

## Core Tag Library

```
<%@ taglib prefix="c"
    uri="http://java.sun.com/jstl/core" %>
```

### General-Purpose Actions

Actions for rendering data, creating and modifying scoped variables, and catching exceptions.

**<c:out>** - renders data to the page

```
<h2>Welcome, <c:out value="${user.name}"
    default="Guest" /></h2>
```

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
value	Data to output	Yes	<i>None</i>
default	Fallback data to output if <i>value</i> is empty	No	<i>Body</i>
escapeXml	<i>true</i> to escape special characters	No	<i>true</i>

**<c:set>** - saves data to a scoped variable

```
<c:set var="dogAge" value="${age div 7}" />
You are <c:out value="${dogAge}" /> in dog
years.
```

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
value	Data to save	No	<i>Body</i>
target	Name of variable to modify	No	<i>None</i>
property	Property of target to modify	No	<i>None</i>
var	Name of variable to store data	No	<i>None</i>
scope	Scope of variable	No	<i>page</i>

**<c:remove>** - deletes a scoped variable

```
<c:remove var="dogAge" scope="page" />
```

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
var	Name of variable to delete	Yes	<i>None</i>
scope	Scope of variable	No	<i>All scopes</i>

**<c:catch>** - traps all exceptions or errors from the enclosed body.

```
<c:catch var="err">
    <c:import value="http://java.sun.com" />
</c:catch>
<c:if test="${not empty err}">
    Could not connect to Java web site.
</c:if>
```

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
var	Name of variable to hold the thrown exception, if any. Variable will be of type <i>java.lang.Throwable</i> .	No	<i>None</i>

### Conditional Actions

Actions for processing markup based on logical conditions.

**<c:if>** - processes the body if *test* is true

```
<c:if test="${user.age ge 40}">
    You are over the hill.
</c:if>
```

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
test	Condition to evaluate	Yes	<i>None</i>
var	Name of variable to store test condition's result	No	<i>None</i>
scope	Scope of variable	No	<i>page</i>

**<c:choose>** - multiple conditions – processes the body of the **first** enclosed when tag where the test condition is true. If none match then the body of the otherwise tag (if present) is processed.

```
<c:choose>
```

<pre>&lt;c:when test="\\${a boolean expr}"&gt;   // do something &lt;/c:when&gt;  &lt;c:when test="\\${another boolean expr}"&gt;   // do something else &lt;/c:when&gt; &lt;c:otherwise&gt;   // do this when nothing else is true &lt;/c:otherwise&gt; &lt;/c:choose&gt;</pre>
--

The choose tag accepts no attributes and can only contain when tag(s) and an optional otherwise tag.

**<c:when>** - processes the body if *test* is true and no other previous **<c:when>** tags evaluated to true.

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
test	Condition to evaluate	Yes	None

**<c:otherwise>** - processes the body if no other previous **<c:when>** condition matched. This tag accepts no attributes and, if present, must be the last tag in the **<c:choose>** body.

### Iterator Actions

Actions that loop over collections, for a fixed number of times, or over a set of string tokens. These actions share the following attributes for iterating over a subset of elements.

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
begin	Zero-based index of first item to process, inclusive.	No	0
end	Zero-based index of last item to process, inclusive.	No	Last item
step	Process every <i>stepth</i> element (e.g 2 = every second element).	No	1

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
varStatus	Name of variable to hold the loop status with the following properties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>index – position of the current item</li> <li>count – number of times through the loop (starting with 1)</li> <li>first – boolean indicator if this is the first iteration</li> <li>last – boolean indicator if this is the last iteration</li> </ul>	No	None

**<c:forEach>** - repeats the nested body content over a collection or for a fixed number of times.

<pre>&lt;c:forEach items="\\${user.languages}"            var="lang" varStatus="status"&gt;   &lt;c:if test="\\${status.first}"&gt;     You speak these languages:&lt;br&gt;&lt;ul&gt;   &lt;/c:if&gt;   &lt;li&gt;&lt;c:out value="\\${lang}" /&gt;&lt;/li&gt;   &lt;c:if test="\\${status.last}"&gt;&lt;/ul&gt;&lt;/c:if&gt; &lt;/c:forEach&gt;</pre>
---

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
var	Name of variable to hold the current item. This variable has only nested visibility.	No	None
items	Collection, iterator, map, or array to loop over.	No	None

**<c:forTokens>** - repeats the nested body content for each token of a delimited string.

<pre>&lt;c:set var="users"&gt;Fred,Joe,Mary&lt;/c:set&gt; &lt;c:forTokens var="name" items="\\${users}"             delims=", "&gt;   &lt;c:out value="\\${name}" /&gt;&lt;br&gt; &lt;/c:forTokens&gt;</pre>
--

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
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Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
var	Name of variable to hold the current token. This variable has only nested visibility.	No	None
items	String of tokens to loop over.	Yes	None
delims	Set of characters that separate the tokens (e.g. delims="," will tokenize a string separated by commas or semi-colons).	Yes	None

### URL Related Actions

Actions for importing content from URLs, building URLs, and redirecting.

**<c:import>** - imports the content of a URL-based resource. Action may include nested **<c:param>** tags to specify the query string (unless the **varReader** attribute is specified).

<pre>&lt;c:import url="includes/header.jsp"&gt;   &lt;c:param name="title"&gt;Hello World&lt;/c:param&gt; &lt;/c:import&gt;</pre>
---

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
url	URL of the resource to import.	Yes	None
context	Name of the context (beginning with a /) of some other local web application to import the resource from.	No	Current context
var	Name of the variable to hold the imported content as a String.	No	None
scope	Scope of the <i>var</i> variable	No	page
varReader	Name of the variable to hold the imported content as a Reader. This variable has only nested visibility so that the reader will always be closed.	No	None

**<c:url>** - builds a URL with the proper rewriting rules applied (only relative URLs are rewritten). Action may include nested **<c:param>** tags to specify the query string.

```
<c:url="editProfile.do" var="profileLnk">
  <c:param name="id" value="${user.id}"/>
</c:url>
<a href='<c:out value="${profileLnk}"/>'>
  Edit Profile
</a>
```

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
value	URL to be processed.	Yes	None
context	Name of the context (beginning with a /) of some other local web application.	No	Current context
var	Name of the variable to hold the URL as a String.	No	None
scope	Scope of the var variable	No	page

**<c:redirect>** - sends the client a response to redirect to the specified URL. This action will abort processing of the current page. Action may include nested **<c:param>** tags to specify the query string.

```
<c:if test="${empty user}">
  <c:redirect url="login.do"/>
</c:if>
```

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
url	URL of the resource to redirect to.	Yes	None
context	Name of the context (beginning with a /) of some other local web application.	No	Current context

**<c:param>** - adds request parameters to a URL. This action can only be nested within **<c:import>**, **<c:url>**, or **<c:redirect>**.

Attribute	Description	Rqd	Default
name	Name of the query string parameter.	Yes	None
value	Value of the parameter. If not specified, value is taken from the tag body.	No	Body