Flash Messages

Devpoint Labs - Jake Sorce / Dave Jungst

What are flash messages?

- Rails flashes are just name value pair hashes

```
flash = { success: "It worked!", error: "It failed." }
{:success=>"It worked!", error: "It failed."}
```

Application.html.erb – Layout

```erb
<html>
  <body>
    <%= render 'layouts/header' %>
    <div class="container">
      <% flash.each do |key, value| %>
        <div class="alert alert-<%= key %>"><%= value %></div>
      <% end %>
      <%= yield %>
      <%= render 'layouts/footer' %>
      <%= debug(params) if Rails.env.development? %>
    </div>

  </body>
</html>
```

produces: ‹div class=”alert alert-success”›Welcome to the Sample App!‹/div›

Sidenote* – debug

The debug helper will return a <pre> tag that renders the object using the YAML format. This will generate human-readable data from any object. For example, if you have this code in a view:

```erb
<%= debug @article %>
<p>
  <b>Title:</b>
  <%= @article.title %>
</p>


--- !ruby/object Article
attributes:
  updated_at: 2008-09-05 22:55:47
  body: It's a very helpful guide for debugging your Rails app.
  title: Rails debugging guide
  published: t
  id: "1"
  created_at: 2008-09-05 22:55:47
attributes_cache: {}
```

Flash Messages - Controllers

```ruby
class UsersController < ApplicationController
  def create
    @user = User.new(user_params)
    if @user.save
      flash[:success] = "Welcome to the Sample App!"
      redirect_to @user
    else
      render 'new'
    end
  end
end
```

Flash Messages - Styling

Since the code that we put into our application.html.erb produces tags that look something like this: **‹div class="alert alert-success"›Welcome to the Sample App! ‹/div›**

We can style our flash messages using the classes of alert, alert-success, alert-notice, and any other type of flash message you want.

Flash Messages - JavaScript

Flash messages do not go away until you refresh the page. I'm not a huge fan of this behavior so we will talk about using JavaScript to dismiss them in 2 different ways:

1. Dismissing the alert on a timer

2. Dismissing the alert on click

Flash Messages - JavaScript Timer

```
$(document).ready ->

  $('.alert').show ->
    setTimeout (->
      $('.alert').slideToggle()
    ), 3000
```

Flash Messages – JavaScript Click

```coffeescript
$(document).ready ->
  $('.alert:visible').click ->
    $(@).slideToggle();
```