

# Spring Form Controllers

# SimpleFormController

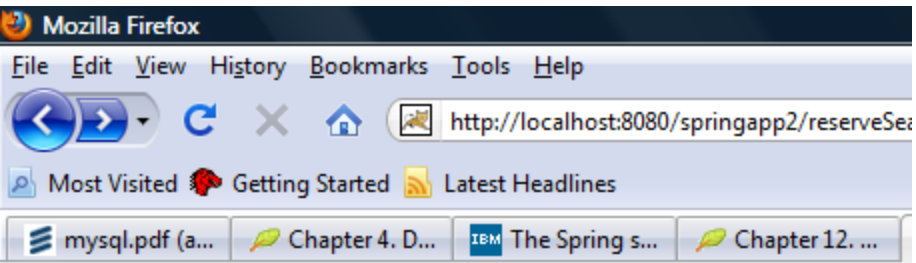
- ▶ A Form Controller with features for:
  - Viewing
  - Validating
  - Submitting

# SimpleFormController

- ▶ Properties:
  - formView: the logical name for the page containing the form
  - successView: the logical name for the page to show after a successful form submission

# FormView and SuccessView

## ► FormView



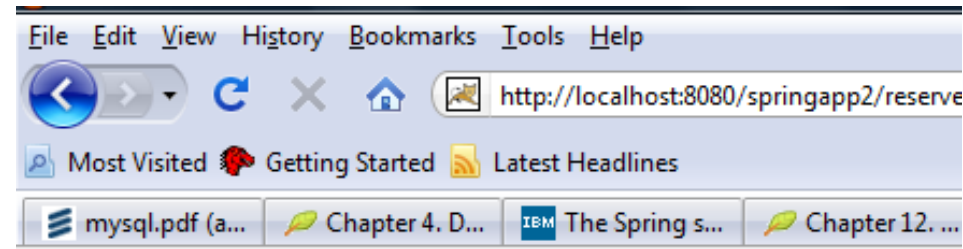
## Reserve Some Seats Y'all

Seat Number:

Execute

[Home](#)

## ► SuccessView



You just reserved this seat: 5

# A First Look At SimpleFormController

```
public class FormControllerTemplate extends SimpleFormController {

    /** Logger for this class and subclasses */
    protected final Log logger = LogFactory.getLog(getClass());

    @Override
    protected Map referenceData(HttpServletRequest request) throws Exception {

        // send some extra data for the view

        // commonly used to populate menus lists and other fields

        return null;
    }

    @Override
    public ModelAndView onSubmit(Object command) throws ServletException {

        // the user just submitted the form and form parameters are in the command object

        // this is where we would save form data to a database or invoke a service method to save the data

        return null;
    }

    @Override
    protected Object formBackingObject(HttpServletRequest request)
        throws ServletException {

        // populate the object which will set values in our form

        return null;
    }
}
```

# A Look at Three Methods

- ▶ These methods will commonly be implemented for basic FormController development:

1. `formBackingObject()`
2. `referenceData()`
3. `onSubmit()`

# formBackingObject()

- ▶ Populate an object which you can reference on a jsp!

```
protected Object formBackingObject(HttpServletRequest request) throws ServletException {  
    SeatReservation seatReservation = new SeatReservation();  
    seatReservation.setSeatNumber(5);  
  
    return seatReservation;  
}
```

# The Command Object: SeatReservation.java

```
package eh204.basicspring;

import org.apache.commons.logging.Log;

public class SeatReservation {
    /** Logger for this class and subclasses */
    protected final Log logger = LoggerFactory.getLog(getClass());

    private int seatNumber;

    private int seatReservationId;

    public int getSeatReservationId() {
        return seatReservationId;
    }

    public void setSeatReservationId(int seatReservationId) {
        this.seatReservationId = seatReservationId;
    }

    public int getSeatNumber() {
        return seatNumber;
    }

    public void setSeatNumber(int seatNumber) {
        this.seatNumber = seatNumber;
    }
}
```



# The JSP

Spring form  
tag library

```
<%@ taglib prefix="form" uri="http://www.springframework.org/tags/form" %>
<%@ page session="false"%>
<%@ taglib prefix="c" uri="http://java.sun.com/jsp/jstl/core" %>
<%@ taglib prefix="fmt" uri="http://java.sun.com/jsp/jstl/fmt" %>

<html>
<head>
  <title></title>
  <style>
    .error { color: red; }
  </style>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Reserve Some Seats Y'all</h1>
<form:form method="post" commandName="seatReservation">
  <table width="95%" bgcolor="f8f8ff" border="0" cellspacing="0" cellpadding="5">
    <tr>
      <td align="right" width="20%">Seat Number:</td>
      <td width="20%">
        <form:input path="seatNumber"/>
      </td>
      <td width="60%">
        <form:errors path="seatNumber" cssClass="error"/>
      </td>
    </tr>
  </table>
  <br>
  <input type="submit" align="center" value="Execute">
</form:form>
<a href="<c:url value="hello.htm"/>">Home</a>
</body>
</html>
```

Reference to  
the form  
backing object

# referenceData()

- ▶ Add some extra data that might be used in a form.

```
protected Map referenceData(HttpServletRequest request)
    throws Exception{
    HashMap<String, String> dataMap = new HashMap<String,String>();
    dataMap.put("option1", "value1");
    dataMap.put("option2", "value2");

    return dataMap;
}
```

# The Reference Data in the JSP

```
...
<tr>
  <td>You have two options:</td>
  <td><form:select path="seatNumber">
    <option>${option1}</option>
    <option>${option2}</option>
  </form:select></td>
</tr>
```

# onSubmit()

- ▶ Process the data submitted by the user

```
public ModelAndView onSubmit(Object command)
    throws ServletException {

    SeatReservation seatReservation = (SeatReservation)command;
    logger.info("value submitted by user " + seatReservation.getSeatNumber());
    return new ModelAndView(getSuccessView(), "seatReservation", seatReservation);
}
```

# Controller Configuration

- ▶ sessionForm determines whether the container uses the same instance of the command object or not. A setting to false forces the instantiation of a new instance per request

```
<bean id="reserveSeatsFormController"  
  class="eh204.basicspring.web.controller.SeatReservationFormController">  
  <property name="sessionForm" value="false" />  
  <property name="commandName" value="seatReservation" />  
  <property name="commandClass" value="eh204.basicspring.SeatReservation" />  
  <property name="formView" value="reserveSeats" />  
  <property name="successView" value="hello.htm" />  
</bean>
```

# ControllerConfiguration

- ▶ `commandName` is the name of the command object parameter used in the `FormController`

```
<bean id="reserveSeatsFormController"  
      class="eh204.basicspring.web.controller.SeatReservationFormController">  
  <property name="sessionForm" value="false" />  
  <property name="commandName" value="seatReservation" />  
  <property name="commandClass" value="eh204.basicspring.SeatReservation" />  
  <property name="formView" value="reserveSeats" />  
  <property name="successView" value="hello.htm" />  
</bean>
```

# ControllerConfiguration

- ▶ `commandClass` is the complete class name for the command object

```
<bean id="reserveSeatsFormController"  
      class="eh204.basicspring.web.controller.SeatReservationFormController">  
  <property name="sessionForm" value="false" />  
  <property name="commandName" value="seatReservation" />  
  <property name="commandClass" value="eh204.basicspring.SeatReservation" />  
  <property name="formView" value="reserveSeats" />  
  <property name="successView" value="hello.htm" />  
</bean>
```

# Controller Configuration

- ▶ formView is the logical name for the form view
- ▶ successView is the logical name for the view to show after a successful submission

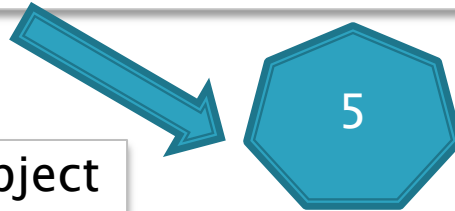
```
<bean id="reserveSeatsFormController"  
      class="eh204.basicspring.web.controller.SeatReservationFormController">  
  <property name="sessionForm" value="false" />  
  <property name="commandName" value="seatReservation" />  
  <property name="commandClass" value="eh204.basicspring.SeatReservation" />  
  <property name="formView" value="reserveSeats" />  
  <property name="successView" value="hello.htm" />  
</bean>
```



```
protected Object formBackingObject(HttpServletRequest request)
    throws ServletException {
    SeatReservation seatReservation = new SeatReservation();
    seatReservation.setSeatNumber(5);

    return seatReservation;
}
```

Populates the commandObject



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `http://localhost:8080/springapp2/reserveSeats.htm`. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, History, Bookmarks, Tools, and Help. The address bar has navigation buttons (back, forward, refresh, home) and a search icon. Below the address bar is a 'Most Visited' section with links to 'Getting Started' and 'Latest Headlines'. The browser's tab bar shows several open tabs: 'mysql.pdf (app...', 'Chapter 4. Dev...', 'Gmail - Inbox (...', 'Chapter 12. Ob...', and a partially visible 'http'. The main content area of the browser displays a form titled 'Reserve Some Seats Y'all'. The form has a light blue background and contains a text input field labeled 'Seat Number:' with the value '5' entered. Below this is a dropdown menu labeled 'You have two options:' with the selected option 'value1'. At the bottom of the form is an 'Execute' button.

Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://localhost:8080/springapp2/reserveSeats.htm

Most Visited Getting Started Latest Headlines

mysql.pdf (app... Chapter 4. Dev... Gmail - Inbox (... Chapter 12. Ob... ht

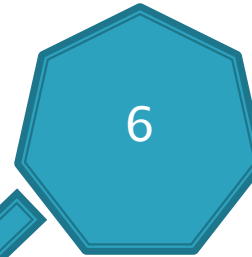
# Reserve Some Seats Y'all

Seat Number:

You have two options:

Execute

User submits the form



Populates the commandObject



```
public ModelAndView onSubmit(Object Command){  
    SeatReservation seatReservation = (SeatReservation) command;  
    logger.info("value submitted by user " +  
        seatReservation.getSeatNumber());  
}
```

# Quick URLMapping Review

```
<bean id="urlMapping"
      class="org.springframework.web.servlet.handler.SimpleUrlHandlerMapping">
  <property name="mappings">
    <props>
      <prop key="/hello.htm">helloCtrl</prop>
      <prop key="/reserveSeatsForm">reserveSeatsFormController
    </prop>
  </props>
</property>
</bean>
```



```
<bean id="helloCtrl" class="eh204.basicspring.web.controller.HelloController" />

<bean id="reserveSeatsFormController"
      class="eh204.basicspring.web.controller.SeatReservationFormController">
  <property name="sessionForm" value="false" />
  <property name="commandName" value="seatReservation" />
  <property name="commandClass" value="eh204.basicspring.SeatReservation" />
  <property name="formView" value="reserveSeats" />
  <property name="successView" value="hello.htm" />
</bean>
```

# Quick View Resolver Review

```
<!-- JSP View Resolver -->
```

```
<bean id="jspViewResolver"  
      class="org.springframework.web.servlet.view.InternalResourceViewResolver">  
  <property name="viewClass"  
    value="org.springframework.web.servlet.view.JstlView" />  
  <property name="prefix" value="/WEB-INF/view/" />  
  <property name="suffix" value=".jsp" />  
</bean>
```

prefix

suffix

If the logical view name is : reservationForm

ViewResolver translates it to:

**/WEB-INF/view/reservationForm.jsp**

prefix

suffix

## Method Detail

### setCommandName

```
public final void setCommandName(String commandName)
```

Set the name of the command in the model. The command object will be included in the model under this name.

### getCommandName

```
public final String getCommandName()
```

Return the name of the command in the model.

### setCommandClass

```
public final void setCommandClass(Class commandClass)
```

Set the command class for this controller. An instance of this class gets populated and validated on each request.

### getCommandClass

```
public final Class getCommandClass()
```

Return the command class for this controller.

### setValidator

```
public final void setValidator(Validator validator)
```

Set the primary Validator for this controller. The Validator must support the specified command class. If there are one or more existing validators set already w  
validator will be kept. Use [setValidators\(Validator\[\]\)](#) to set multiple validators.