



Rails Form 4 | I

Tools & best practices

Rails built-ins

Form Builder

```
<%= form_for @post do |form| %>  
  <%= form.text_field :title />  
<% end %>
```

```
<form action="/posts" method="post" ...>  
  ...  
  <input id="post_title"  
    name="post[title]"  
    type="text" .../>  
</form>
```


Form Builder

```
<%= form_for(@post) do |f| %>
  <div class="field">
    <%= f.label :category_id %><br />
    <%= f.text_field :category_id %>
  </div>
  <div class="field">
    <%= f.label :title %><br />
    <%= f.text_field :title %>
  </div>
  <div class="field">
    <%= f.label :body %><br />
    <%= f.text_area :body %>
  </div>
  <div class="actions">
    <%= f.submit %>
  </div>
<% end %>
```



A screenshot of a web browser window displaying a 'New post' form. The browser's address bar shows 'localhost:3000/posts/new'. The form includes input fields for 'Category', 'Title', and a large text area for 'Body'. A 'Create Post' button is located at the bottom left of the form, and a 'Back' link is positioned below it. The browser window has a single tab titled 'Blog' and standard navigation icons.

Blog

localhost:3000/posts/new

New post

Category

Title

Body

Create Post

[Back](#)

Form Builder

Formtastic

Formtastic

```
<% semantic_form_for @post do |form| %>
  <% form.inputs do %>
    <%= form.input :category_id %>
    <%= form.input :title %>
    <%= form.input :body %>
  <% end %>
  <%= form.buttons %>
<% end %>
```

Formtastic

```
<% semantic_form_for @post do |form| %>  
  <%= form.inputs %>  
  <%= form.buttons %>  
<% end %>
```


Blog

localhost:3000/posts/new

New post

Category Ruby

Title

Body

Create Post

Formtastic

SimpleForm

SimpleForm

```
<%= simple_form_for @post do |f| %>  
  <%= f.input :title %>  
  <%= f.input :body %>  
  <%= f.button :submit %>  
<% end %>
```


SimpleForm

```
<%= simple_form_for @post do |f| %>  
  <%= f.association :category %>  
  <%= f.input :title %>  
  <%= f.input :body %>  
  <%= f.button :submit %>  
<% end %>
```

Blog

localhost:3000/posts/new

New post

Category Ruby

Title

Body

Create Post

[Back](#)

SimpleForm

Formtastic vs SimpleForm

Formtastic

- generators
- stylesheets (generated)

SimpleForm

- customizable template

Nested Attributes

```
class Post
  has_many :comments
  accepts_nested_attributes_for :comments
end
```

```
<%= form_for @post do |form| %>
  <%= form.fields_for :comments do |comment_fields| %>
    <%= comment_fields.text_area :body %>
  <% end %>
<% end %>
```

```
<form action="/posts" method="post">
  <text-area id="post_comments_123_body"
            name="post[comments][123][body]">
    My comment body here
  </text-area>
</form>
```

Exercises

- Developers should share code snippets
- Developers should select a language for their snippet
- Developers should flag their snippet as public|private
- Developers should tag their snippet
- Developers should comment on others' snippets
- Developers should search others' snippets