

# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## SET UP A DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT

Card 1 of 10

I'm Learning: **The Ruby on Rails Framework**

We're going to create a web application! These instructions are based on Michael Hartl's excellent book:

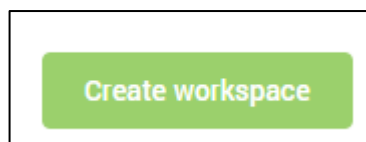
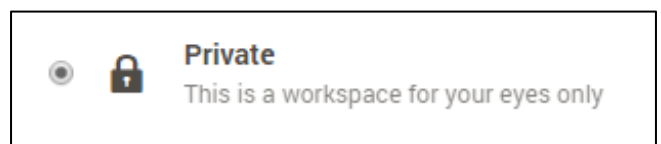
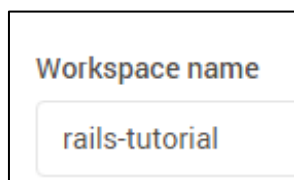
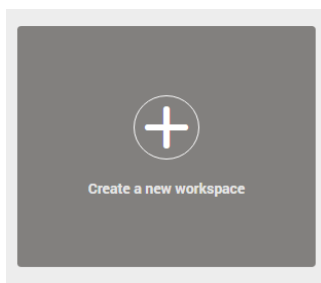
RUBY ON RAILS TUTORIAL <https://www.railstutorial.org/book/>

- 1 Logon to your account at c9.io. We are going to set up a development environment.

?

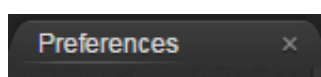
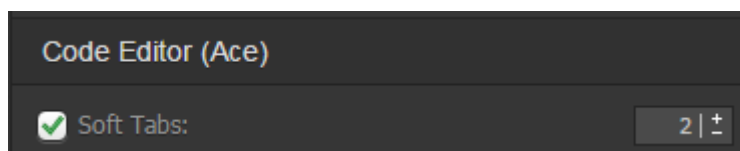
Before moving on, ask one of the mentors what this is and why it is needed.

2



Follow these steps to create our online workspace.

3



Change the settings for the text editor to use 2 spaces, by clicking the gears icon, changing the Soft Tabs and then closing the preferences tab.

# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## INSTALL RAILS

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The online environment offers us a linux set up. We will be making use of the linux command line. This is labelled 'bash' in our setup. Accurate typing is a must!

1

```
rails-tutorial:~/workspace $ gem install rails -v 4.2.2
```

Type the following commands to install rails

Watch what happens on the command line and make sure that the messages say 'Successfully installed'.

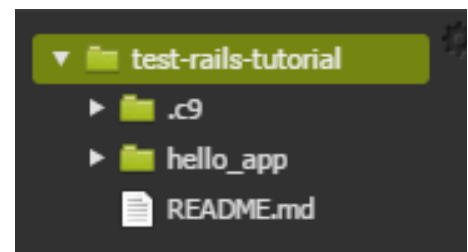
If you get stuck or something unexpected happens, ask a mentor. Your mentor will probably try the command again.

2

Once rails is installed, we can create our first app! This app will display "hello, world!" on a live web page.

```
rails-tutorial:~/workspace $ rails _4.2.2_ new hello_app
```

Type the command after \$ to create a new rails apps called hello\_app. Wait a few moments and you will see a new folder with lots of files created in your workspace.



3



Use **ls** to list all the files and folders in a directory.  
Use **cd name\_of\_directory** to change to a different folder. Ask your mentor to show you how to do this.

# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## UPDATE GEMFILE

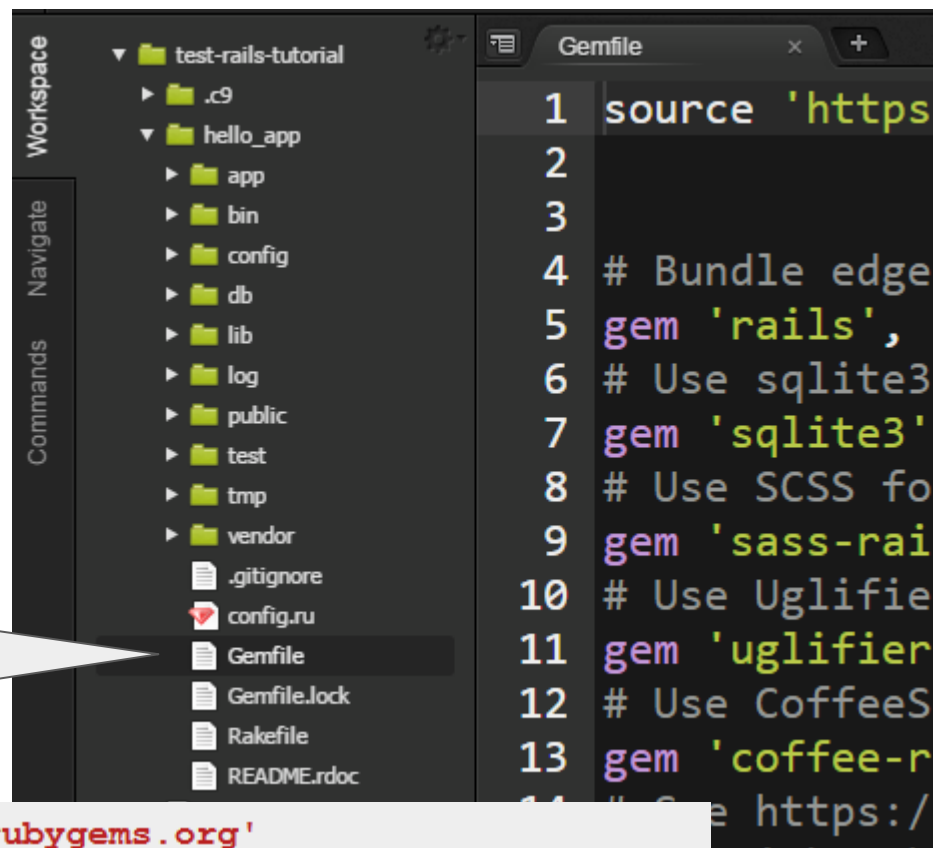
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We are going to edit text using the text-editor in our online development environment. The editor starts automatically when you double-click a file in the tree-structure.

1

Open the Gemfile by finding it in the tree-structure and double-clicking it.



2

```
source 'https://rubygems.org'

gem 'rails', '4.2.2'
gem 'sass-rails', '5.0.2'
gem 'uglifier', '2.5.3'
gem 'coffee-rails', '4.1.0'
gem 'jquery-rails', '4.0.3'
gem 'turbolinks', '2.3.0'
gem 'jbuilder', '2.2.3'
gem 'sdoc', '0.4.0', group: :doc

group :development, :test do
  gem 'sqlite3', '1.3.9'
  gem 'byebug', '3.4.0'
  gem 'web-console', '2.0.0.beta3'
  gem 'spring', '1.1.3'
end
```

Update Gemfile so it lists the following gems for our web-app. Save the file.

# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## INSTALL GEMS & START RAILS SERVER

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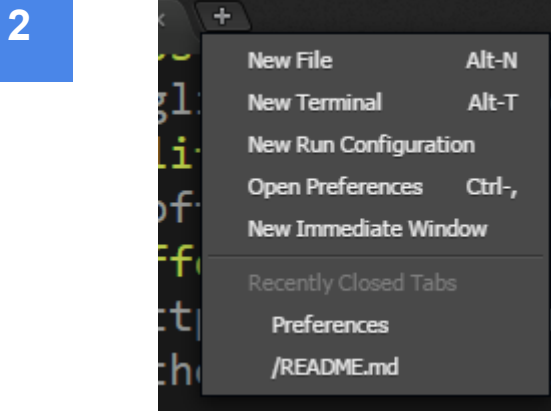
I'm Learning: [The Ruby on Rails Framework](#)

Once we have updated our Gemfile, we can install the gems (libraries of code) and run a rails server to see what our app will look like.

1

```
workspace $ cd hello_app/  
workspace/hello_app $ bundle install
```

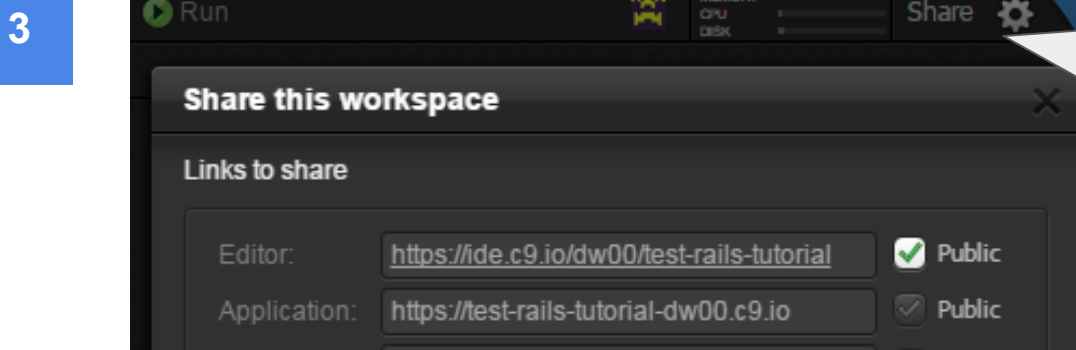
Navigate to your app folder using the cd command.  
Install the gems we listed in Gemfile by using bundle install.



Click the + for a new tab.  
Start a new terminal in which we can start, stop, restart a rails server to test our application.

```
$ rails server -b $IP -p $PORT
```

Issue this command to run the server so we can see what our app looks like on a local web server.



Click Share and then the application address to see your running app.

4

Ask a mentor about using the tab key to autocomplete and cycle through file/folder names. How to use the arrow keys to cycle through previously used commands.



# MY FIRST RAILS APP

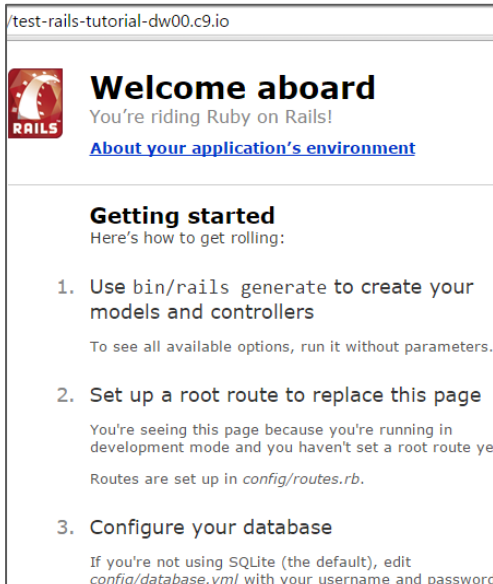
## THE LOCAL RAILS SERVER

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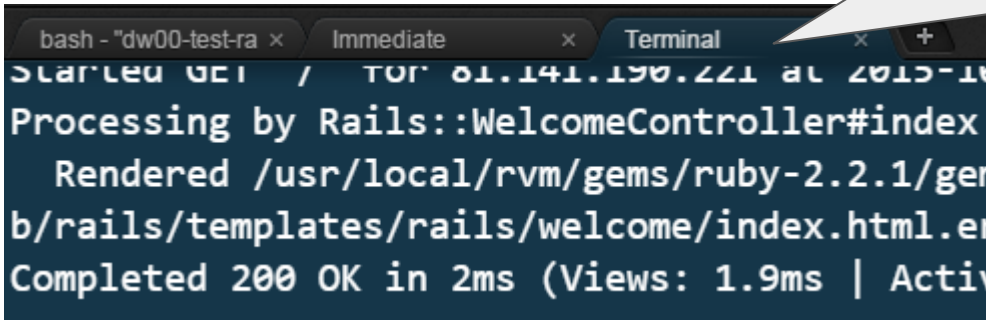
Your application is now running because you have started a web server that is serving/sending pages to anyone on the internet with the link.

1



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `/test-rails-tutorial-dw00.c9.io`. The page has a red 'RAILS' logo in the top left. The main heading is 'Welcome aboard' with the subtext 'You're riding Ruby on Rails!'. Below this is a link 'About your application's environment'. A section titled 'Getting started' says 'Here's how to get rolling:' and lists three steps: 1. Use `bin/rails generate` to create models and controllers, 2. Set up a root route to replace this page, and 3. Configure your database. It also mentions that routes are set up in `config/routes.rb` and that the default database is SQLite.

Your application is running in a new browser tab. If you refresh the page, and look at the terminal, you will see messages from the server about dealing with requests. If you stop the web server (Ctrl-C), it will stop displaying the page.



The terminal window shows the following output: `Started GET / HTTP/1.1 at 2015-10-10 15:10:10 -0700`, `Processing by Rails::WelcomeController#index`, `Rendered /usr/local/rvm/gems/ruby-2.2.1/gems/actionview-4.2.0/lib/rails/templates/rails/welcome/index.html.erb (0.0ms)`, and `Completed 200 OK in 2ms (Views: 1.9ms | ActiveRecord: 0.0ms)`.

The terminal where you started the web server, will give you information about the pages it has served.

2

Ask your mentor to explain:

1. What is a web server?
2. What are the messages that appear in the terminal?
3. What happens if you stop the server? Why?
4. How has the RAILS framework helped you to get something online so quickly?
5. Why use RAILS?



# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## CREATE “hello, world!” APP

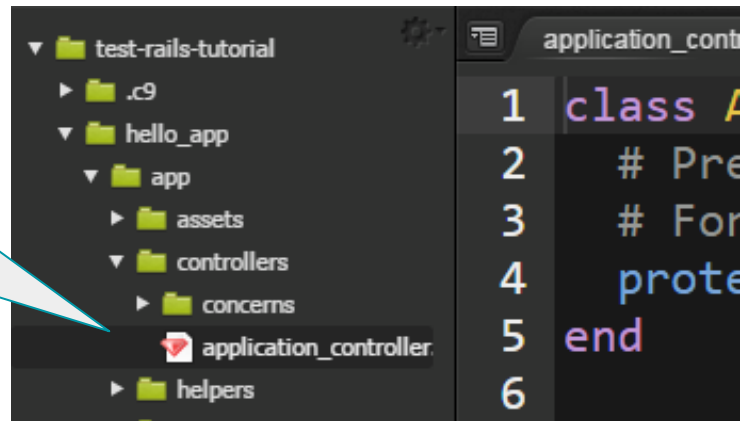
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We can change our default app to display “hello, world!”. To do this we have to change two files in app tree-structure.

1

Open the [application\\_controller.rb](#) file.



2

```
1 class ApplicationController < ActionController::Base
2   # Prevent CSRF attacks by raising an exception if you're using a non-standard host
3   # For APIs, you may want to use :allow_forge_forgery instead
4   protect_from_forgery with: :exception
5
6   def hello
7     render text: "hello, world!"
8   end
9 end
```

Add the following function to the file and save it.

3

Find the file [config/routes.rb](#) and change it as follows:

```
3 # See how all your routes end here
4
5 # You can have the root of your application. By default, it maps to
6 root 'application#hello'
7
```

4

View your app running on the local rails server. Ask how the controller, the hello function and the root route work together to change your app's main page.



# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## SET UP Git

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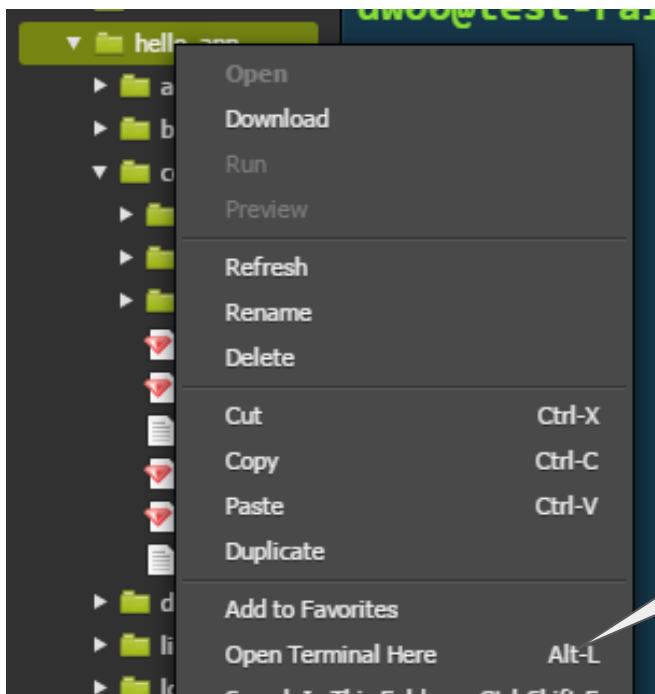
We need to be able to deploy our application. To make this easy, we need to have our app under version-control. For this, we will use Git.

1

```
$ git config --global user.name "deesh"  
$ git config --global user.email "email@email.com"
```

Once-only setup of Git in terminal.

2



The next few commands are carried out for a project, such as our 'hello' app so have to be issued in the correct folder. Either use `cd` to navigate to the 'hello\_app' folder or use this GUI trick:

Right-click on the 'hello-app' folder and choose 'Open Terminal' here.

3

```
/workspace/hello_app $ git init  
Initialized empty Git repository in /workspace/hello_app/.git/  
$ git add -A  
$ git commit -m "Initialise repo"
```

Enter these 3 git commands for our app:

4

Ask a mentor, what Git is and what the commands we just typed mean.





# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## GET READY TO DEPLOY

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We want to share our app with everyone online! For this we will make use of Heroku to 'host' our app.

1

```
1  gem 'spring', '1.1.3'
2  end
3
4  group :production do
5    gem 'pg', '0.17.1'
6    gem 'rails_12factor', '0.0.2'
7  end
```

Add the following gems to our Gemfile

2

```
$ bundle install --without production
```

install the gems.

```
$ git commit -a -m "Update for Heroku"
```

commit our changes.

3



Sign up for a free account at Heroku.  
Remember the email and password you use!

4

```
ils-tutorial:~/workspace/hello_app (master) $ heroku login
heroku credentials.
```

Two commands to run here:

```
heroku login
heroku keys:add
```

Make sure you enter the email and password for Heroku and when asked to add a key, type 'y'

```
o_app (master) $ heroku keys:add
ssh/id_rsa.pub
[n] y
ssh/id_rsa.pub... done
ils-tutorial:~/workspace/hello_app (master) $
```



# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## DEPLOY!

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Let's deploy!

1

```
$ heroku create
```

create a place on the Heroku servers for our app to live.

```
$ git push heroku master
```

Use git to send all the files to heroku. This may take some time.

2

```
-> Launching... done, v5
https://pacific-tundra-1838.herokuapp.com/ deployed to Heroku
Pushing deploy.... done.
git.heroku.com/pacific-tundra-1
[ch] master -> master
files-t
```

The url of your app can be found towards the end of the scrolling messages. Right-click, copy it paste into a browser tab.

3

If all went as planned, you have published your first app!  
Well done!!



# MY FIRST RAILS APP

## NEXT STEPS

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See if you can make some of the changes listed below

1

- Can you change 'hello, world' to display 'Hola, mundo!' instead?
- Can you add a second action called goodbye, which renders the text "goodbye, world!". You should edit the routes file so that root route goes to goodbye instead of hello.

2

Read the following statements and see if they make sense to you:

- Ruby on Rails is a web development framework written in Ruby
- Ruby is a programming language
- Cloud9 lets us create an online development environment (IDE)
- We can install Rails for our IDE
- Once Rails is installed, we can use commands such as rails new and rails server
- We can edit text files using our IDE
- We can add a controller action and change the root route to display a message
- We can use a local rails server to view our app as it will be seen by others
- We use Git so we can deploy to Heroku
- Git will send our files to Heroku, once we create a space for it on the Heroku servers

3



Ask your mentor if you would like to go through all the steps again.

You can start Chapter 2 of <https://www.railstutorial.org/book/>