`, `<s: actionmessage>`, `<s: fielderror>`, etc.

We are going to create an exercise to put into practice the concept of tags in Struts.

**ONLINE COURSE**

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