

# Creating Java and JavaScript Adapters

## Overview

Adapters are Maven projects that contains server-side code implemented in either Java or JavaScript. An adapter project can be created by using Maven, MobileFirst Developer CLI or MobileFirst Operations Console. You can edit the adapter code using your IDE of choice.

This tutorial demonstrates how to create either a Java or JavaScript adapter using the above methods.

The adapter project is based on the Maven Archetype "adapter-maven-archetype" which is based on the Maven archetype toolkit (<https://maven.apache.org/guides/introduction/introduction-to-archetypes.html>).

**Prerequisite:** Make sure that you read the Adapters Overview (../adapters-overview) tutorial first.

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## Creating Adapters Using Maven Archetype "adapter-maven-archetype"

The "adapter-maven-archetype" is based on the Maven archetype toolkit (<https://maven.apache.org/guides/introduction/introduction-to-archetypes.html>) in order to create the adapter as a Maven project.

### Install Maven

In order to create an adapter, you first need to download and install Maven. Go to the Apache Maven website (<https://maven.apache.org/>) and follow the instructions how to download and install Maven.

### Create an Adapter

To create a Maven adapter project, use the `archetype:generate` command. You can choose to run the command interactively or directly.

#### Interactive Mode

1. Replace the **DarchetypeArtifactId** placeholder with the actual value and run:

```
mvn archetype:generate -DarchetypeGroupId=com.ibm.mfp -DarchetypeArtifactId=<adapter type artifact ID> -DarchetypeVersion=8.0.0
```

- The `Archetype Group Id` and `Archetype Version` are required parameters to identify the archetype.

- The `Archetype Artifact Id` is a required parameter to identify the adapter type:
  - Use `adapter-maven-archetype-java` to create a Java adapter
  - Use `adapter-maven-archetype-http` to create a JavaScript HTTP adapter
  - Use `adapter-maven-archetype-sql` to create a JavaScript SQL adapter
- 2. Enter a Group Id (<https://maven.apache.org/guides/mini/guide-naming-conventions.html>) of the Maven project to be build. For example:

Define value **for** property 'groupId': : com.mycompany

- 3. Enter an Artifact Id of the Maven project **which will later be used also as the adapter name** . For example:

Define value **for** property 'artifactId': : SampleAdapter

- 4. Enter a Maven project version (the default is `1.0-SNAPSHOT`). For example:

Define value **for** property 'version': 1.0-SNAPSHOT: : 1.0

- 5. Enter an adapter package name (the default is the `groupId` ). For example:

Define value **for** property 'package': com.mycompany: : com.mypackage

- 6. Enter `y` to confirm:

```
[INFO] Using property: archetypeVersion = 8.0.0
Confirm properties configuration:
groupId: com.mycompany
artifactId: SampleAdapter
version: 1.0
package: com.mypackage
archetypeVersion: 8.0.0
Y: : y
```

## Direct Mode

Replace the placeholders with the actual values and run:

```
mvn archetype:generate -DarchetypeGroupId=com.ibm.mfp -DarchetypeArtifactId=<adapter type artifact ID> -DarchetypeVersion=8.0.0 -DgroupId=<maven_project_groupid> -DartifactId=<maven_project_artifactid> -Dversion=<maven_project_version> -Dpackage=<java_adapter_package_name>
```

For more information about the `archetype:generate` command see the Maven documentation.

After creating the adapter the result will be a Maven project containing a **src** folder and a **pom.xml** file:



## Build and Deploy Adapters

### Build

The adapter is built each time you run the `mvn install` command to build the Maven project. This generates an **.adapter** file which can be found in the **target** folder:



### Deploy

1. The **pom.xml** file contains the following `properties` parameters:

```
<properties>
  <!-- parameters for deploy mfpf adapter -->
  <mfpfUrl>http://localhost:9080/mfpadmin</mfpfUrl>
  <mfpfUser>demo</mfpfUser>
  <mfpfPassword>demo</mfpfPassword>
</properties>
```

- Replace **localhost:9080** with your MobileFirst Server IP address and port number.
- Replace the **mfpfUser** and **mfpfPassword** values with your MobileFirst admin user name and password.

2. Open the project's root folder in terminal and run the `mvn:adapter` command:

```
mvn adapter:deploy
```

**NOTE:** The `deploy` command is available only during development (for security reasons).

**Tip:** You can also build and deploy the adapter using a single command: `mvn install adapter:deploy`

## Dependencies

In order to use an external library in your adapter, follow one of the following suggested instructions:

### Adding a local dependency:

1. Add a **lib** folder under the root Maven project folder and put the external library in it.
2. Add the library path under the `dependencies` element in the Maven project's **pom.xml** file.

For example:

```
<groupId>sample</groupId>
<artifactId>com.sample</artifactId>
<version>1.0</version>
<scope>system</scope>
<systemPath>${project.basedir}/lib/</systemPath>
</dependency>
```

### Adding an external dependency:

1. Search the dependency in one of the search engines for Maven dependencies that exist online, for example The Central Repository (<http://search.maven.org/>).
2. Copy the POM dependency information and paste it under the `dependencies` element in the Maven project's **pom.xml** file.

The following example uses the `cloudant-client` artifactId:

```
<dependency>
  <groupId>com.cloudant</groupId>
  <artifactId>cloudant-client</artifactId>
  <version>2.2.0</version>
  <groupId>sample</groupId>
  <artifactId>com.sample</artifactId>
  <version>1.0</version>
  <scope>system</scope>
  <systemPath>${project.basedir}/lib/</systemPath>
</dependency>
```

For more information about dependencies see the Maven documentation.

## Grouping Adapters in a Single Maven Project

If you have several adapters in your project you may want to arrange them under a single Maven project. Grouping adapters provides many benefits such as build all and deploy all abilities, sharing dependencies etc.

To group adapters you need to:

1. Create a root folder and call it, for example, "GroupAdapters".
2. Put the Maven adapter projects in it.
3. Create a **pom.xml** file:

```

<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.sample</groupId>
  <artifactId>GroupAdapters</artifactId>
  <version>1.0-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <packaging>pom</packaging>

  <modules>
    <module>Adapter1</module>
    <module>Adapter2</module>
  </modules>

  <properties>
    <!-- parameters for deploy mfpf adapter -->
    <mfpfUrl>http://localhost:9080/mfpadmin</mfpfUrl>
    <mfpfUser>demo</mfpfUser>
    <mfpfPassword>demo</mfpfPassword>
  </properties>

  <build>
    <plugins>
      <plugin>
        <groupId>com.ibm.mfp</groupId>
        <artifactId>adapter-maven-plugin</artifactId>
        <version>8.0.0</version>
        <extensions>true</extensions>
      </plugin>
    </plugins>
  </build>

</project>

```

1. Define a **groupId** element of your choice
  2. Add an **artifactId** element - the root folder's name
  3. Add a **module** element for each adapter
  4. Add the **build** element
  5. Replace the **localhost:9080** with your MobileFirst Server IP and port.
  6. Replace the **mfpfUser** and **mfpfPassword** values with your MobileFirst admin user name and password.
4. To build or deploy all adapters, run the commands from the root "GroupAdapters" project.

## Creating Adapters Using MobileFirst Developer CLI

## Creating Adapters Using MobileFirst Operations Console

1. Open your browser of choice and load the MobileFirst Operations Console using the address `http://<IP>:<PORT>/mfpconsole/`.
2. Click on the "Create new" button next to Adapters. You have two options to create an adapter:

- Using Maven or MobileFirst Developer CLI as previously explained above.
  - Download a template adapter project (step 2).
3. Build the adapter Using Maven or MobileFirst Developer CLI.
  4. Choose one of the following ways to upload the generated **.adapter** file which can be found in the target folder of the adapter project:
    - Click on the Deploy Adapter button (step 5).
    - Drag and drop the file into the Create new adapter screen.



5. After successfully deploying the adapter, the details page will be displayed containing the following tabs:
  6. Configurations - properties defined by the adapter XML file. Here you can change the configurations without having to deploy again.
  7. Resources - a list of the adapter resources.
  8. Configurations Files - adapter configuration data, to be used in devops environments.