

Using JavaServer Faces Technology in Web Pages

Web pages represent the presentation layer for web applications.

The **process** of creating web pages of a JavaServer Faces application includes adding components to the page and wiring them to backing **beans**, validators, converters, and other server-side **objects** that are associated with the page.

This chapter explains how to create web pages using various types of component and core **tags**.

In the next chapter, you will learn about adding converters, validators, and listeners to component **tags** to provide additional functionality to components.

The following topics are addressed here:

- Setting Up a Page
- Adding Components to a Page Using HTML Tags
- Using Core Tags

Setting Up a Page

A typical JavaServer Faces web page includes the following elements:

- A set of namespace declarations that declare the JavaServer Faces **tag** libraries
- Optionally, the **new** HTML head (**h:head**) and body (**h:body**) **tags**

- A form **tag** (**h:form**) that represents the user input components

To add the JavaServer Faces components to your web page, you need to provide the page access to the two standard **tag** libraries: the JavaServer Faces HTML **tag** library and the JavaServer Faces core **tag** library.

The JavaServer Faces standard HTML **tag** library defines **tags** that represent common HTML user **interface** components.

This library is linked to the HTML render kit at http://download.oracle.com/javaee/6/jsp/jsp2_1/docs/renderkitdocs/.

The JavaServer Faces core **tag** library defines **tags** that perform core actions.

For a complete list of JavaServer Faces Facelets **tags** and their attributes, refer to the documentation at

<http://download.oracle.com/javaee/6/jsp/javaxserverfaces/2.1/docs/vdldocs/facelets/>.

To use any of the JavaServer Faces **tags**, you need to include appropriate directives at the top of each page specifying the **tag** libraries.

For Facelets applications, the XML namespace directives uniquely identify the tag library URI and the tag prefix.

For example, when creating a Facelets XHTML page, include namespace directives as follows:

```
<html  
xmlns=  
"http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
```



```
xmlns:h=  
"http://java.sun.com/jsf/html"  
xmlns:f=  
"http://java.sun.com/jsf/core"  
>
```

The **XML** namespace URI identifies the **tag** library location, and the prefix value is used to distinguish the **tags** belonging to that **specific tag** library.

You can also use other prefixes instead of the standard **h** or **f**.

However, when including the **tag** in the page, you must use the prefix that you have chosen for the **tag** library.

For example, in the following web page, the **form** tag must be referenced using the **h** prefix because the preceding **tag** library directive uses the **h** prefix to distinguish the **tags** defined in HTML **tag** library:

```
<h:form . . . >
```

The sections Adding Components to a Page
Using HTML Tags and Using Core Tags
describe how to use the component tags from the
JavaServer Faces standard HTML tag library
and the core tags from the JavaServer Faces core
tag library.

Adding Components to a Page

Using HTML Tags

The **tags** defined by the JavaServer Faces standard HTML **tag** library represent HTML form components and other basic HTML elements.

These components display **data** or accept **data** **from** the user.

This **data** is collected as part of a form and is submitted to the server, usually when the user clicks a button.

This section explains how to use each of the component **tags** shown in **Table 7-1**.

Table 7-1 The Component Tags

Tag	Functions	Rendered as	Appearance
column	Represents a column of data in a data component	A column of data in an HTML table	A column in a table
commandButton	Submits a form to the application	An HTML <input type=type> element, where the type value can be submit , reset , or image	A button
commandLink	Links to another page or location on a page	An HTML <a href> element	A hyperlink

dataTable	Represents a data wrapper	An HTML <table> element	A table that can be updated dynamically
form	Represents an input form (inner tags of the form receive the data that will be submitted with the form)	An HTML <form> element	No appearance
graphicImage	Displays an image	An HTML element	An image

inputHidden	Allows a page author to include a hidden variable in a page	An HTML <input type=hidden> element	No appearance
inputSecret	Allows a user to input a string without the actual string appearing in the field	An HTML <input type=password> element	A text field, which displays a row of characters instead of the actual string entered
inputText	Allows a user to input a string	An HTML <input type=text> element	A text field

inputTextarea	Allows a user to enter a multiline string	An HTML <textarea> element	A multi-row text field
message	Displays a localized message	An HTML tag if styles are used	A text string
messages	Displays localized messages	A set of HTML tags if styles are used	A text string
outputFormat	Displays a localized message	Plain text	Plain text
outputLabel	Displays a nested component as a label for a specified input field	An HTML <label> element	Plain text

outputLink	Links to another page or location on a page without generating an action event	An HTML <a> element	A hyperlink
outputText	Displays a line of text	Plain text	Plain text
panelGrid	Displays a table	An HTML <table> element with <tr> and <td> elements	A table
panelGroup	Groups a set of components under one parent	A HTML <div> or element	A row in a table
selectBoolean	Allows a user to	An HTML <input	A check

Checkbox	change the value of a Boolean choice	type=checkbox> element.	box
selectItem	Represents one item in a list of items from which the user must select one	An HTML <option> element	No appearance
selectItems	Represents a list of items from which the user must select one	A list of HTML <option> elements	No appearance
selectMany Checkbox	Displays a set of check boxes from which the user can select multiple values	A set of HTML <input> elements of type checkbox	A set of check boxes

selectMany Listbox	Allows a user to select multiple items from a set of items, all displayed at once	An HTML <select> element	A list box
selectMany Menu	Allows a user to select multiple items from a set of items	An HTML <select> element	A scrollable combo box
selectOne Listbox	Allows a user to select one item from a set of items, all displayed at once	An HTML <select> element	A list box

selectOneMenu	Allows a user to select one item from a set of items	An HTML <select> element	A scrollable combo box
selectOneRadio	Allows a user to select one item from a set of items	An HTML <input type=radio> element	A set of radio buttons

The next section explains the important **tag** attributes that are common to most component **tags**.

For each of the components discussed in the following sections, Writing **Bean** Properties explains how to write a **bean** property bound to a particular component or its value.

Common Component Tag Attributes

Most of the component **tags** support the attributes shown in Table 7-2.

Table 7-2 Common Component **Tag** Attributes

Attribute	Description
binding	Identifies a bean property and binds the component instance to it.
id	Uniquely identifies the component.
immediate	If set to true , indicates that any events, validation, and conversion associated with the component should happen when request parameter values are applied.
rendered	Specifies a condition under which the component should be rendered. If the condition is not satisfied, the component is not rendered.
style	Specifies a Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) style for the tag .
styleClass	Specifies a CSS class that contains definitions of the styles.
value	Identifies an external data source and binds the component's value to it.

All the **tag** attributes (except **id**) can accept expressions, as defined by the EL, described in Chapter 6, Expression Language.

*The **id** Attribute*

The **id** attribute is not usually required for a component **tag** but is used when another component or a server-side **class** must refer to the component.

If you don't include an **id** attribute, the JavaServer Faces implementation automatically generates a component ID.

Unlike most other JavaServer Faces **tag** attributes, the **id** attribute takes expressions using only the evaluation syntax described in The **immediate** Attribute, which uses the **`{ }`** delimiters.

For more information on expression syntax, see Value Expressions.

*The **immediate** Attribute*

Input components and command components (those that implement the **ActionSource** interface, such as buttons and hyperlinks) can set the **immediate** attribute to **true** to force events, validations, and conversions to be processed when request parameter values are applied.

You need to carefully consider how the combination of an input component's **immediate** value and a command component's **immediate** value determines what happens when the command component is activated.

Assume that you have a page with a button and a field for entering the quantity of a **book** in a shopping cart.

If the **immediate** attributes of both the button and the field are set to **true**, the **new** value entered in the field will be available for any **processing** associated with the event that is generated when the button is clicked.

The event associated with the button as well as the event validation and conversion associated with the field are all handled when request parameter values are applied.

If the button's **immediate** attribute is set to **true** but the field's **immediate** attribute is set to **false**, the event associated with the button is **processed** without updating the field's local value to the **model** layer.

The reason is that any events, conversion, or validation associated with the field occurs **after** request parameter values are applied.

The rendered Attribute

A component **tag** uses a Boolean EL expression along with the **rendered** attribute to determine whether the component will be rendered.

For example, the **commandLink** component in the following section of a page is not rendered if the cart contains no items:

```
<h:commandLink id="check" . . .  
rendered=  
"#{cart.numberOfItems > 0}"  
>  
<h:outputText  
value="#{bundle.CartCheck}"  
/>  
</h:commandLink>
```

Unlike nearly every other JavaServer Faces **tag** attribute, the **rendered** attribute is restricted to using **rvalue** expressions.

As explained in Value and Method Expressions, these **rvalue** expressions can only read **data**; they cannot write the **data** back to the **data** source.

Therefore, expressions used with **rendered** attributes can use the arithmetic operators and literals that rvalue expressions can use but lvalue expressions cannot use.

For example, the expression in the preceding example uses the **>** operator.

*The **style** and **styleClass** Attributes*

The **style** and **styleClass** attributes allow you to specify CSS styles for the rendered output of your **tags**.

Displaying Error Messages with the **h:message** and **h:messages** Tags describes an example of using the **style** attribute to specify styles directly in the attribute.

A component **tag** can instead refer to a CSS class.

The following example shows the use of a **dataTable** tag that references the style class **list-background**:

```
<h:dataTable id="books" ...  
styleClass="list-background"  
value="#{bookDBAO.books}"  
var="book">
```

The style sheet that defines this **class** is **stylesheet.css**, which will be included in the application.

For more information on defining styles, see *Cascading Style Sheets Specification* at <http://www.w3.org/Style/CSS/>.

The value and binding Attributes

A **tag** representing an output component uses the **value** and **binding** attributes to bind its component's value or instance, respectively, to an external **data** source.

Adding HTML Head and Body Tags

The HTML head (**h:head**) and body (**h:body**) tags add HTML page structure to JavaServer Faces web pages.

- The **h:head** tag represents the head element of an HTML page
- The **h:body** tag represents the body element of an HTML page

The following is an example of an XHTML page using the usual head and body markup tags:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD  
XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"  
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/  
xhtml1-transitional.dtd">  
<html  
xmlns=  
"http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"  
>
```

```
<head>  
<title>Add a title</title>  
</head>  
<body>  
Add Content  
</body>
```

The following is an example of an XHTML page using **h:head** and **h:body** tags:

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD
XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/
xhtml1-transitional.dtd"
>
<html
xmlns=
"http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
xmlns:h=
"http://java.sun.com/jsf/html">
<h:head>
```

Add a title

```
</h:head>
```

```
<h:body>
```

Add Content

```
</h:body>
```

Both of the preceding example code segments render the same HTML elements.

The head and body **tags** are useful mainly for resource relocation.

For more information on resource relocation, see Resource Relocation Using h:output Tags.

Adding a Form Component

An **h:form** tag represents an input form, which includes child components that can contain data that is either presented to the user or submitted with the form.

Figure 7-1 shows a typical login form in which a user enters a user name and password, then submits the form by clicking the Login button.

Figure 7-1 A Typical Form



The image shows a typical login form. It consists of two input fields and a button. The first field is labeled "User Name:" and contains the text "Duke". The second field is labeled "Password:" and contains a series of asterisks "*****". Below these fields is a button labeled "Login".

The **h:form** tag represents the form on the page and encloses all the components that display or collect data from the user, as shown here:


```
<h:form> . . .  
other JavaServer Faces tags and  
other content . . .  
</h:form>
```

The **h:form** tag can also include HTML markup to lay out the components on the page.

Note that the **h:form** tag itself does not perform any layout; its purpose is to collect data and to declare attributes that can be used by other components in the form.

A page can include multiple **h:form** tags, but only the values from the form submitted by the user will be included in the postback request.

Using Text Components

Text components allow users to view and edit text in web applications.

The basic types of text components are as follows:

- . Label, which displays read-only text**

- **Text field**, which allows users to enter text, often to be submitted as part of a form
- **Text area**, which is a type of text field that allows users to enter multiple lines of text
- **Password field**, which is a type of text field that displays a set of characters, such as asterisks, instead of the password text that the user enters

Figure 7-2 shows examples of these text components.

Figure 7-2 Example Text Components

The diagram illustrates three types of text components in a web form. On the left, the word 'Label' is connected by a line to the 'User Name:' label. The form consists of three rows. The first row has the label 'User Name:' followed by a single-line text box containing the text 'Duke'. The second row has the label 'Password:' followed by a single-line password box containing eight asterisks. The third row has the label 'Comments:' followed by a multi-line text area containing the text 'A user can enter text across multiple lines.' On the right side of the form, three labels are connected by lines to their respective input fields: 'Text Field' for the first row, 'Password Field' for the second row, and 'Text Area' for the third row.

Label ———	User Name:	<input type="text" value="Duke"/>	Text Field
	Password:	<input type="password" value="*****"/>	Password Field
	Comments:	<input type="text" value="A user can enter text across multiple lines."/>	Text Area

Text components can be categorized as either input or output.

A JavaServer Faces output component is rendered as read-only text.

An example is a label.

A JavaServer Faces input component is rendered as editable text.

An example is a text field.

The input and output components can each be rendered in various ways to display more specialized text.

Table 7-3 lists the tags that represent the input components.

Table 7-3 Input Tags

Tag	Function
h:inputHidden	Allows a page author to include a hidden variable in a page
h:inputSecret	The standard password field: accepts one line of text with no spaces and displays it as a set of asterisks as it is typed
h:inputText	The standard text field: accepts a one-line text string
h:inputTextarea	The standard text area: accepts multiple lines of text

The input **tags** support the **tag** attributes shown in **Table 7-4** in addition to those described in Common Component **Tag** Attributes.

Note that this **table** does not include all the attributes supported by the input **tags** but just those that are **used most often**.

For the complete list of attributes, refer to the documentation at

<http://download.oracle.com/javaee/6/javaxserverfaces/2.1/docs/vdldocs/facelets/>.

Table 7-4 Input Tag Attributes

Attribute	Description
converter	Identifies a converter that will be used to convert the component's local data. See <u>Using the Standard Converters</u> for more information on how to use this attribute.
converterMessage	Specifies an error message to display when the converter registered on the component fails.
dir	Specifies the direction of the text displayed by this component. Acceptable values are LTR , meaning left-to-right, and RTL , meaning right-to-left.

label	Specifies a name that can be used to identify this component in error messages.
lang	Specifies the code for the language used in the rendered markup, such as en_US .
required	Takes a boolean value that indicates whether the user must enter a value in this component.
requiredMessage	Specifies an error message to display when the user does not enter a value into the component.
validator	Identifies a method expression pointing to a backing bean method that performs validation on the component's data .

	See <u>Referencing a Method That Performs Validation</u> for an example of using the f:validator tag.
f:validatorMessage	S pecifies an error message to display when the validator registered on the component fails to validate the component's local value.
valueChange Listener	Identifies a method expression that points to a backing bean method that handles the event of entering a value in this component. See <u>Referencing a Method That Handles a Value-Change Event</u> for an example of using valueChangeListener .

Table 7-5 lists the **tags** that represent the output components.

Table 7-5 Output Tags

Tag	Function
h:outputFormat	Displays a localized message
h:outputLabel	The standard read-only label: displays a component as a label for a specified input field
h:outputLink	Displays an <a href> tag that links to another page without generating an action event
h:outputText	Displays a one-line text string

The output **tags** support the **converter** **tag** attribute in addition to those listed in Common Component **Tag** Attributes.

The rest of this section explains how to **use** some of the **tags** listed in **Table 7-3** and **Table 7-5**.

The other **tags** are written in a similar way.

Rendering a Text Field with the `h:inputText` Tag

The `h:inputText` tag is used to display a text field.

A similar tag, the `h:outputText` tag, displays a read-only, single-line string.

This section shows you how to use the **h:inputText** tag.

The **h:outputText** tag is written in a similar way.

Here is an example of an **h:inputText** tag:


```
<h:inputText id="name"
label="Customer Name" size="50"
value="#{cashier.name}"
required="true"
requiredMessage=
"# {customMessages.CustomerName}"
>
<f:valueChangeListener
type=
"com.sun.bookstore6.listeners.NameChanged" />
</h:inputText>
```

The **label** attribute specifies a user-friendly name that will be used in the substitution parameters of error messages displayed for this component.

The **value** attribute refers to the **name** property of a backing bean named **CashierBean**.

This property holds the **data** for the **name** component.

After the user submits the form, the value of the **name** property in **CashierBean** will be set to the text entered in the field corresponding to this tag.

The **required** attribute causes the page to reload, displaying errors, if the user does not enter a value in the **name** text field.

The JavaServer Faces implementation checks whether the value of the component is null or is an empty string.

If your component must have a non-null value or a **String** value at least one character in length, you should add a **required** attribute to your **tag** and set its value to **true**.

If your **tag** has a **required** attribute that is set to **true** and the value is null or a zero-length string, no other validators that are registered on the **tag** are called.

If your **tag** does not have a **required** attribute set to **true**, other validators that are registered on the **tag** are called, but those validators must handle the possibility of a null or zero-length string. See Validating Null and Empty Strings for more information.

Rendering a Password Field with the `h:inputSecret` Tag

The `h:inputSecret` tag renders an `<input type="password">` HTML tag.

When the user types a string into this field, a row of asterisks is displayed instead of the text typed by the user.

Here is an example:

```
<h:inputSecret redisplay="false"  
value="#{LoginBean.password}"  
/>
```

In this example, the **redisplay** attribute is set to **false**.

This will prevent the password **from** being displayed in a **query** string or in the source file of the resulting HTML page.

Rendering a Label with the `h:outputLabel` Tag

The `h:outputLabel` tag is used to attach a label to a specified input field for the purpose of making it accessible.

The following page uses an `h:outputLabel` tag to render the label of a check box:

```
<h:selectBooleanCheckbox  
id="fanClub"  
binding="#{cashier.specialOffer}"  
/>  
  
<h:outputLabel for="fanClub"  
binding=  
"#{cashier.specialOfferText}"  
>  
  
<h:outputText id="fanClubLabel"  
value="#{bundle.DukeFanClub}"  
/></h:outputLabel>...
```

The **for** attribute of the **h:outputLabel** tag maps to the **id** of the input field to which the label is attached.

The **h:outputText** tag nested inside the **h:outputLabel** tag represents the label component.

The **value** attribute on the **h:outputText** tag indicates the text that is displayed next to the input field.

Instead of using an `h:outputText` tag for the text displayed as a label, you can simply use the `h:outputLabel` tag's `value` attribute.

The following code snippet shows what the previous code snippet would look like if it used the `value` attribute of the `h:outputLabel` tag to specify the text of the label:

```
<h:selectBooleanCheckbox  
id="fanClub"  
binding="#{cashier.specialOffer}"  
/>  
  
<h:outputLabel for="fanClub"  
binding=  
"#{cashier.specialOfferText}"  
value="#{bundle.DukeFanClub}"  
/>  
</h:outputLabel>  
...
```

Rendering a Hyperlink with the `h:outputLink` Tag

The `h:outputLink` tag is used to render a hyperlink that, when clicked, loads another page but does not generate an action event.

You should use this **tag** instead of the **h:commandLink** tag if you always want the URL specified by the **h:outputLink** tag's **value** attribute to open and do not want any processing to be performed when the user clicks the link.

Here is an example:

```
<h:outputLink value="javadocs">  
Documentation for this demo  
</h:outputLink>
```

The text in the body of the **outputLink** tag identifies the text that the user clicks to get to the next page.

Displaying a Formatted Message with the `h:outputFormat` Tag

The `h:outputFormat` tag allows display of concatenated messages as a `MessageFormat` pattern, as described in the [API documentation](#) for `java.text.MessageFormat`.

Here is an example of an `outputFormat` tag:

```
<h:outputFormat  
value="Hello, {0}!">  
<f:param value="#{hello.name}" />  
</h:outputFormat>
```

The **value** attribute specifies the **MessageFormat** pattern.

The **param** tag specifies the substitution parameters for the message.

The value of the parameter replaces the **{0}** in the sentence.

If the value of "**# {hello.name}**" is “Bill”, the message displayed in the page is as follows:

Hello, Bill!

An **h:outputFormat** tag can include more than one **param** tag for those messages that have more than one parameter that must be concatenated **into** the message.

If you have more than one parameter for one message, make sure that you put the **param** tags in the proper order so that the **data** is inserted in the correct place in the message.

Here is the preceding example modified with an additional parameter:

```
<h:outputFormat value="Hello, {0}!  
You are visitor number {1} to the  
page.">  
<f:param value="#{hello.name}" />  
<f:param  
value="#{bean.numVisitor}" />  
</h:outputFormat>
```

The value of `{1}` is replaced by the second parameter.

The parameter is an EL expression, `bean.numVisitor`, where the property `numVisitor` of the backing bean `bean` keeps track of visitors to the page.

This is an example of a value-expression-enabled `tag` attribute accepting an EL expression.

The message displayed in the page is now as follows:

Hello, Bill! You are visitor number 10 to the page.

Using Command Component Tags for Performing Actions and Navigation

In JavaServer Faces applications, the button and hyperlink component **tags** are used to perform actions, such as submitting a form, and for navigating to another page.

These **tags** are called command component **tags** because they perform an action when activated.

The **h:commandButton** tag is rendered as a button.

The **h:commandLink** tag is rendered as a hyperlink.

In addition to the tag attributes listed in Common Component Tag Attributes, the **h:commandButton** and **h:commandLink** tags can use the following attributes:

- **action**, which is either a logical outcome **String** or a method expression pointing to a **bean** method that returns a logical outcome **String**.

In either case, the logical outcome **String** is used to determine what page to access when the command component **tag** is activated.

- **actionListener**, which is a method expression pointing to a **bean** method that processes an action event fired by the command component **tag**.

See Referencing a Method That Performs Navigation for more information on using the **action** attribute. See Referencing a Method That Handles an Action Event for details on using the **actionListener** attribute.

Rendering a Button with the `h:commandButton` Tag

If you are using a `commandButton` component tag, the data from the current page is processed when a user clicks the button, and the next page is opened.

Here is an example of the `h:commandButton` tag:

```
<h:commandButton value="Submit"  
action="#{cashier.submit}"/>
```

Clicking the button will cause the **submit** method of **CashierBean** to be invoked because the **action** attribute references this method.

The **submit** method performs some **processing** and returns a logical outcome.

The **value** attribute of the example **commandButton** tag references the button's label.

For information on how to use the **action** attribute, see Referencing a Method That Performs Navigation.

Rendering a Hyperlink with the `h:commandLink` Tag

The `h:commandLink` tag represents an HTML hyperlink and is rendered as an HTML `<a>` element.

This tag acts like a form's Submit button and is used to submit an action event to the application.

A `h:commandLink` tag must include a nested `h:outputText` tag, which represents the text that the user clicks to generate the event.

Here is an example:

```
<h:commandLink id="NAmerica"  
action="bookstore"  
actionListener=  
"#{localeBean.chooseLocaleFromLink}">
```



```
<h:outputText  
value="#{bundle.English}"  
/>  
</h:commandLink>
```

This **tag** will render the following HTML:

```
<a id="_id3:NAmerica" href="#"
```

```
onclick=  
"document.forms['_id3']  
['_id3:NAmerica'].  
value='_id3:NAmerica';  
document.forms['_id3'].submit();  
return false;"  
>  
English  
</a>
```

Note - The `h:commandLink` tag will render JavaScript programming language.

If you use this tag, make sure that your browser is enabled for JavaScript technology.

Adding Graphics and Images with the `h:graphicImage` Tag

In a JavaServer Faces application, use the `h:graphicImage` tag to render an image on a page:

```
<h:graphicImage id="mapImage"  
url="/template/world.jpg"  
>
```

The **url** attribute specifies the path to the image.

The URL of the example **tag** begins with a **/**, which adds the relative context path of the web application to the beginning of the path to the image.

Alternatively, you can use the facility described in Resources to **point** to the image location.

Here is an example:

```
<h:graphicImage  
value=  
"#{resource['images:wave.med.gif']}"  
/>
```

Laying Out Components with the `h:panelGrid` and `h:panelGroup` Tags

In a JavaServer Faces application, you use a panel as a layout container for a set of other components.

A panel is rendered as an HTML table.

Table 7-6 lists the tags used to create panels.

Table 7-6 Panel Component Tags

Tag	Attributes	Function
<code>h:panelGrid</code>	<code>columns</code> , <code>columnClasses</code> , <code>footerClass</code> , <code>headerClass</code> , <code>panelClass</code> , <code>rowClasses</code>	Displays a table
<code>h:panelGroup</code>	<code>layout</code>	Groups a set of components under one parent

The `h:panelGrid` tag is used to represent an entire table.

The **h:panelGroup** tag is used to represent rows in a **table**.

Other **tags** are used to represent individual cells in the rows.

The **columns** attribute defines how to group the **data** in the **table** and therefore is **required** if you want your **table** to have more than one column.

The **h:panelGrid** tag also has a set of optional attributes that specify CSS classes:

columnClasses, **footerClass**,
headerClass, **panelClass**, and
rowClasses.

If the **headerClass** attribute value is specified, the **panelGrid** must have a header as its first child.

Similarly, if a `footerClass` attribute value is specified, the `panelGrid` must have a `footer` as its last child. Here is an example:

```
<h:panelGrid columns="3"
headerClass="list-header"
rowClasses=
"list-row-even, list-row-odd"
styleClass="list-background"
title="#{bundle.Checkout}"
>
<f:facet name="header">
```

```
<h:outputText  
value="#{bundle.Checkout}" />  
</f:facet>  
<h:outputText  
value="#{bundle.Name}" />  
<h:inputText id="name" size="50"  
value="#{cashier.name}"  
required="true"  
>  
  
<f:valueChangeListener
```

```
type="listeners.NameChanged" />
</h:inputText>
<h:message
styleClass="validationMessage"
for="name" />
<h:outputText
value="#{bundle.CCNumber}" />
<h:inputText id="ccno" size="19"
converter="CreditCardConverter"
required="true">
<bookstore:formatValidator
```

```
formatPatterns="
9999999999999999999999999999|
9999 9999 9999 9999|
9999-9999-9999-9999"
/>
</h:inputText>
<h:message
styleClass="validationMessage"
for="ccno"/> ...
</h:panelGrid>
```

The preceding `h:panelGrid` tag is rendered as a `table` that contains components in which a customer inputs personal information.

This `h:panelGrid` tag uses style sheet `classes` to format the `table`.

The following code shows the `list-header` definition:

```
.list-header {  
background-color: #ffffff;  
color: #000000;  
text-align: center;  
}
```

Because the `h:panelGrid` tag specifies a `headerClass`, the `panelGrid` must contain a header.

The example `panelGrid` tag uses a `facet` tag for the header.

Facets can have only one child, so an `h:panelGroup` tag is needed if you want to group more than one component within a `facet`.

The example `h:panelGrid` tag has only one cell of `data`, so an `h:panelGroup` tag is not needed.

The **h:panelGroup** tag has an attribute, **layout**, in addition to those listed in Common Component Tag Attributes.

If the **layout** attribute has the value **block**, an HTML **div** element is rendered to enclose the row; otherwise, an HTML **span** element is rendered to enclose the row.

If you are specifying styles for the `h:panelGroup` tag, you should set the `layout` attribute to `block` in order for the styles to be applied to the components within the `h:panelGroup` tag.

You should do this because styles, such as those that set width and height, are not applied to inline elements, which is how content enclosed by the `span` element is defined.

An **h:panelGroup** tag can also be used to encapsulate a nested tree of components so that the tree of components appears as a single component to the parent component.

Data, represented by the nested **tags**, is grouped into rows according to the value of the **columns** attribute of the **h:panelGrid** tag.

The **columns** attribute in the example is set to **3**, and therefore the **table** will have three columns.

The column in which each component is displayed is determined by the order in which the component is listed on the page modulo 3.

So, if a component is the fifth one in the list of components, that component will be in the 5 modulo 3 column, or column 2.

Displaying Components for Selecting One Value

Another commonly used component is one that allows a user to **select** one value, whether it is the only value available or one of a set of choices.

The most common **tags** for this kind of component are as follows:

- An **h:selectBooleanCheckbox** tag, displayed as a check box, which represents a Boolean state
- An **h:selectOneRadio** tag, displayed as a set of radio buttons
- An **h:selectOneMenu** tag, displayed as a drop-down menu, with a scrollable list

- An **h:selectOneListbox** tag, displayed as a list box, with an unscrollable list

Figure 7-3 shows examples of these components.

Figure 7-3 Example Components for **Selecting One Item**

The figure displays three examples of web components for selecting one item:

- Genre:** A group of radio buttons labeled "Radio Buttons" with the following options: Fiction, Non-fiction (selected), Reference, and Biography.
- Availability:** A check box labeled "Availability:" with the text "In print" and a green checkmark.
- Language:** A drop-down menu labeled "Language:" with the following options: Chinese (selected), Dutch, English, French, German, Spanish, and Swahili.
- Format:** A list box labeled "Format:" with the following options: Hardcover (selected), Paperback, Large-print, Cassette, DVD, and Illustrated.

Labels at the bottom of the figure identify the components: "Check Box" for the Availability section, "Drop-Down Menu" for the Language section, and "List Box" for the Format section.

Displaying a Check Box Using the `h:selectBooleanCheckbox` Tag

The `h:selectBooleanCheckbox` tag is the only tag that JavaServer Faces technology provides for representing a Boolean state.

Here is an example that shows how to use the `h:selectBooleanCheckbox` tag:

```
<h:selectBooleanCheckbox  
id="fanClub" rendered="false"  
binding="#{cashier.specialOffer}"  
/>  
  
<h:outputLabel  
for="fanClub"  
rendered="false"  
binding=  
"#{cashier.specialOfferText}"  
>
```

```
<h:outputText  
id="fanClubLabel"  
value="#{bundle.DukeFanClub}"  
/>  
</h:outputLabel>
```

This example **tag** displays a check box to allow users to indicate whether they want to join the Duke Fan Club.

The label for the check box is rendered by the **outputLabel** tag.

The text is represented by the nested **outputText** tag.

Displaying a Menu Using the `h:selectOneMenu` Tag

A component that allows the user to **select** one value **from** a set of values can be rendered as a list box, a set of radio buttons, or a menu.

This section describes the `h:selectOneMenu` tag.

The `h:selectOneRadio` and `h:selectOneListbox` tags are used in a similar way.

The `h:selectOneListbox` tag is similar to the `h:selectOneMenu` tag except that `h:selectOneListbox` defines a `size` attribute that determines how many of the items are displayed at once.

The **h:selectOneMenu** tag represents a component that contains a list of items from which a user can choose one item.

This menu component is also commonly known as a drop-down list or a combo box.

The following code snippet shows how the **h:selectOneMenu** tag is used to allow the user to select a shipping method:

```
<h:selectOneMenu  
id="shippingOption" required="true"  
value="#{cashier.shippingOption}"  
>  
<f:selectItem itemValue="2"  
itemLabel="#{bundle.QuickShip}"  
/>  
<f:selectItem itemValue="5"  
itemLabel="#{bundle.NormalShip}"  
/>
```



```
<f:selectItem itemValue="7"  
itemLabel="#{bundle.SaverShip}"  
/>  
</h:selectOneMenu>
```

The **value** attribute of the **h:selectOneMenu** tag maps to the property that holds the currently selected item's value.

You are not **required** to provide a value for the currently **selected** item.

If you don't provide a value, the first item in the list is **selected** by default.

Like the `h:selectOneRadio` tag, the `selectOneMenu` tag must contain either an `f:selectItems` tag or a set of `f:selectItem` tags for representing the items in the list.

Using the `f:selectItem` and `f:selectItems` Tags describes these tags.

Displaying Components for Selecting Multiple Values

In some cases, you need to allow your users to **select** multiple values rather than just one value **from** a list of choices.

You can do this using one of the following component **tags**:

- An `h:selectManyCheckbox` tag, displayed as a set of check boxes
- An `h:selectManyMenu` tag, displayed as a drop-down menu
- An `h:selectManyListbox` tag, displayed as a list box

Figure 7-4 shows examples of these components.

Figure 7-4 Example Components for **Selecting** Multiple Values

The figure illustrates three different web components used for selecting multiple values:

- Genre:** A set of four check boxes labeled "Fiction", "Non-fiction", "Reference", and "Biography". The "Fiction" and "Non-fiction" boxes are checked. A bracket to the left of these boxes is labeled "Check Boxes".
- Language:** A drop-down menu with a list of languages: Chinese, Dutch, English, French, German, Spanish, and Swahili. The "French" option is currently selected and highlighted. A bracket below the menu is labeled "Drop-Down Menu".
- Format:** A list box containing the options: Hardcover, Paperback, Large-print, Cassette, DVD, and Illustrated. The "Cassette" option is selected and highlighted. A bracket below the list box is labeled "List Box".

These **tags** allow the user to **select** zero or more values **from** a set of values.

This section explains the
h:selectManyCheckbox tag.

The **h:selectManyListbox** and
h:selectManyMenu tags are used in a similar
way.

Unlike a menu, a list box displays a subset of
items in a box; a menu displays only one item at
a time when the user is not selecting the menu.

The **size** attribute of the **h:selectManyListbox** tag determines the number of items displayed at one time.

The list box includes a scroll bar for scrolling through any remaining items in the list.

The **h:selectManyCheckbox** tag renders a set of check boxes, with each check box representing one value that can be **selected**:


```
<h:selectManyCheckbox  
id="newsletters"  
layout="pageDirection"  
value="#{cashier.newsletters}">  
  <f:selectItems  
value="#{newsletters}"  
/>  
</h:selectManyCheckbox>
```

The **value** attribute of the **h:selectManyCheckbox** tag identifies the **newsletters** property of the **Cashier** backing bean.

This property holds the values of the currently **selected** items **from** the set of check boxes.

You are not **required** to provide a value for the currently **selected** items.

If you don't provide a value, the first item in the list is **selected** by default.

The **layout** attribute indicates how the set of check boxes is arranged on the page.

Because layout is set to **pageDirection**, the check boxes are arranged vertically.

The default is **lineDirection**, which aligns the check boxes horizontally.

The **h:selectManyCheckbox** tag must also contain a **tag** or set of **tags** representing the set of check boxes.

To represent a set of items, you use the **f:selectItems** tag.

To represent each item individually, you use a `f:selectItem` tag.

The following subsection explains these tags in more detail.

Using the `f:selectItem` and `f:selectItems` Tags

The `f:selectItem` and `f:selectItems` tags represent components that can be nested inside a component that allows you to **select** one or multiple items.

An **f:selectItem** tag contains the value, label, and description of a single item.

An **f:selectItems** tag contains the values, labels, and descriptions of the entire list of items.

You can use either a set of **f:selectItem** tags or a single **f:selectItems** tag within your component tag.

The advantages of using the `f:selectItems` tag are as follows.

- Items can be represented by using different data structures, including `Array`, `Map`, and `Collection`.

The value of the `f:selectItems` tag can represent even a generic collection of POJOs.

- Different lists can be concatenated **into** a single component, and the lists can be grouped within the component.
- Values can be generated dynamically at runtime.

The advantages of using **f:selectItem** are as follows:

- Items in the list can be defined **from** the page.
- Less code is needed in the **bean** for the **selectItem** properties.

The rest of this section shows you how to use the **f:selectItems** and **f:selectItem** tags.

Using the `f:selectItems` Tag

The following example **from** Displaying Components for **Selecting** Multiple Values shows how to use the **`h:selectManyCheckbox`** tag:

```
<h:selectManyCheckbox  
id="newsletters"  
layout="pageDirection"  
value="#{cashier.newsletters}"  
>  
<f:selectItems  
value="#{newsletters}"  
/>  
</h:selectManyCheckbox>
```

The **value** attribute of the **f:selectItems** tag is bound to the backing bean **newsletters**.

You can also create the list of items programmatically in the backing bean.

See Writing Bean Properties for information on how to write a backing bean property for one of these tags.

Using the `f:selectItem` Tag

The `f:selectItem` tag represents a single item in a list of items.

Here is the example from `Displaying a Menu`
Using the `h:selectOneMenu` Tag once again:

```
<h:selectOneMenu  
id="shippingOption" required="true"  
value="#{cashier.shippingOption}"  
>  
<f:selectItem  
itemValue="2"  
itemLabel="#{bundle.QuickShip}"  
/>  
<f:selectItem itemValue="5"  
itemLabel="#{bundle.NormalShip}"  
/>
```

```
<f:selectItem itemValue="7"  
itemLabel="#{bundle.SaverShip}"  
/>  
</h:selectOneMenu>
```

The **itemValue** attribute represents the default value for the **selectItem** tag.

The **itemLabel** attribute represents the **String** that appears in the drop-down menu component on the page.

The **itemValue** and **itemLabel** attributes are value-binding-enabled, meaning that they can use value-binding expressions to refer to values in external objects.

These attributes can also define literal values, as shown in the example `h:selectOneMenu` tag.

Using Data-Bound Table Components

Data-bound **table** components display **relational data** in a tabular format.

In a JavaServer Faces application, the **h:dataTable** component **tag** supports binding to a collection of **data objects** and displays the data as an HTML **table**.

The **h:column** tag represents a column of **data** within the **table**, iterating over each record in the **data** source, which is displayed as a row.

Here is an example:

```
<h:dataTable id="items"
captionClass="list-caption"
columnClasses="list-column-center,
list-column-left, list-column-right,
list-column-center"
footerClass="list-footer"
headerClass="list-header"
rowClasses=
"list-row-even, list-row-odd"
styleClass="list-background">
```

```
<h:column  
headerClass="list-header-left">  
<f:facet name="header">  
<h:outputText value=Quantity"" />  
</f:facet>  
<h:inputText id="quantity" size="4"  
value="#{item.quantity}" > ...  
</h:inputText>  
...  
</h:column>  
<h:column>
```

```
<f:facet name="header">
<h:outputText value="Title"/>
</f:facet>
<h:commandLink>
<h:outputText
value="#{item.title}"/>
</h:commandLink>
</h:column> ...
<f:facet name="footer"
<h:panelGroup>
<h:outputText value="Total"/>
```

```
<h:outputText value="#{cart.total}" />
<f:convertNumber type="currency" />
</h:outputText>
</h:panelGroup>
</f:facet>
</h:dataTable>
```

Figure 7-5 shows a **data** grid that this **h:dataTable** tag can display.

Figure 7-5 Table on a Web Page

Quantity	Title	Price	
<input type="text" value="1"/>	Web Servers for Fun and Profit	\$40.75	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/>
<input type="text" value="3"/>	Web Components for Web Developers	\$27.75	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/>
<input type="text" value="1"/>	From Oak to Java: The Revolution of a Language	\$10.75	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/>
<input type="text" value="2"/>	My Early Years: Growing up on *7	\$30.75	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/>
<input type="text" value="1"/>	Java Intermediate Bytecodes	\$30.95	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/>
<input type="text" value="3"/>	Duke: A Biography of the Java Evangelist	\$45.00	<input type="button" value="Remove Item"/>
Subtotal:\$362.20			
Update Quantities			

The example `h:dataTable` tag displays the books in the shopping cart, as well as the quantity of each book in the shopping cart, the prices, and a set of buttons the user can click to remove books from the shopping cart.

The **h:column** tags represent columns of **data** in a **data** component.

While the **data** component is iterating over the rows of **data**, it processes the column component associated with each **h:column** tag for each row in the **table**.

The `h:dataTable` tag shown in the preceding code example iterates through the list of books (`cart.items`) in the shopping cart and displays their titles, authors, and prices.

Each time the `h:dataTable` tag iterates through the list of books, it renders one cell in each column.

The `h:dataTable` and `h:column` tags use facets to represent parts of the `table` that are not repeated or updated.

These parts include headers, footers, and captions.

In the preceding example, `h:column` tags include `f:facet` tags for representing column headers or footers.

The **h:column** tag allows you to control the styles of these headers and footers by supporting the **headerClass** and **footerClass** attributes.

These attributes accept space-separated lists of CSS **classes**, which will be applied to the header and footer cells of the corresponding column in the rendered **table**.

Facets can have only one child, so an **h:panelGroup** tag is needed if you want to group more than one component within an **f:facet**.

Because the facet tag representing the footer includes more than one tag, the **panelGroup** is needed to group those tags.

Finally, this `h:dataTable` tag includes an `f:facet` tag with its `name` attribute set to `caption`, causing a `table` caption to be rendered below the `table`.

This `table` is a classic use case for a `data` component because the number of `books` might not be known to the application `developer` or the page author when that application is `developed`.

The **data** component can dynamically adjust the number of rows of the **table** to accommodate the underlying **data**.

The **value** attribute of an **h:dataTable** tag references the **data** to be included in the **table**.

This **data** can take the form of any of the following:

- . A list of **beans**
- . An array of **beans**
- . A single **bean**
- . A **javax.faces.model.DataModel** object
- . A **java.sql.ResultSet** object
- . A
javax.servlet.jsp.jstl.sql.Result
object

- A `javax.sql.RowSet` object

All `data` sources for `data` components have a `DataModel` wrapper.

Unless you explicitly construct a `DataModel` wrapper, the JavaServer Faces implementation will create one around `data` of any of the other acceptable types.

See Writing Bean Properties for more information on how to write properties for use with a **data** component.

The **var** attribute specifies a name that is used by the components within the **h:dataTable** tag as an alias to the **data** referenced in the **value** attribute of **dataTable**.

In the example `h:dataTable` tag, the `value` attribute points to a list of books.

The `var` attribute points to a single book in that list.

As the `h:dataTable` tag iterates through the list, each reference to `item` points to the current book in the list.

The **h:dataTable** tag also has the ability to display only a subset of the underlying **data**.

This feature is not shown in the preceding example.

To display a subset of the **data**, you use the optional **first** and **rows** attributes.

The **first** attribute specifies the first row to be displayed.

The **rows** attribute specifies the number of rows, starting with the first row, to be displayed.

For example, if you wanted to display records 2 through 10 of the underlying **data**, you would set **first** to 2 and **rows** to 9.

When you display a subset of the **data** in your pages, you might want to consider including a link or button that causes subsequent rows to display when clicked.

By default, both **first** and **rows** are set to zero, and this causes all the rows of the underlying **data** to display.

Table 7-7 shows the optional attributes for the **h:dataTable** tag.

Table 7-7 Optional Attributes for the **h:dataTable** Tag

Attribute	Defines Styles for
captionClass	Table caption
columnClasses	All the columns
footerClass	Footer
headerClass	Header
rowClasses	Rows
styleClass	The entire table

Each of the attributes in Table 7-7 can specify more than one style.

If `columnClasses` or `rowClasses` specifies more than one style, the styles are applied to the columns or rows in the order that the styles are listed in the attribute.

For example, if `columnClasses` specifies styles `list-column-center` and `list-column-right` and if the `table` has two columns, the first column will have style `list-column-center`, and the second column will have style `list-column-right`.

If the style attribute specifies more styles than there are columns or rows, the remaining styles will be assigned to columns or rows starting from the first column or row.

Similarly, if the style attribute specifies fewer styles than there are columns or rows, the remaining columns or rows will be assigned styles starting from the first style.

Displaying Error Messages with the `h:message` and `h:messages` Tags

The `h:message` and `h:messages` tags are used to display error messages when conversion or validation fails.

The `h:message` tag displays error messages related to a specific input component, whereas the `h:messages` tag displays the error messages for the entire page.

Here is an example `h:message` tag from the `guessnumber` application:

```
<h:inputText id="userNo" value=
"# {UserNumberBean.userNumber}">
```

```
<f:validateLongRange  
minimum="0" maximum="10" />  
<h:commandButton id="submit"  
action="success" value="Submit"  
/>  
<p>
```

```
<h:message  
style="color: red;  
font-family:  
'New Century Schoolbook', serif;  
font-style: oblique;  
text-decoration: overline  
"  
id="errors1" for="userNo"  
/>
```

The **for** attribute refers to the ID of the component that generated the error message.

The error message is displayed at the same location that the **h:message tag** appears in the page.

In this case, the error message will appear after the Submit button.

The **style** attribute allows you to **specify** the style of the text of the message.

In the example in this section, the text will be red, **New Century Schoolbook**, serif font family, and oblique style, and a line will appear over the text.

The message and messages **tags** support many other attributes for defining styles.

For more information on these attributes, refer to the documentation at

<http://download.oracle.com/javaee/6/jsp/jsp2.1/docs/vdldocs/facelets/>.

Another attribute supported by the `h:messages` tag is the `layout` attribute.

Its default value is **list**, which indicates that the messages are displayed in a bullet list using the HTML **ul** and **li** elements.

If you set the attribute value to **table**, the messages will be rendered in a **table** using the HTML **table** element.

The preceding example shows a standard validator that is registered on the input component.

The message **tag** displays the error message that is associated with this validator when the validator cannot validate the input component's value.

In general, when you register a converter or validator on a component, you are queueing the error messages associated with the converter or validator on the component.

The `h:message` and `h:messages` tags display the appropriate error messages that are queued on the component when the validators or converters registered on that component fail to convert or validate the component's value.

Standard error messages are provided with standard converters and standard validators.

An application architect can override these standard messages and supply error messages for custom converters and validators by registering custom error messages with the application.

Creating Bookmarkable URLs with the `h:button` and `h:link` Tags

The ability to create bookmarkable URLs refers to the ability to generate hyperlinks based on a specified navigation outcome and on component parameters.

In **HTTP**, most browsers by default send **GET** requests for URL retrieval and **POST** requests for **data processing**.

The **GET** requests can have **query** parameters and can be cached, which is not advised for **POST** requests, which send **data** to the external servers.

The other JavaServer Faces **tags** capable of generating hyperlinks use either simple GET requests, as in the case of **h:outputLink**, or POST requests, as in the case of **h:commandLink** or **h:commandButton** **tags**.

GET requests with **query** parameters provide finer granularity to URL strings.

These URLs are created with one or more **name=value** parameters appended to the simple URL after a **?** character and separated by either **&;** or **&** strings.

To create a bookmarkable URL, use an **h:link** or **h:button** tag.

Both of these **tags** can generate a hyperlink based on the **outcome** attribute of the component.

For example:

```
<h:link  
outcome="response" value="Message"  
>  
<f:param name="Result"  
value="#{sampleBean.result}"  
/>  
</h:link>
```

The **h:link** tag will generate a URL link that points to the **response.xhtml** file on the same server, appended with the single **query** parameter created by the **f:param** tag.

When processed, the parameter **Result** is assigned the value of backing bean's result method **#{sampleBean.result}**.

The following sample HTML is generated **from** the preceding set of **tags**, assuming that the value of the parameter is **success**:

```
<a href="http://localhost:8080/  
guessnumber/response.xhtml?  
Result=success"  
>  
Response  
</a>
```

This is a simple GET request.

To create more complex GET requests and utilize the complete functionality of the `h:link` tag, you can use view parameters.

Using View Parameters to Configure Bookmarkable URLs

The core tags `f:metadata` and `f:viewparam` are used as a source of parameters for configuring the URLs.

View parameters are declared as part of `f:metadata` for a page, as shown in the following example:

```
<h:body>
<f:metadata>
<f:viewParam id="name" name="Name"
value="#{sampleBean.username}" />
<f:viewParam id="ID" name="uid"
value="#{sampleBean.useridentity}"
/>
```



```
</f:metadata>  
<h:link  
outcome="response" value="Message"  
includeViewParams="true">  
</h:link>  
</h:body>
```

View parameters are declared with the **f:viewparam** tag and are placed inside the **f:metadata** tag.

If the **includeViewParams** attribute is set on the component, the view parameters are added to the hyperlink.

The resulting URL will look like this:

**http://localhost:8080/guessnumber/
response.xhtml?Name=Duke&uid=2001**

Because the URL can be the result of various parameter values, the order of the URL creation has been predefined.

The order in which the various parameter values are read is as follows:

- 1. Component**
- 2. Navigation-case parameters**
- 3. View parameters**

Resource Relocation Using `h:output` Tags

Resource relocation refers to the ability of a JavaServer Faces application to **specify** the location **where** a resource can be rendered.

Resource relocation can be defined with the following HTML **tags**:

- `h:outputScript`
- `h:outputStylesheet`

These **tags** have **name** and **target** attributes, which can be used to define the render location.

For a complete list of attributes for these **tags**, see the documentation at

<http://download.oracle.com/javaee/6/jsp/jsp2.1/docs/vdldocs/facelets/>

For the **h:outputScript** tag, the name and target attributes define **where** the output of a resource may appear.

Here is an example:

```
<html
xmlns=
"http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
xmlns:h=
"http://java.sun.com/jsf/html">
```

```
<h:head id="head">
<title>Resource Relocation</title>
</h:head>
<h:body id="body">
<h:form id="form">
<h:outputScript name="hello.js"/>
<h:outputStylesheet
name="hello.css"/>
</h:form>
</h:body>
</html>
```

Since the **target** attribute is not defined in the **tag**, the style sheet **hello.css** is rendered in the head, and the **hello.js script** is rendered in the body of the page as defined by the **h:head tag**.

Here is the HTML generated by the preceding code:

```
<html
xmlns=
"http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
```



```
<head>
<title>Resource Relocation</title>
<link type="text/css"
rel="stylesheet"
href=
"/ctx/faces/javafx.faces.resource/
hello.css"
/>
</head>
<body>
```

```
<form id="form" name="form"
method="post" action="..."
enctype="...">
<script type="text/javascript"
src="/ctx/faces/
javax.faces.resource/hello.js"
>
</script>
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

The original page can be recreated by setting the **target** attribute for the **h:outputScript** tag, which allows the incoming GET request to provide the location parameter.

Here is an example:

```
<html
xmlns=
"http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
xmlns:h=
"http://java.sun.com/jsf/html"
>
<h:head id="head">
<title>Resource Relocation</title>
</h:head>
<h:body id="body">
<h:form id="form">
```

```
<h:outputScript name="hello.js"
target="#{param.location}"
/>
<h:outputStylesheet
name="hello.css"
/>
</h:form>
</h:body>
</html>
```

In this case, if the incoming request does not provide a location parameter, the default locations will still apply: The style sheet is rendered in the head, and the **script** is rendered inline.

However, if the incoming request provides the location parameter as the head, both the style sheet and the **script** will be rendered in the head element.

The HTML generated by the preceding code is as follows:

```
<html
xmlns=
"http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml"
>
<head>
<title>Resource Relocation</title>
```

```
<link
type="text/css" rel="stylesheet"
href="/ctx/faces/
javax.faces.resource/hello.css"
/>
<script type="text/javascript"
src="/ctx/faces/
javax.faces.resource/hello.js"
>
</script>
</head>
```



```
<body>  
<form id="form" name="form"  
method="post" action="..."  
enctype="...">  
</form>  
</body>  
</html>
```

Similarly, if the incoming request provides the location parameter as the body, the **script** will be rendered in the body element.

The preceding section describes simple uses for resource relocation.

That feature can add even more functionality for the components and pages.

A page author does not have to know the location of a resource or its placement.

By using a `@ResourceDependency` annotation for the components, component authors can define the resources for the component, such as a style sheet and `script`.

This allows the page authors freedom `from` defining resource locations.

Using Core Tags

The **tags** included in the JavaServer Faces core **tag** library are used to perform core actions that are not performed by HTML **tags**.

Commonly used core **tags**, along with the functions they perform, are listed in **Table 7-8**.

Table 7-8 The Core Tags

Tag Categories	Tags	Functions
Event handling	f:actionListener	Adds an action listener to a parent component
	f:phaseListener	Adds a PhaseListener to a page
	f:setProperty ActionListener	Registers a special action listener whose sole purpose is to push a value into a backing bean when a form is submitted
	f:valueChange Listener	Adds a value-change listener to a parent component

Attribute configuration	f:attribute	Adds configurable attributes to a parent component
Data conversion	f:converter	Adds an arbitrary converter to the parent component
	f:convertDateTime	Adds a DateTimeConverter instance to the parent component
	f:convertNumber	Adds a NumberConverter instance to the parent component

Facet	f:facet	Adds a nested component that has a special relationship to its enclosing tag
	f:metadata	Registers a facet on a parent component
Localization	f:loadBundle	Specifies a ResourceBundle that is exposed as a Map
Parameter substitution	f:param	Substitutes parameters into a MessageFormat instance and adds query string name-value pairs to a URL

Representing items in a list	f:selectItem	Represents one item in a list of items
	f:selectItems	Represents a set of items
Validator	f:validateDoubleRange	Adds a DoubleRangeValidator to a component
	f:validateLength	Adds a LengthValidator to a component
	f:validateLongRange	Adds a LongRangeValidator to a component
	f:validator	Adds a custom validator to a component

	f:validateRegEx	Adds a RegExValidator to a component
	f:validateBean	Delegates the validation of a local value to a BeanValidator
	f:validateRequired	Enforces the presence of a value in a component
Ajax	f:ajax	Associates an Ajax action with a single component or a group of components based on placement

Event	<code>f:event</code>	Allows installing a <code>ComponentSystemEventListener</code> on a component
-------	----------------------	--

These **tags**, which are used in conjunction with component **tags**, are explained in other sections of this tutorial.

Table 7-9 lists the sections that explain how to use specific core tags.

Table 7-9 Where the Core Tags Are Explained

Tags	Where Explained
Event handling tags	Registering Listeners on Components
Data conversion tags	Using the Standard Converters
facet	Using <u>Data-Bound Table Components</u> and <u>Laying Out Components with the h:panelGrid and h:panelGroup Tags</u>
loadBundle	Displaying Components for <u>Selecting Multiple Values</u>
param	Displaying a Formatted Message with the <u>h:outputFormat Tag</u>
selectItem and selectItems	Using the <u>f:selectItem</u> and <u>f:selectItems</u> Tags
Validator tags	Using the Standard Validators