

# Ebean in Java explained



give me the deep and detailed explanation of Ebean in java so that i can able to understand it well and do not have any type of doubt in this.

so give me the deep and detailed explanation

Alright Piyush 👍

Since you prefer **deep, structured, and doubt-free explanations**, I'll explain **Ebean in Java** from **absolute basics** → **internals** → **real usage** → **comparison with Hibernate/JPA**, in **simple language**, step by step.



## What is Ebean in Java?

**Ebean** is a **Java ORM (Object Relational Mapping)** framework.

📌 In simple words:

**Ebean helps you work with a database using Java objects instead of writing SQL manually.**

It maps:

- Java **classes** → **database tables**
- Java **objects** → **table rows**
- Java **fields** → **table columns**

Ebean is officially known as **Ebean ORM**.



## Why Was Ebean Created?

Most Java developers use:

- **Hibernate**
- **JPA (Java Persistence API)**

But these have problems:

- Too many annotations
- Complex configurations
- Lazy loading confusion
- Heavy boilerplate code

## 👉 Ebean was created to be:

- Simple
- Clean
- Less verbose
- More SQL-friendly
- Easier to learn

## vs Ebean vs Traditional JDBC

### ✗ JDBC Way

```
java

Connection con = DriverManager.getConnection(...);
PreparedStatement ps = con.prepareStatement("SELECT * FROM user");
ResultSet rs = ps.executeQuery();
```

Problems:

- Too much boilerplate
- Manual mapping
- Error-prone
- Hard to maintain

### ✓ Ebean Way

```
java

List<User> users = User.find.all();
```

- ✓ Clean
- ✓ Readable
- ✓ Less code
- ✓ Object-oriented

## 🧱 Core Idea of Ebean (Very Important)

Ebean follows **Active Record Pattern**

📌 This is DIFFERENT from JPA.

### Active Record Pattern

The **entity class itself** contains database operations.

Example:

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```
java

User.find.byId(1);
User.find.all();
```

👉 No Repository / DAO layer required.

## Architecture of Ebean

```
pgsql

Java Class
  ↓
Ebean ORM
  ↓
SQL Generation
  ↓
Database
```

Ebean:

- Generates SQL automatically
- Executes SQL
- Maps result back to Java objects

## Key Components of Ebean

### 1 Entity Class

A normal Java class mapped to a DB table.

```
java

@Entity
public class User {
    @Id
    Long id;

    String name;
}
```

### 2 Finder (Most Important Concept)

Ebean provides a **Finder** object for querying.

```
java

public static final Finder<Long, User> find =
    new Finder<>(User.class);
```

Now you can write:

```
java

User user = User.find.byId(1);
```

🔗 This is why Ebean is simple.

### 3 Database Object

Ebean uses a **Database** object internally.

```
java

Database db = DB.getDefault();
```

This object:

- Executes queries
- Manages transactions
- Handles caching

## How Ebean Works Internally (Step-by-Step)

Let's say you write:

```
java

User user = User.find.byId(1);
```

### Internally:

1. Ebean reads metadata from **@Entity**
2. Generates SQL:

```
sql

SELECT * FROM user WHERE id = 1
```

3. Executes SQL
4. Converts row → **User** object
5. Returns Java object

👉 You never touch SQL unless you want to

## Annotations in Ebean

Ebean uses **JPA-style annotations**, but fewer.

## Common Annotations

Annotation	Purpose
@Entity	Marks class as DB table
@Id	Primary key
@Column	Column mapping
@ManyToOne	Relationship
@OneToMany	Relationship
@Version	Optimistic locking

Example:

```
java
@Entity
public class Order {
    @Id
    Long id;

    @ManyToOne
    Customer customer;
}
```

## Relationships in Ebean

### One-to-Many

```
java
@OneToMany(mappedBy = "user")
List<Order> orders;
```

### Many-to-One

```
java
@ManyToOne
User user;
```

- ✓ Same as JPA
- ✓ But easier query handling

## Querying in Ebean (Very Powerful)

### Find All

```
java

List<User> users = User.find.all();
```

## Find by ID

```
java

User user = User.find.byId(1);
```

## Conditional Query

```
java

List<User> users = User.find
    .query()
    .where()
    .eq("name", "Piyush")
    .findList();
```

- ✓ Type-safe
- ✓ SQL-like
- ✓ Clean syntax

## Raw SQL Support (Important Feature)

Ebean does NOT hide SQL from you.

```
java

SqlQuery query = DB.sqlQuery(
    "select * from user where name = :name"
);
query.setParameter("name", "Piyush");
```

👉 Best of **ORM + SQL**

## Transactions in Ebean

### Automatic Transaction

```
java

User user = new User();
user.save();
```

Ebean:

- Starts transaction
- Commits

- Closes automatically

## Manual Transaction

```
java

try (Transaction txn = DB.beginTransaction()) {
    user.save();
    txn.commit();
}
```

- ✓ Clean
- ✓ Safe
- ✓ Simple

## Ebean with Spring Boot

Ebean integrates with **Spring Boot**.

Benefits:

- Auto configuration
- No repository layer
- Faster development

✂ Many developers prefer Ebean over Spring Data JPA for simplicity.

## Ebean vs Hibernate / JPA

Feature	Ebean	Hibernate
Learning Curve	Easy	Steep
Boilerplate	Very Low	High
Active Record	✓ Yes	✗ No
Repository Required	✗ No	✓ Yes
SQL Control	Excellent	Limited
Performance	Fast	Good but heavy

👉 **Hibernate = Powerful but complex**

👉 **Ebean = Simple and practical**

## When Should You Use Ebean?

**Use Ebean if:**

- You want **simple ORM**
- You hate boilerplate
- You want SQL control
- You want faster development
- You prefer Active Record style

### Avoid Ebean if:

- Project strictly follows JPA standard
- Enterprise legacy systems
- Need advanced JPA features

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## Summary (Very Important)

- ✓ Ebean is a **lightweight Java ORM**
- ✓ Uses **Active Record Pattern**
- ✓ Minimal configuration
- ✓ Clean queries
- ✓ SQL-friendly
- ✓ Faster learning than Hibernate

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If you want, next I can explain:

- 1 **Ebean vs Spring Data JPA (deep comparison)**
- 2 **Ebean full project setup step-by-step**
- 3 **How Ebean handles lazy loading internally**
- 4 **Ebean caching & performance tuning**

Just tell me 👍