

VAADIN TRAINING

# Basics

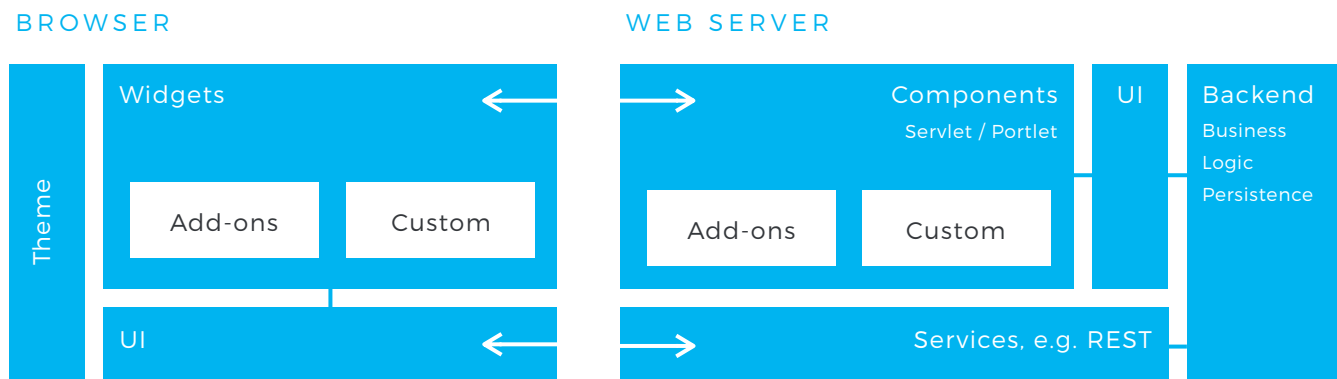


# Architecture

Vaadin is a server-side component framework. It means that the code you write is executed as Java on the server.

The client-side logic of the framework is based on using Google Web Toolkit (GWT). All state changes are managed on the server-side, and the client side merely reflects those changes in the browser.

Vaadin is event driven; your logic runs because the user interacted with a Component. The framework handles client-server communication for you.



- Vaadin widgets: Logic of how an individual component behaves in the browser
- Add-ons: You can extend the core framework with 3rd party widgets
- Custom: You can have your own custom widgets
- Theme: The theme defines the look and feel for your application. You may use an existing one or create your own
- UI: You can have Vaadin independent UI code in your browser. For example, your Vaadin application can be embedded into a web page
- Components: Server-side APIs of the components
- Add-ons: The server-side APIs for your 3rd party add-ons
- Custom: APIs for your custom widgets
- UI: The user interface logic of your application
- Backend: The business logic of your application
- Services: Web services that might be used by the Vaadin independent parts of your application

## NOTE

When using the server-driven programming model, your user interface logic and business logic only exist on the server and are never exposed to the client (browser).

# Components

## Common Features in All Components

You can define a **caption** for all Vaadin components.

JAVA

```
TextField textField = new TextField();
textField.setCaption("Username");
```

Username

**Icons** can be assigned to components. Icons are in some cases rendered as a part of the component (Button) or in combination with the component (ComboBox). Icons are often Font Icons, but can be any image.

JAVA

```
Button button = new Button("Lock");
button.setIcon(VaadinIcons.LOCK);
```



JAVA

```
ComboBox comboBox =
    new ComboBox("Access rights");
comboBox.setIcon(new ThemeResource("lock.gif"));
```

Access rights

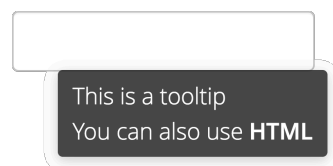
Defining a **Description** for a component will show the string as the component's tooltip.

JAVA

```
TextField tooltipField = new TextField();
tooltipField.setDescription("This is a tooltip");
```



```
tooltipField.setDescription("This is a tooltip  
<br /> You can also use <b>HTML</b>",  
ContentMode.HTML);
```



You can toggle a component's visibility on the server side with **setVisible()**.

Non-visible components are not sent to the browser, but stay in the server-side state.

**NOTE** Changing the visibility of a component using CSS will still leave the component in the DOM tree.

```
JAVA Label invisibleLabel = new Label("This will not be visible");
invisibleLabel.setVisible(false);
```

You can control the availability of any component on the server-side by using the function **setEnabled()**.

- A disabled component will be rendered with less opacity than normal
- The server does not process events from disabled components

```
JAVA TextField disabledTextField =
    new TextField("Disabled field");
disabledTextField.setEnabled(false);
```

Disabled field

Component can be marked **read-only** with **setReadOnly()**.

- Read-only components do not accept new values, from client side

```
JAVA TextField readOnlyTextField =
    new TextField("Read-only field");
readOnlyTextField.setValue("field value");
readOnlyTextField.setReadOnly(true);
```

Read-only field  
field value

All components support **locales**. For example, by defining a locale for a `DateField` this will change the language in which the month and week names are rendered.

**JAVA**

```
InlineDateField inlineDateField =
    new InlineDateField();
inlineDateField.setLocale(
    new Locale("sv", "SV"));
```

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må	ti	on	to	fr	lö	sö
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

You can **define sizes** for components by using **`setWidth`** and **`setHeight`**.

- Sizes can be defined as relative (e.g. 100%) or as static (e.g. 200px)
- Relative sizes are relative to the parent component or a part of it (more info in Layouts course)
- If the size is undefined, then the component is rendered using its natural size
- **`setSizeFull() = setWidth("100%") + setHeight("100%")`**
- **`setSizeUndefined() = setWidth("-1") + setHeight("-1")`**

All components have an API for defining CSS class names.

- **`setStyleName()`**  
clears all previously added style names and adds the given style name
- **`addStyleName()`**  
adds a style name to the component
- **`removeStyleName()`**  
removes a given style name (if it exists) from the component
- See 'Theming your application' course for more information about styling

### **`getParent()`**

returns the parent component (= component container) for any attached component.

- If the component is not attached to a component container, **`getParent()`** will return **`null`**

### **`getUI()`**

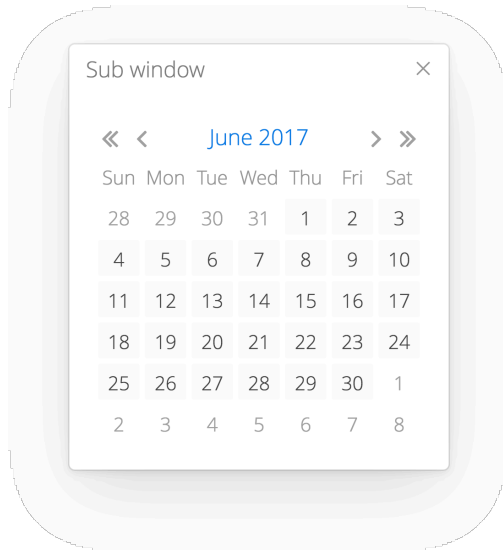
returns the UI instance to which the component is attached.

- If the component is not attached to a component container, **`getParent()`** will return **`null`**

**findAncestor(Class<T> parentType)**

returns the instance of the closest parent component with the given type.

- If a parent component with the given type cannot be found in the parent hierarchy, **null** is returned



```
inlineDateField
.getParent();
```



**verticalLayout**

```
inlineDateField
.getParent()
.getParent();
```



**subWindow**

Check out the sampler to see component demos and code examples of how to use components  
<http://demo.vaadin.com/sampler>