



# Dropwizard Plugin - Reference Documentation

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# 1 Introduction to the Dropwizard Plugin

The Dropwizard plugin integrates [Dropwizard](#) with Grails to make it easy to create REST services using while still using Grails features.

Dropwizard is very opinionated, so several framework and library choices are fixed and cannot be changed:

- you must use the Jetty server, Tomcat isn't an option
- Jackson
- Jersey
- Logback (this plugin depends on the Grails [logback](#) plugin to provide this)

In addition, the plugin enables the use of Freemarker and Mustache templates for response rendering, although you can continue to use Dropwizard's JSON support, or other text-based syntaxes such as XML.

Note that since Dropwizard requires Jetty and the current version of Jetty in the Grails Jetty plugin is too old, you must use the server plugin (i.e. "tomcat") from `BuildConfig.groovy`. Use the plugin's `run-dropwizard` script.

## 1.1 History

### History

- March 5, 2013
  - initial 0.1 release

## 2 Getting Started

The first step is to add a dependency for the plugin in `BuildConfig.groovy`:

```
plugins {  
    ...  
    compile ':dropwizard:0.1'  
}
```

Next, create a YAML file that defines the Dropwizard configuration as described in the section on configuration application classes (resources, health checks, etc.) as described in the general usage section.

## 3 Configuration

Much of the Dropwizard configuration is done in a YAML file. This includes the server and admin HTTP database settings, etc. This can still be done when using this plugin, but it's best to leverage what is already practical. This can include defining database connectivity in `DataSource.groovy`, but can also use the NoSQL plugin for persistence, and other plugins and Grails features. For example, Dropwizard has Liquibase, but since these are trivial to use in Grails it makes more sense to use the Grails integrations.

### Application classes

In a typical Dropwizard application, you define a service class that extends `com.yammer.dropwizard.Application` and its `run` method, and this is the entry point to the application. It configures other helper classes including health checks, tasks, etc. Using the plugin, much of this is done for you but you can customize most options.

There are three ways to register application classes. The easiest is to use the typical Grails convention-over-configuration and create Groovy classes in `grails-app/dropwizard`. These can include resource classes, which must implement `DropwizardResource`, health check classes ending in `HealthCheck`, and task classes ending in `DropwizardTask`. All must have default no-arg constructors and must be written in Groovy.

For more flexibility, you can register classes as Spring beans in `grails-app/conf/spring/resources.groovy`. You can enable the appropriate `autoRegister` property as described below to have the plugin find them and register them. For even more flexibility, you can define a Closure in `Config.groovy` under the `grails.plugin.dropwizard.initializer` key that can do additional customization.

### YAML

See the Dropwizard documentation for the supported syntax for the configuration file, but you can use this as a starting point (remove the `#` characters to uncomment lines):

```
http:
  port: 8080
#  adminPort: 8081
#  2-1000000
#  maxThreads: 1024
#  1-1000000
#  minThreads: 8
#  rootPath: /*
#  one of blocking, legacy, legacy+ssl, nonblocking, nonblocking+ssl
#  connectorType: blocking
#  maxIdleTime: 200s
#  1-128
#  acceptorThreads: 1
#  -Thread.NORM_PRIORITY-Thread.NORM_PRIORITY)
#  acceptorThreadPriorityOffset: 0
#  min -1
#  acceptQueueSize: -1
#  min 1
#  maxBufferCount: 1024
```

```

# requestBufferSize: 16KB
# requestHeaderBufferSize: 6KB
# responseBufferSize: 32KB
# responseHeaderBufferSize: 6KB

# reuseAddress: true
# soLingerTime: null
# lowResourcesConnectionThreshold: 0
# lowResourcesMaxIdleTime: 0s
# shutdownGracePeriod: 2s
# useServerHeader: false
# useDateHeader: true
# useForwardedHeaders: true
# useDirectBuffers: true
# bindHost: null
# adminUsername: null
# adminPassword: null

# requestLog:
#   console:
#     enabled: true
#     threshold: Level.ALL
#     timeZone: UTC
#     logFormat: null
#   file:
#     enabled: false
#     threshold: Level.ALL
#     currentLogFilename: null
#     archive: true
#     archivedLogFilenamePattern: null
#     # 1-50
#     archivedFileCount: 5
#     timeZone: UTC
#     logFormat: null
#   syslog
#     enabled: false
#     threshold: Level.ALL
#     host: localhost
#     # auth, authpriv, daemon, cron, ftp, lpr, kern, mail, news, syslog, use
local1, local2, local3, local4, local5, local6, local7
#     facility: local0
#     timeZone: UTC
#     logFormat: null

#   timeZone: UTC

# gzip:
#   enabled: true
#   minimumEntitySize: 256B
#   bufferSize: 8KB
#   excludedUserAgents: ImmutableSet<String>
#   compressedMimeTypes: ImmutableSet<String>

```

```
# ssl:
#   keyStore: /path/to/file
#   keyStorePassword: null
#   keyManagerPassword: null
#   keyStoreType: JKS
#   trustStore: /path/to/file
#   trustStorePassword
#   trustStoreType: "JKS"
#   needClientAuth: true/false
#   wantClientAuth: true/false
#   certAlias: null
#   allowRenegotiate: true/false
#   crlPath: /path/to/file
#   crldpEnabled: true/false
#   ocspEnabled: true/false
#   maxCertPathLength:
#   ocspResponderUrl:
#   jceProvider:
#   validatePeers
#   supportedProtocols:
#     - SSLv3
#     - TLSv1
#     - TLSv1.1
#     - TLSv1.2
#
# contextParameters:
#   ImmutableMap<String, String>
```

## Config.groovy

There are a few configuration options for the plugin that are defined in Config.groovy:

Property	Default	Meaning
grails.plugin.dropwizard.banner	none; look for a file named banner.txt in the classpath	the string to display as the startup banner
grails.plugin.dropwizard.dropwizardContext	"dropwizard"	the string to display as the startup banner
grails.plugin.dropwizard.autoRegisterResources	false	whether to discover all resource classes registered with those with a javax.ws.rs.Path annotation
grails.plugin.dropwizard.autoRegisterHealthChecks	false	whether to discover all health check classes registered those that extend com.yammer.metrics.core.HealthCheck
grails.plugin.dropwizard.autoRegisterManaged	false	whether to discover all managed classes registered those that in com.yammer.dropwizard.lifecycle.Managed
grails.plugin.dropwizard.autoRegisterLifeCycle	false	whether to discover all lifecycle classes registered those that in org.eclipse.jetty.util.component.Lifecycle
grails.plugin.dropwizard.autoRegisterAnnotatedProviders	false	whether to discover all provider classes registered those with a javax.ws.rs.ext.Provider annotation
grails.plugin.dropwizard.autoRegisterInjectableProviders	false	whether to discover all injectable provider classes beans (i.e. those that com.sun.jersey.spi.inject.InjectableProvider
grails.plugin.dropwizard.autoRegisterTasks	false	whether to discover all task classes registered that extend com.yammer.dropwizard.task.Task
grails.plugin.dropwizard.yamlPath	"classpath:dropwizard.yml"	the location of the YAML configuration file; syntax
grails.plugin.dropwizard.assets	none	a Map of asset paths to register as AssetsService resource paths (relative to the classpath) and their names to serve as
grails.plugin.dropwizard.serviceClassName	"grails.plugin.dropwizard.GrailsService"	the name of the service class that configures the constructor that takes a Spring Application pointing at the YAML configuration file
grails.plugin.dropwizard.initializer	none	optional closure that can do additional configuration com.yammer.dropwizard.config.Builder, com.yammer.dropwizard.config.Environment, grails.plugin.dropwizard.config.GrailsService, and @org.codehaus.groovy.grails.commons.Grails



## 4 General Usage

### Usage

Start the application with

```
$ grails run-dropwizard
```

Use CTRL-C to stop.

### URLs

As a hybrid application, the Grails URLs and Dropwizard URLs use different context paths. For example be configured under `http://www.servername.com:8080/app/` and the Dropwizard `http://www.servername.com:8080/dw/`. It would be more convenient to have one `http://www.servername.com:8080/app/` and `http://www.servername.com:8080/app/dw/` but given the approach to determine the resource handlers, this isn't possible.

The context for your Grails controllers is determined the same way as when not using this plugin, i.e. `grails.plugin.dropwizard` name but can be overridden. Specify the Dropwizard context with the `grails.plugin.dropwizard.context` attribute in `Config.groovy` - it defaults to "dropwizard".

### Admin URIs

Dropwizard has an admin servlet with some convenient URIs to monitor your application. By default this includes:

- `http://server:8081/dropwizard/metrics`
  - displays extensive runtime and usage information; append `?pretty=true` to pretty-print the JSON
- `http://server:8081/dropwizard/healthcheck`
  - runs all health checks and displays their statuses
- `http://server:8081/dropwizard/threads`
  - displays a thread dump
- `http://server:8081/dropwizard/ping`
  - responds with "pong" as a simple test that something is there

### Utility methods

Dropwizard displays all known endpoints at startup, but this information is also available at runtime via the `dropwizardService` bean and call

```
def dropwizardService
...
def endpoints = dropwizardService.findEndpoints()
```

This will be a List of `grails.plugin.dropwizard.util.EndpointData`

You can also retrieve information from Dropwizard via the dropwizard Spring bean. This is simply a configuration (the `com.yammer.dropwizard.config.Configuration`), the `com.yammer.dropwizard.config.Environment`, and the `grails.plugin.dropwizard.GrailsService`

## Domain Object serialization

You can call GORM and use domain classes from your Dropwizard REST resources. Note however that domain classes using Dropwizard's automatic marshalling since there's no way to exclude non-serializable classes (DTOs) built from domain class instances (they can be written in Groovy) instead.

## Reloading

Reloading doesn't currently work. I'm looking into supporting runtime reloading in development mode, as the fly.