# Maven - POM

POM stands for Project Object Model. It is fundamental unit of work in Maven. It is an XML file that resides in the base directory of the project as pom.xml.

The POM contains information about the project and various configuration detail used by Maven to build the project(s).

POM also contains the goals and plugins. While executing a task or goal, Maven looks for the POM in the current directory. It reads the POM, gets the needed configuration information, and then executes the goal. Some of the configuration that can be specified in the POM are following −

* project dependencies
* plugins
* goals
* build profiles
* project version
* developers
* mailing list

Before creating a POM, we should first decide the project **group** (groupId), its **name** (artifactId) and its version as these attributes help in uniquely identifying the project in repository.

## **POM Example**

<project xmlns = "http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0"

xmlns:xsi = "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"

xsi:schemaLocation = "http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0

http://maven.apache.org/xsd/maven-4.0.0.xsd">

<modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>

<groupId>com.companyname.project-group</groupId>

<artifactId>project</artifactId>

<version>1.0</version>

</project>

It should be noted that there should be a single POM file for each project.

* All POM files require the **project** element and three mandatory fields: **groupId, artifactId, version**.
* Projects notation in repository is **groupId:artifactId:version**.
* Minimal requirements for a POM −

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| **Sr.No.** | **Node & Description** |
| 1 | **Project root**  This is project root tag. You need to specify the basic schema settings such as apache schema and w3.org specification. |
| 2 | **Model version**  Model version should be 4.0.0. |
| 3 | **groupId**  This is an Id of project's group. This is generally unique amongst an organization or a project. For example, a banking group com.company.bank has all bank related projects. |
| 4 | **artifactId**  This is an Id of the project. This is generally name of the project. For example, consumer-banking. Along with the groupId, the artifactId defines the artifact's location within the repository. |
| 5 | **version**  This is the version of the project. Along with the groupId, It is used within an artifact's repository to separate versions from each other. For example −  **com.company.bank:consumer-banking:1.0**  **com.company.bank:consumer-banking:1.1.** |