

FAQ: How to use CSS, JavaScript and Images in Spring MVC Web App

Question

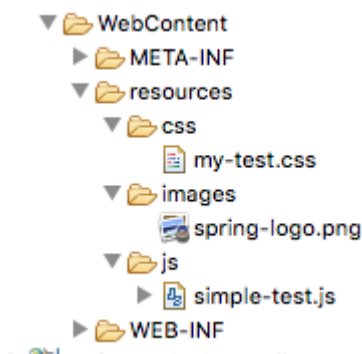
How do I use CSS, JavaScript and Images in a Spring MVC Web App?

Answer

Here are the steps on how to access static resources in a Spring MVC. For example, you can use this to access images, css, JavaScript files etc.

Any static resource is processed as a URL Mapping in Spring MVC. You can configure references to static resources in the spring-mvc-demo-servlet.xml.

In my example, I'm going to have the following directory structure:



I chose to put everything in the "resources" directory. But you can use any name for "resources", such as "assets", "foobar" etc. Also, you can give any name that you want for the subdirectories under "resources".

Step 1: Add the following entry to your Spring MVC configuration file: **spring-mvc-demo-servlet.xml**

You can place this entry anywhere in your Spring MVC config file.

```
<mvc:resources mapping="/resources/**"
location="/resources/"></mvc:resources>
```

Step 2: Now in your view pages, you can access the static files using this syntax:

```

```

You need to use the JSP expression **`${pageContext.request.contextPath}`** to access the correct root directory for your web application.

Apply the same technique for reading CSS and JavaScript.

Here's a full example that reads CSS, JavaScript and images.

```
<!DOCTYPE html> <html>

<head>

  <link rel="stylesheet" type="text/css"

    href="${pageContext.request.contextPath}/resources/css/my-
test.css">

  <script src="${pageContext.request.contextPath}/resources/js/simple-
test.js"></script>

</head>

<body>

<h2>Spring MVC Demo - Home Page</h2>

<a href="showForm">Plain Hello World</a>

<br><br>
```

```

```

```
<br><br>
```

```
<input type="button" onclick="doSomeWork()" value="Click Me"/>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

Source code for this example are available here:

- <https://gist.github.com/darbyluv2code/9a09543a226baeedc04b9a5037ca52ec>