

Exercise (Instructions): Gulp Part 1

Objectives and Outcomes

In this exercise, you will learn to use Gulp, the task runner. You will install Gulp CLI and install Gulp plugins using NPM. Thereafter you will configure a Gulp file with a set of tasks to build and serve your web project. At the end of this exercise, you will be able to:

- Install Gulp CLI and Gulp plugins in your project
- Configure a Gulp file with a set of tasks to build a web project from a source, and serve the built project using a server.

Installing Gulp

- At the command prompt, type the following to install Gulp command-line interface (CLI) globally:

```
1 npm install -g gulp-cli@2.0.1
```

This will install the Gulp globally so that you can use it in all projects.

Now you can use Gulp in any project by typing `gulp` in the command prompt.

Creating a Gulp File

- Next you need to create a Gulp file containing the tasks to be run when you use Gulp. To do this, create a file named *gulpfile.js* in the *conFusion* folder.

Loading Gulp Plugins

- Load in all the Gulp plugins by including the following code in the Gulp file:

```
1 'use strict';
2
3 var gulp = require('gulp'),
4     sass = require('gulp-sass'),
5     browserSync = require('browser-sync');
```

Adding Gulp Tasks for SASS and Browser-Sync

- Next, we will add the code for the SASS task, the Browser-Sync task and the default task as follows:

```
21 server: {
22   baseDir: "./"
23 }
24 });
25
26 });
27
28 // Default task
```

- Save the Gulp file

Running the Gulp Tasks

- At the command prompt, if you type *gulp* it will run the default task:

```
1 gulp
```

- Do a Git commit with the message "Gulp Part 1".

Conclusions

In this exercise, you learnt to use Gulp, install Gulp plugins, configure the `gulpfile.js` and then use Gulp to automate the web development tasks.