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TECHNOLOGY

REST with Spring



Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Identify the different annotations used in Spring Boot
- Describe Spring Boot
- Examine the important methods for HTTP
- Demonstrate how to initialize a RESTful web service
- Implement the concept of Spring Boot auto-configuration and Dispatcher Servlet microservices



A Day in the Life of a Full Stack Developer

You work as a developer for an organization that has assigned you to enterprise application development. Being a Java developer, you feel confident in building applications using Java-based frameworks.

The goal is to develop enterprise applications by implementing RESTful web services as a solution.

After considering various options, you decide to use Spring Boot and leverage its different annotations and methods to develop the application.



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Spring Boot: Annotations

Spring Boot: Annotations

Spring Boot is a preferred framework for developing RESTful web services as a solution for enterprise applications.



To implement RESTful web services, configure the **pom.xml** file by adding the Spring Boot web dependency.



Spring Boot: Annotations

Syntax for adding dependencies in the **pom.xml** file:

```
<dependencies>
  <dependency>
        <groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>
        <artifactId>spring-boot-starter-web</artifactId>
        </dependency>
        <dependencies>
```

Spring Boot: Annotations

Spring Boot utilizes annotation-based implementation for developing RESTful web services.





Rest Controller

Traditional methods often require up to ten months for single-stage development.



Rest Controller

Syntax for **@RestController**:

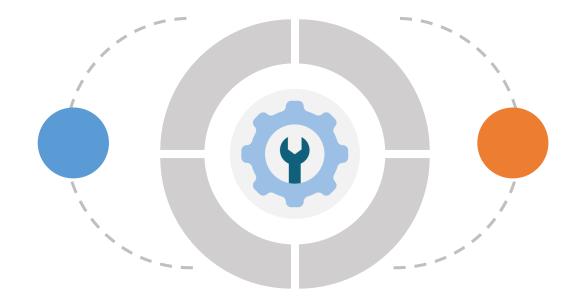
```
@RestController
public class CategoriesController {
}
```



RequestMapping

The @RequestMapping annotation is used to define and access endpoints for a web service.

@RequestMapping is used on methods inside the class.



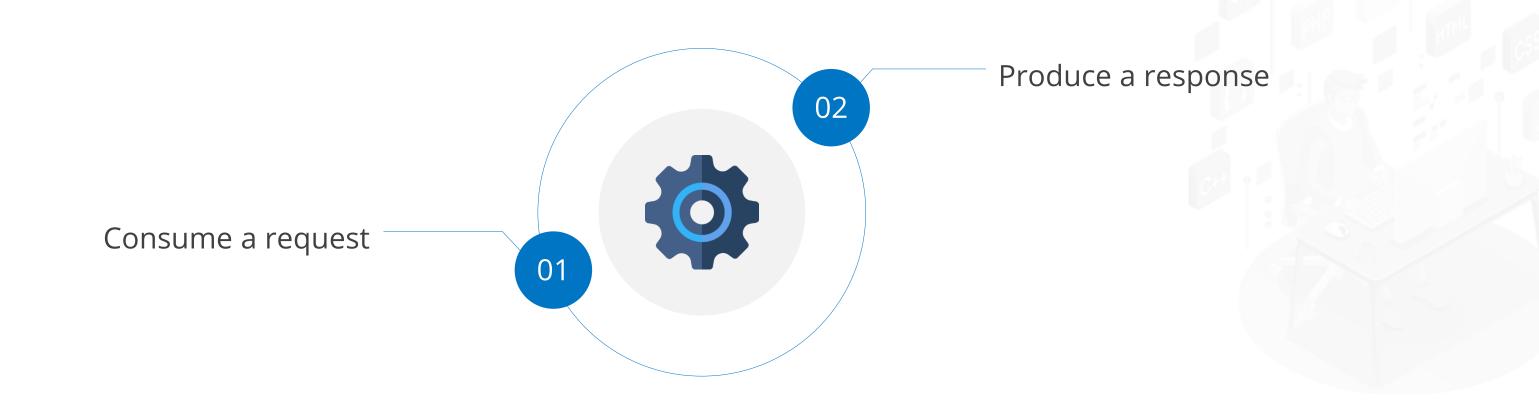
It helps declare the Request URI, allowing clients to access the REST endpoints.

This annotation plays a vital role in simplifying the development of web services by mapping HTTP requests to specific methods.



RequestMapping

A RequestMapping method helps to:



RequestMapping

Syntax for **@RequestMapping**:

```
@RequestMapping(value = "/categories")
public HashMap<Integer, Category> getCategories() {
    HashMap<Integer, Category> categoryMap = new HashMap<Integer, Category>();
    // Code to populate the categoryMap
    return categoryMap;
}
```

RequestBody

The **@RequestBody** annotation defines the content type of the request body in a RESTful API.

```
public ResponseEntity<User> createUser(@RequestBody
User user) {
    // Code to create the user
    // ...
}
```

This annotation specifies that the incoming HTTP request should be treated as the request body and be deserialized into the specified object type.

Path Variable

The **@PathVariable** annotation is used to extract and use values from the request URI in a Spring web application.

```
public ResponseEntity<User>
  updateUser(@PathVariable("email") String email) {
    // Code to update user using the email
    // ...
}
```

It allows developers to define dynamic parts of the URI as variables and access their values within the method.

RequestParameter

The @RequestParameter annotation is used to:

Capture the data which the client sends in the request object as parameters

Set a default value in case no data comes from the client in the request



RequestParameter

Syntax for RequestParameter:

```
public ResponseEntity<Order> getUser(
    @RequestParam(value = "email", required = true,
defaultValue = "john@example.com") String name) {
    // Method implementation
}
```



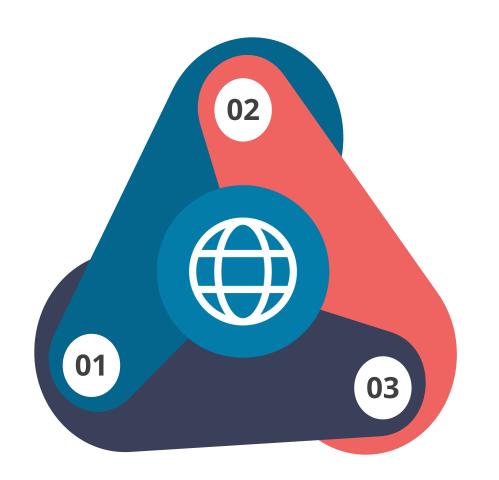
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Spring Boot: RESTful

Spring Boot is a preferred framework for developing RESTful web services as a solution for enterprise applications. It offers several key features and benefits:

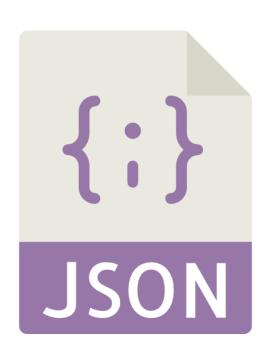
Architectural Approach



Representational State Transfer (REST) Utilizes HTTP Features



When it comes to data exchange in RESTful web services, there is no standardized format.



Note

JSON is a preferred format with REST due to its data representation.



The key abstraction in REST is resource access using a URI (Uniform Resource Identifier).

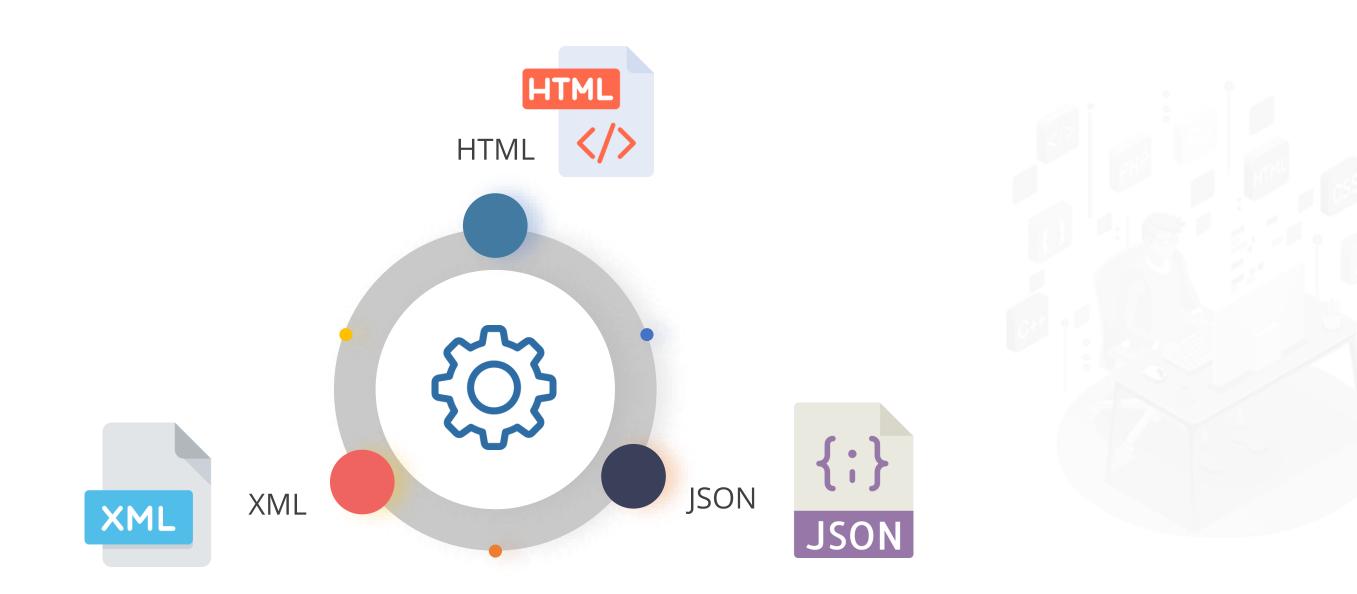
Example:

https://localhost:8080/news

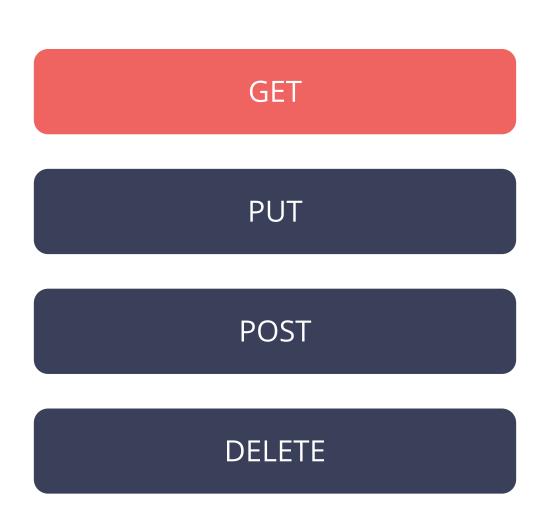
Here, the URI represents a specific resource related to news. Clients can use this URI to access or manipulate the news resource through appropriate HTTP methods.



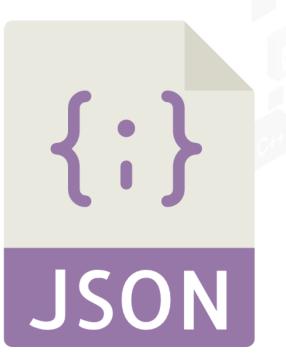
Resources can have different representations based on requirements:



When a resource is requested using its URI, the representation of the resource is provided.

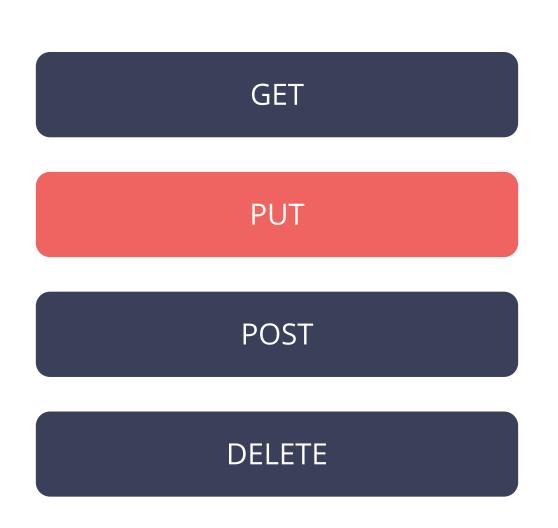


Retrieves a resource and returns JSON





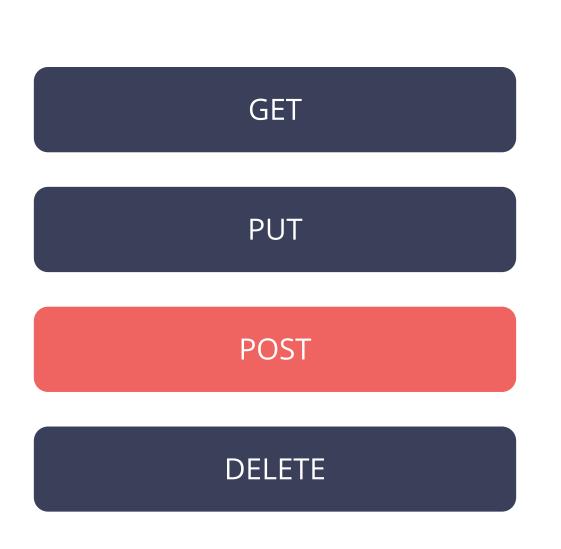
When a resource is requested using its URI, the representation of the resource is provided.



Updates an existing resource with new data



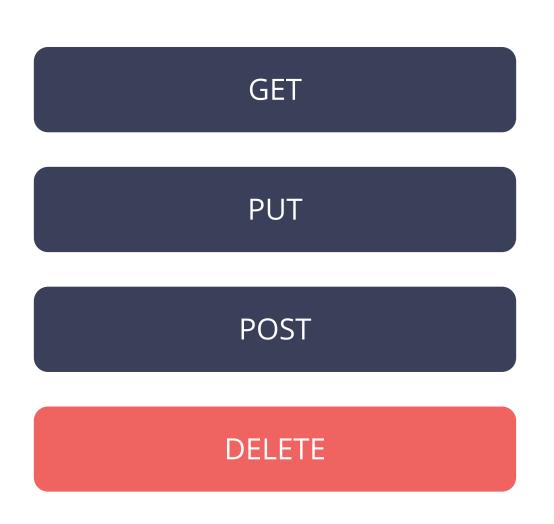
When a resource is requested using its URI, the representation of the resource is provided.







When a resource is requested using its URI, the representation of the resource is provided.

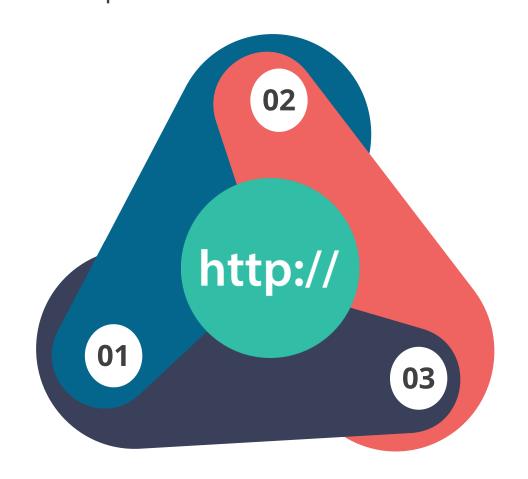


Deletes a resource based on an ID



Examples of using HTTP methods:

GET /products/{code}: Fetch a product based on the product code from the resource.



GET /products: Fetch all products from the resource.

POST /orders: Create a new order using the resource.

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RESTful Web Services with Spring Boot

RESTful web services are easily consumed on the client side.





The following are the benefits of REST web services:



Critical factors for resilient RESTful services:

Build the RESTful web service using Spring Boot

Implement a simple web service that returns a string response, such as **Welcome to Spring Boot**, along with the current date and time stamp.

Build the service that will accept HTTP GET requests at http://localhost:8080/welcome

```
{
"code": 101,
"content": "Welcome to Spring Boot, Fionna.
It's 2022-12-20 20:00:00"
}
```



Customize with an optional name parameter in the query string:

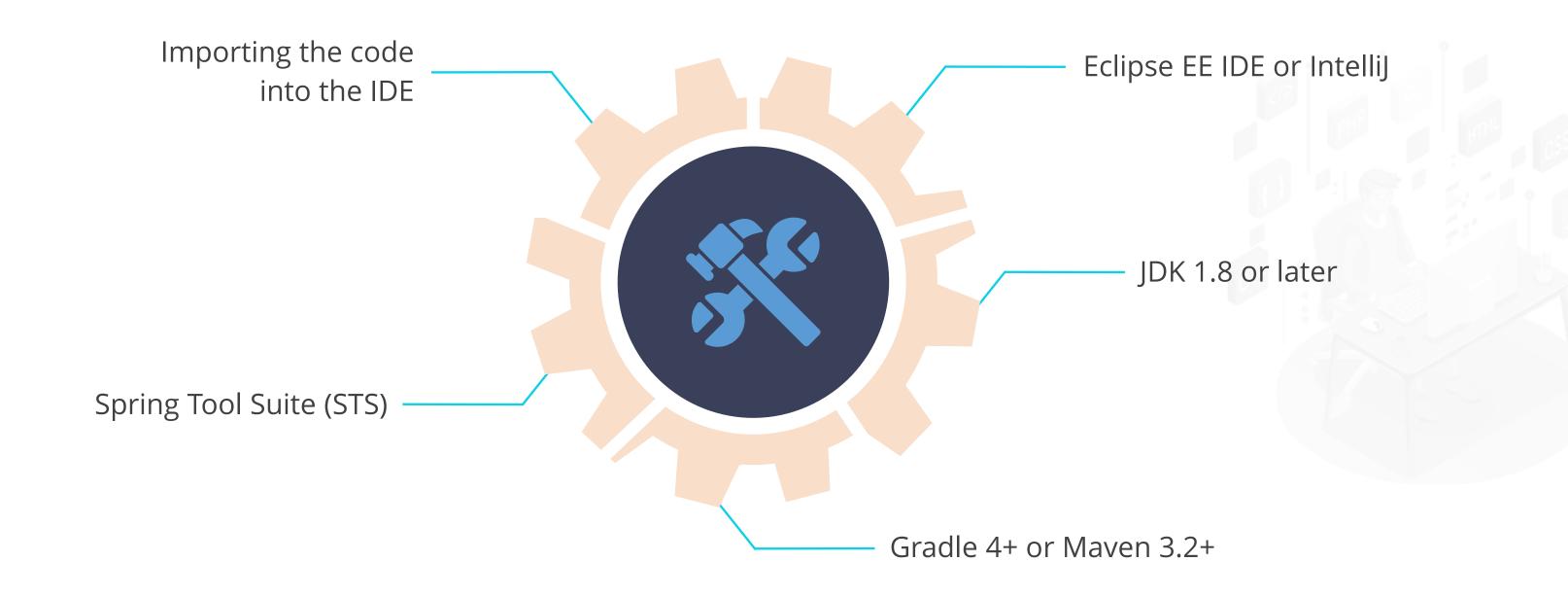
http://localhost:8080/welcome?name=John



The name parameter uses the value **John** and will be reflected in the response:

```
{ "code:101," "content":"Welcome to Spring Boot, John.
Its 2022-20-20 20:00:00" }
```

The name parameter uses the value **John** and will be reflected in the response along with:





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Initialize a RESTful Web Service

Web applications operate on the client-server architecture, which involves the following key aspects:

The application serves as the client, interacting with the server.

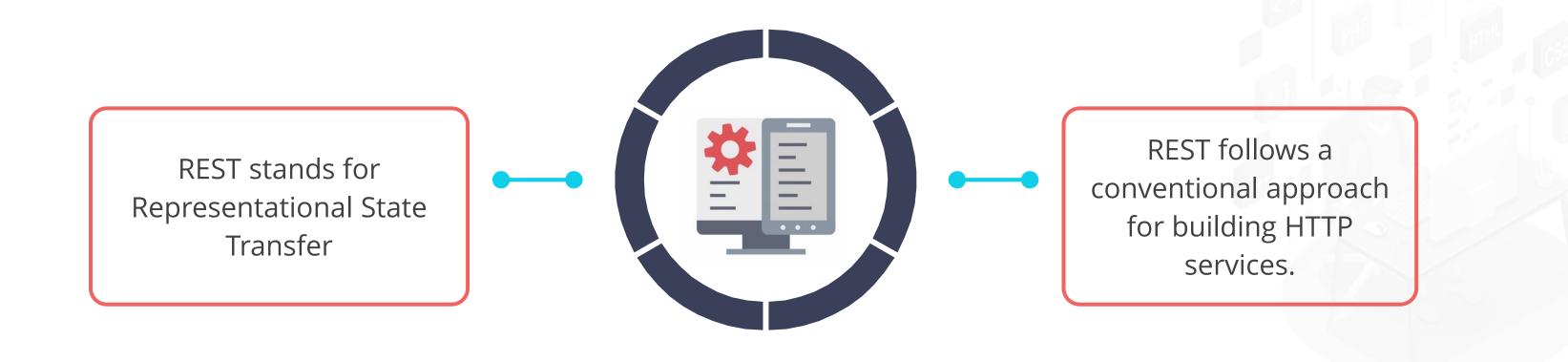
The client can directly call services by sending HTTP requests to the server.

The application needs to communicate with the server or backend to store data.

Communication between the client and server occurs using the HTTP protocol.



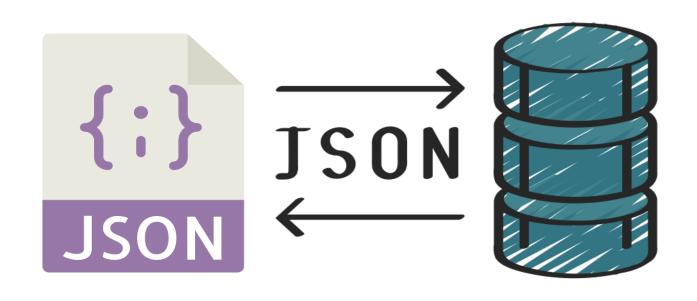
Web applications follow the client-server architecture. In this:



HTTP protocols facilitate CRUD operations:

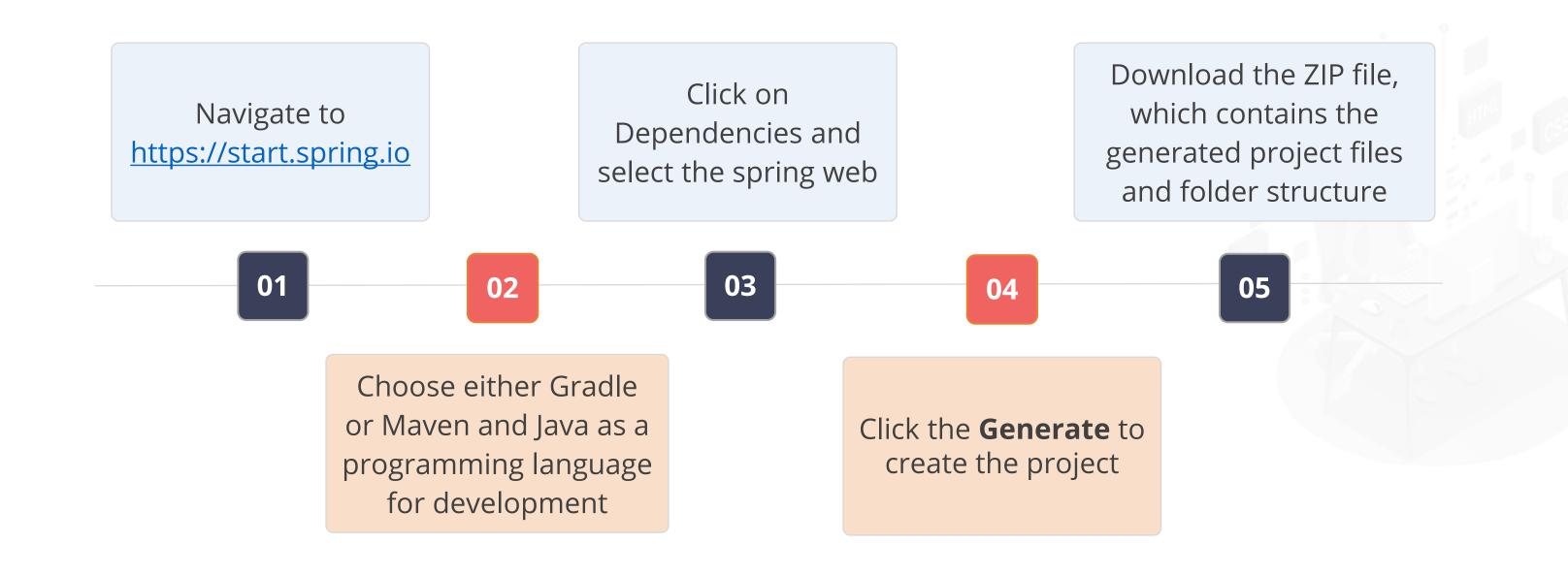


Create a Controller to return data in JSON format.





To manually initialize a project using Spring Initializr, follow these steps:



In Eclipse EE IDE, one can install the Spring STS plugin

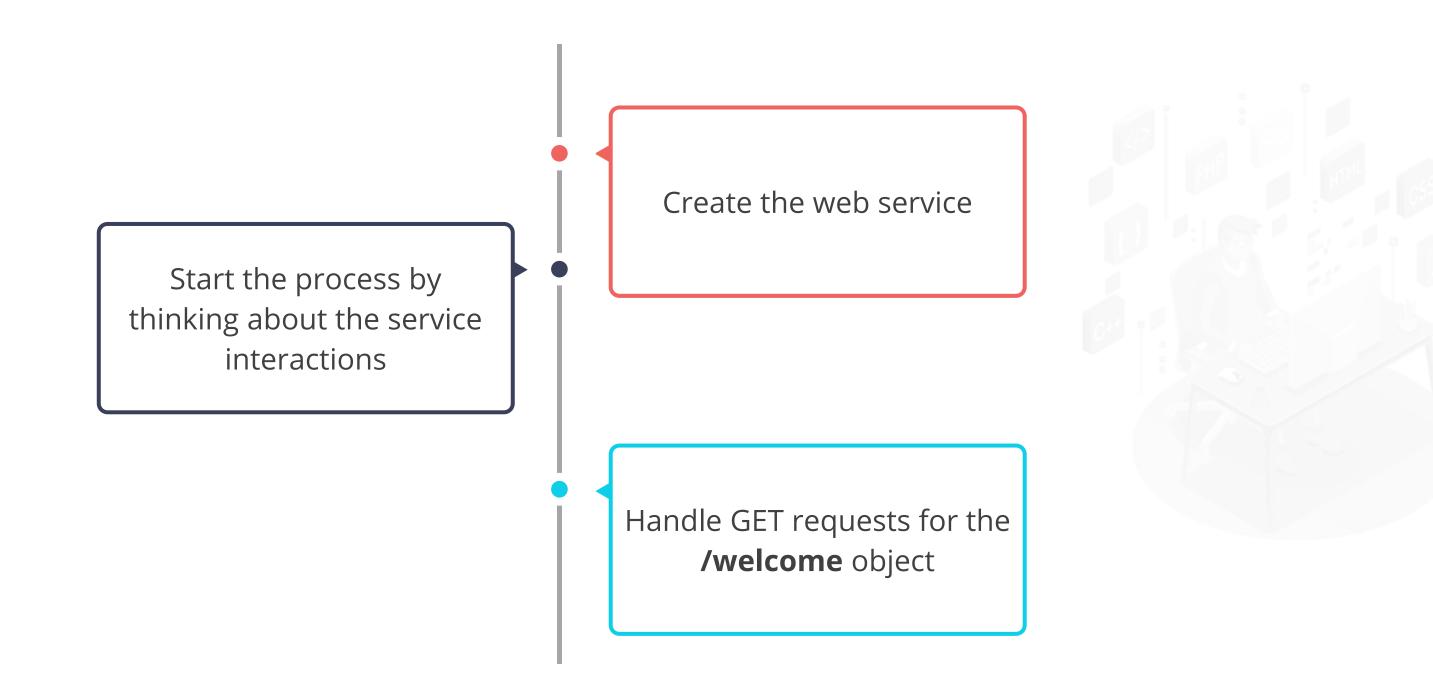


Note

It will have the Spring Initializr integration.



Below are the steps to initialize a RESTful web service:



In response to the GET request, a JSON containing the 400 error code should be returned. The output will be:

```
{
    "code": "400",
    "content": "Welcome to Spring Boot, Fionna.
    It's 2022-20-20 20:00:00"
}
```

The code field is the unique identifier for the **welcome**, whereas the content is the textual representation.

The resource representation class is created to model the **welcome** representation.

```
src/main/java/com/example/restservice/Welcome.java shows.
package com.example.restservice;
public class Welcome {
private final long code;
private final String content;
public Welcome (long code, String content) {
                  this.code = code;
                  this.content = content;
public long getCode() {
            return code;
public String getContent() {
            return content;
```

objects with fields, constructors, and accessors for the code and the content data.

While building the RESTful web services using the Spring approach, the HTTP requests are handled by the controller.

src/main/java/com/example/restservice/WelcomeController.java.

Handles GET requests for /welcome by returning a new instance of the Welcome class:

```
package com.example.restservice;
import java.util.Date;
import.java.util.concurrent.atomic.AtomicLong;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.GetMapping;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RequestParam;
import org.springframework.web.bind.annotation.RestController;
@RestController
public class WelcomeController {
                     private static final String template =
""Welcome to Spring Boot, %. Its "+new Date();
                     private final AtomicLong counter = new
AtomicLong();
           @GetMapping("/welcome")
public Welcome welcome(@RequestParam(value = "name",
defaultValue = "Fionna") String name) {
return new Welcome (counter.incrementAndGet(),
String.format(template, name));
```

The **@GetMapping** annotation helps verify that the HTTP GET requests to **/welcome** are mapped to the **welcome()** method.



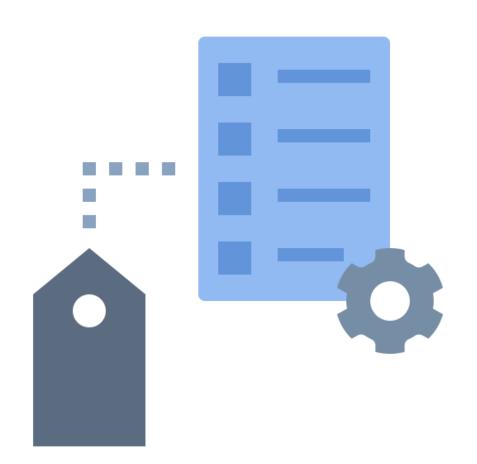


@RequestParam helps to bind the value of the query string parameter name into the name parameter of the **welcome()** method.





Implementation of the method body creates and returns the new **welcome** object with the code and the content attributes.

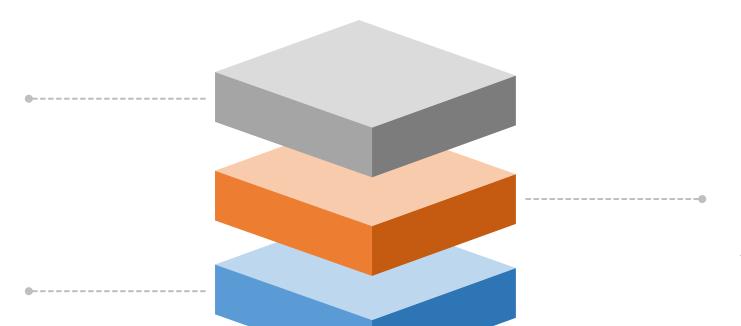




Code uses the Spring @RestController annotation. In this:

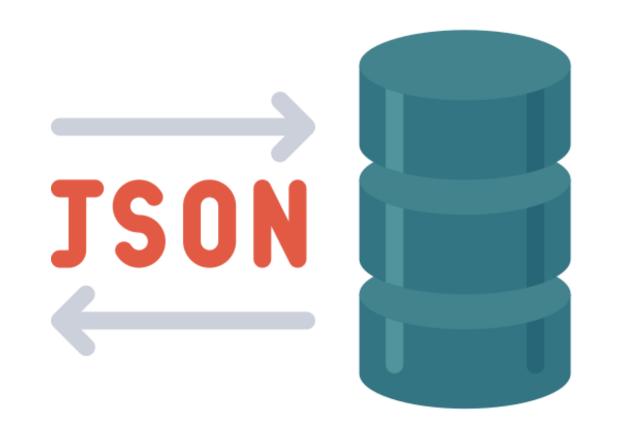
It marks the classes as the controller.

It includes shorthand for including both **@Controller** and the **@ResponseBody**.



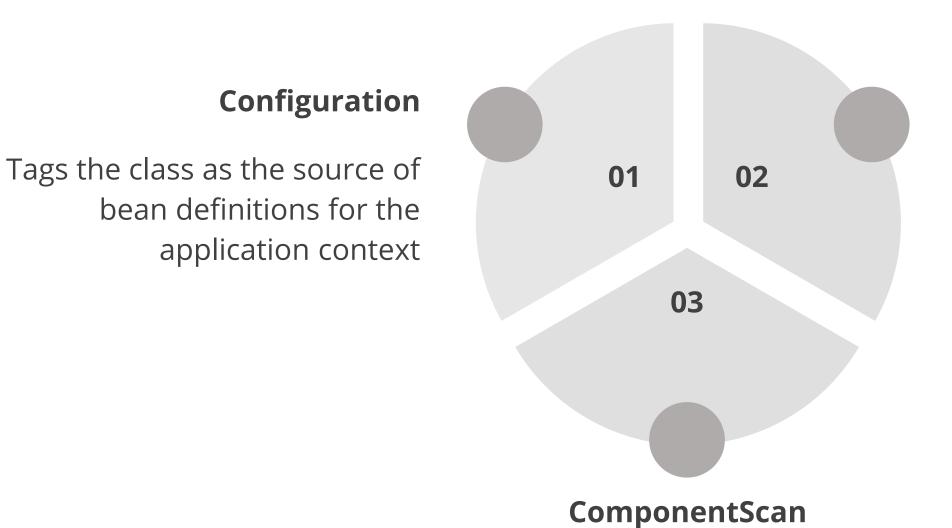
Every method returns the domain object instead of the view.

Spring's HTTP message converter support helps convert the **welcome** object to JSON.





@SpringBootApplication is the convenience annotation that adds:



EnableAutoConfiguration

Informs Spring Boot to add beans based on the classpath settings

Informs Spring to explore other components, configurations, and services in the com/example package



The web application is written entirely in Java, which saves time by avoiding the need for unnecessary configuration.

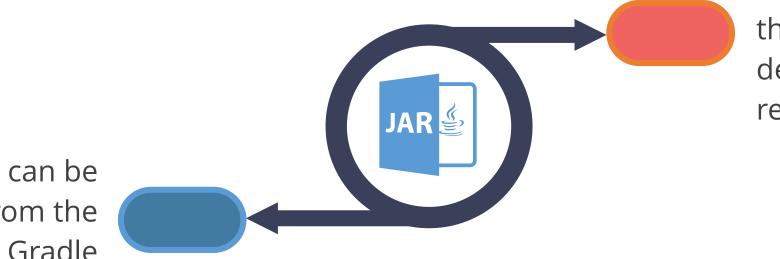


Note

There is not a single line of the XML or **web.xml** file.



The following tasks can be performed while building an execute JAR file:



A single executable JAR file that contains all the necessary dependencies, classes, and resources can be built.

Applications can be executed from the command line using Gradle or Maven.

Creating an executable JAR file increases the ease of shipping, versioning, and deploying the service as an application.



Note

If one uses Gradle, the application can run by using ./gradlew bootRun.

The JAR file can be built using the ./gradlew build.

Run the JAR file:

java -jar build/libs/welcome-rest-service-0.1.0.jar

The JAR file can be built with the ./mvnw clean package. Run the JAR file:

```
java -jar target/welcome-rest-service-0.1.0.jar
```

Runnable JAR is created using these steps:

1 Building the classic WAR file

2 Logging output is displayed

Once the service is up, visit http://localhost:8080/welcome to see the following:

```
{
code:"101",
"content":" "Welcome to Spring Boot, Fionna. Its 2022-20-20
20:00:00"
}
```

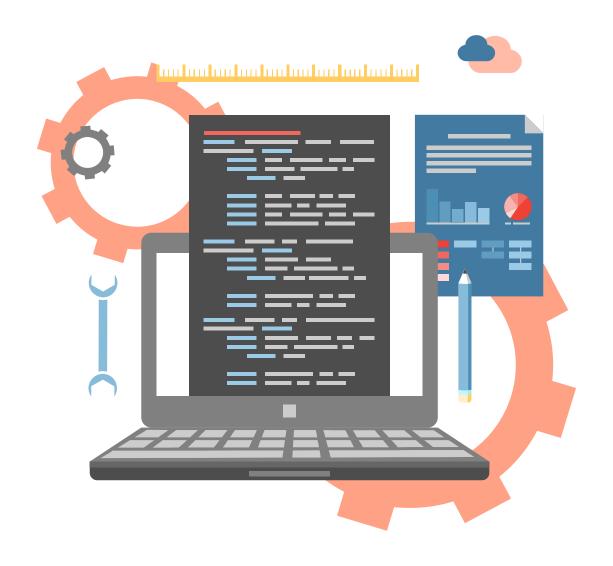
Add the name query string parameter by visiting http://localhost:8080/welcome?name=John

```
{
    code:"101",
        "content":" "Welcome to Spring Boot, John. Its 2022-20-20
20:00:00"
}
```

It shows that the @RequestParam arrangement in the WelcomeController is working.

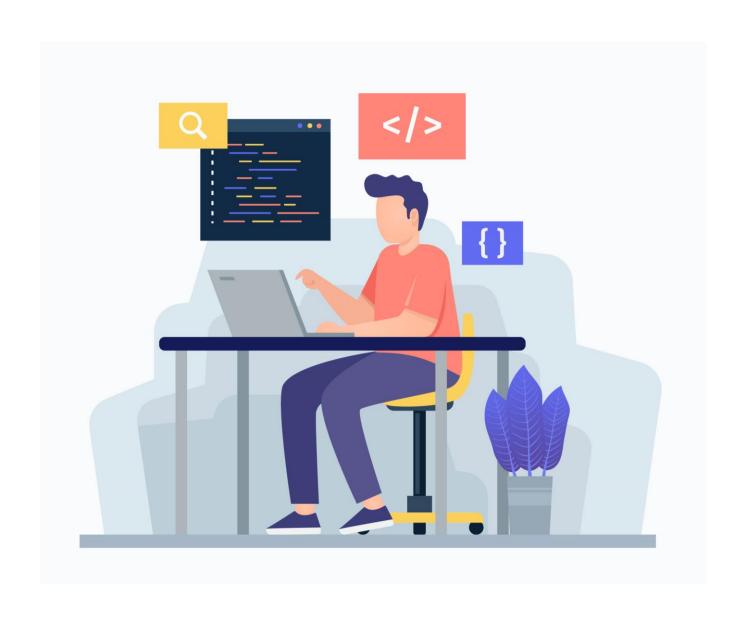


The name parameter takes the default value and can be overridden through the query string.





The code change indicates the same **WelcomeController** instance across multiple requests.



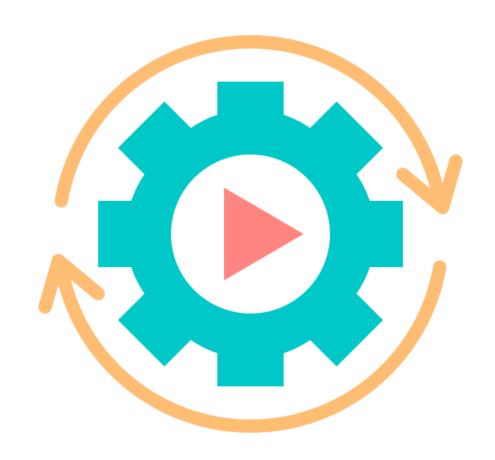


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Spring Boot Auto Configuration and Dispatcher Servlet

Spring Boot Auto Configuration

Spring Boot configures Spring dependencies based on classpath presence.



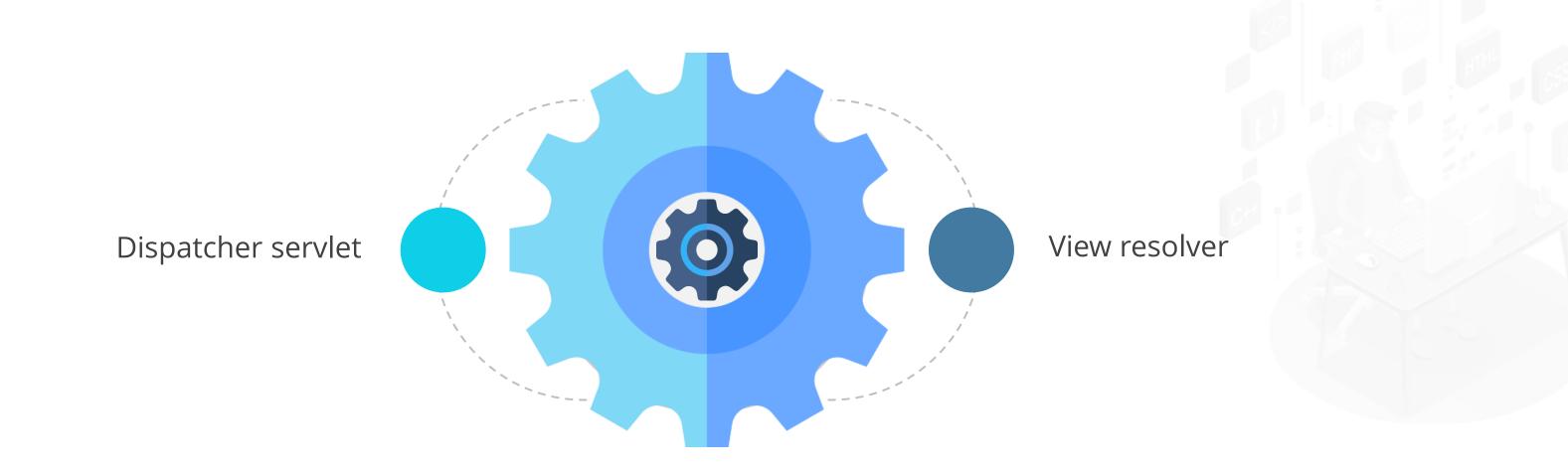


Spring Boot Auto Configuration

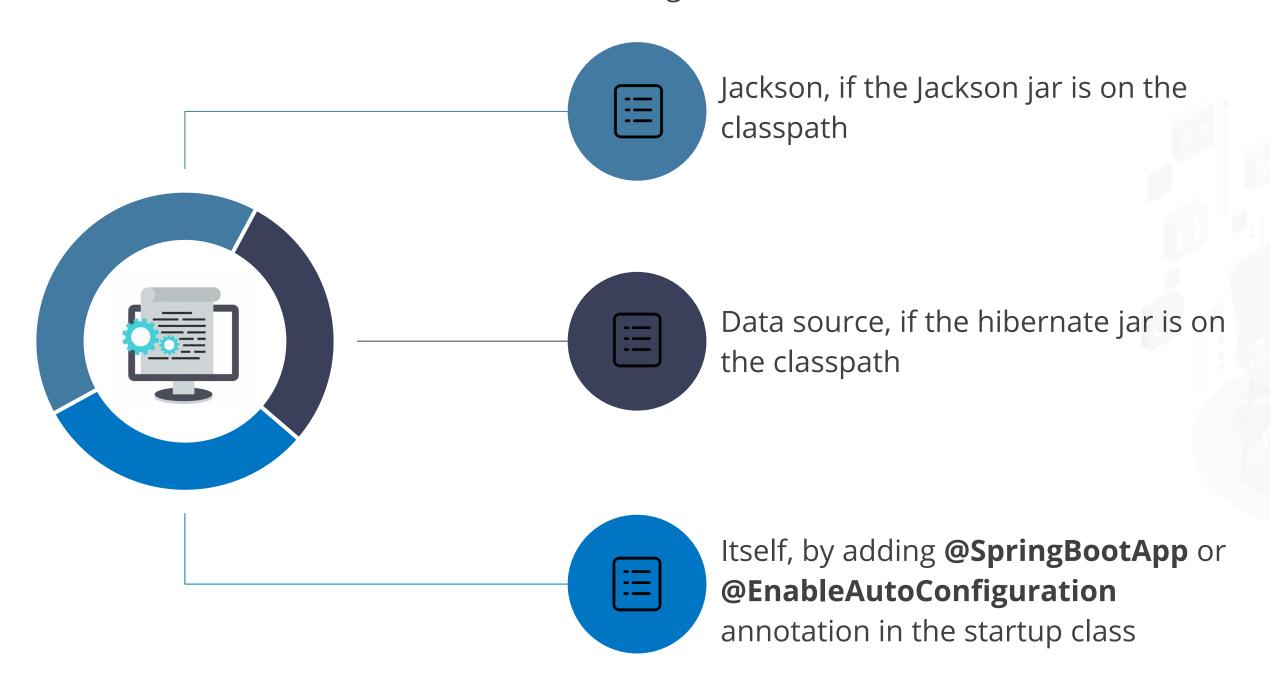
The following are the characteristics of Spring Boot Auto Configuration. It:



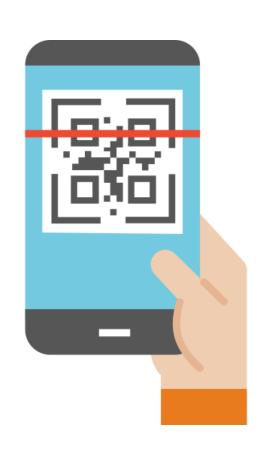
MVC database-driven Spring MVC application requires a lot of configuration, such as:

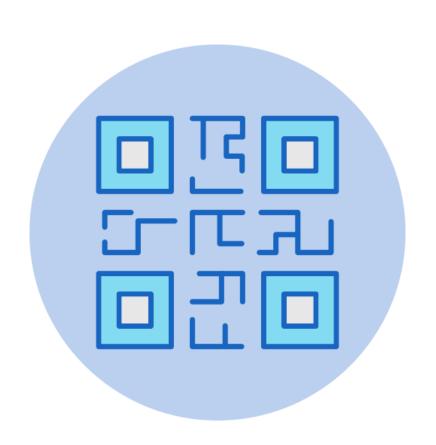


Spring Boot auto-configures the dispatcher servlet if the Spring MVC JAR is on the classpath. It auto-configures:



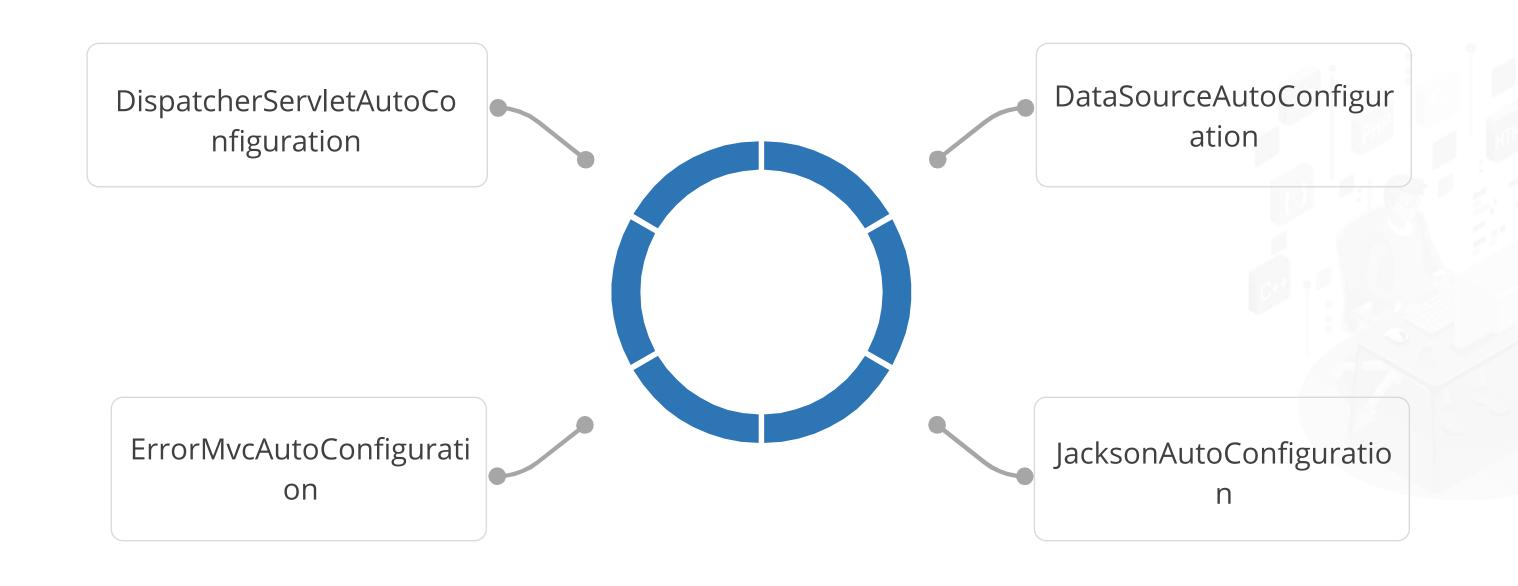
It enables components scan, which is a feature of Spring to trigger an automatic scan for classes.







Examples of the auto-configuration done by the Spring Boot:





To exclude the classes from the auto-configuration, add this configuration:

@SpringBootApplication(exclude={JacksonAutoConfiguration.class
,JmxAutoConfiguration.class})

spring.autoconfiguration.exclude=org.springframework.boot.autoconfigure.jackson.JacksonAutoConfiguration



Auto-configuration is generated by enabling the debug mode

logging.level.org.springframework=debug



Creating a RESTful Web Service with @RestControl



Problem Statement:

You have been asked to create a basic web service using Spring Boot to build and deploy RESTful APIs for various applications and use cases.

Assisted Practice: Guidelines

Steps to be followed are:

- 1. Implementing the web services that return a JSON file
- 2. Creating a Controller class
- 3. Implementing maps with key-value pair
- 4. Creating a News Model class



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Key Takeaways

- Spring Boot is a preferred framework for developing RESTful web services as a solution for enterprise applications.
- Spring Boot uses Annotation-based implementation to develop RESTful web services.
- The **@GetMapping** annotation helps verify that the HTTP GET requests to /welcome are mapped to the **welcome()** method.
- @RequestParam helps to bind the value of the query string parameter name into the name parameter of the welcome() method.
- Spring Boot configures Spring dependencies based on classpath presence.



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Thank You