

You should bookmark this post because Spring Framework is a lot bigger and chances are that I will keep on adding more questions to this list and you don't want to miss them out.



Spring Interview Questions

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Spring Interview Questions and Answers

1 What is Spring Framework?

Spring is one of the most widely used Java EE framework. Spring framework core concepts are "Dependency Injection" and "Aspect Oriented Programming".

Spring framework can be used in normal java applications also to achieve loose coupling between different components by implementing dependency injection and we can perform cross cutting tasks such as logging and authentication using spring support for aspect oriented programming.

I like spring because it provides a lot of features and different modules for specific tasks such as Spring MVC and Spring JDBC. Since it's an open source framework with a lot of online resources and active community members, working with Spring framework is easy and fun at same time.

2. What are some of the important features and advantages of Spring Framework?

Spring Framework is built on top of two design concepts – Dependency Injection and Aspect Oriented Programming.

Some of the features of spring framework are:

- Lightweight and very little overhead of using framework for our development.
- Dependency Injection or Inversion of Control to write components that are independent of each other, spring container takes care of wiring them together to achieve our work.
- Spring IoC container manages Spring Bean life cycle and project specific configurations such as JNDI lookup.
- Spring MVC framework can be used to create web applications as well as restful web services capable of returning XML as well as JSON response.

• Support for transaction management, JDBC operations, File uploading, Exception Handling etc with very little configurations, either by using annotations or by spring bean configuration file.

Some of the advantages of using Spring Framework are:

- Reducing direct dependencies between different components of the application, usually Spring IoC container is responsible for initializing resources or beans and inject them as dependencies.
- Writing unit test cases are easy in Spring framework because our business logic doesn't have direct dependencies with actual resource implementation classes. We can easily write a test configuration and inject our mock beans for testing purposes.
- Reduces the amount of boiler-plate code, such as initializing objects, open/close resources. I like
 JdbcTemplate class a lot because it helps us in removing all the boiler-plate code that comes
 with JDBC programming.
- Spring framework is divided into several modules, it helps us in keeping our application lightweight. For example, if we don't need Spring transaction management features, we don't need to add that dependency in our project.
- Spring framework support most of the Java EE features and even much more. It's always on top
 of the new technologies, for example there is a Spring project for Android to help us write better
 code for native android applications. This makes spring framework a complete package and we
 don't need to look after different framework for different requirements.

3. What do you understand by Dependency Injection?

Dependency Injection design pattern allows us to remove the hard-coded dependencies and make our application loosely coupled, extendable and maintainable. We can implement dependency injection pattern to move the dependency resolution from compile-time to runtime.

Some of the benefits of using Dependency Injection are: Separation of Concerns, Boilerplate Code reduction, Configurable components and easy unit testing.

Read more at Dependency Injection Tutorial. We can also use Google Guice for Dependency Injection to automate the process of dependency injection. But in most of the cases we are looking for more than just dependency injection and that's why Spring is the top choice for this.

4 How do we implement DI in Spring Framework?

We can use Spring XML based as well as Annotation based configuration to implement DI in spring applications. For better understanding, please read Spring Dependency Injection example where you can learn both the ways with JUnit test case. The post also contains sample project zip file, that you can download and play around to learn more.

5. What are the benefits of using Spring Tool Suite?

We can install plugins into Eclipse to get all the features of Spring Tool Suite. However STS comes with Eclipse with some other important stuffs such as Maven support, Templates for creating different types of Spring projects and to server for better performance with Spring applications.

I like STS because it highlights the Spring components and if you are using AOP pointcuts and advices, then it clearly shows which methods will come under the specific pointcut. So rather than installing everything on our own, I prefer using STS when developing Spring based applications.

6. Name some of the important Spring Modules?

Some of the important Spring Framework modules are:

- **Spring Context** for dependency injection.
- **Spring AOP** for aspect oriented programming.
- **Spring DAO** for database operations using DAO pattern
- Spring JDBC for JDBC and DataSource support.
- Spring ORM for ORM tools support such as Hibernate
- **Spring Web Module** for creating web applications.
- Spring MVC Model-View-Controller implementation for creating web applications, web services etc.

7. What do you understand by Aspect Oriented Programming?

Enterprise applications have some common cross-cutting concerns that is applicable for different types of Objects and application modules, such as logging, transaction management, data validation, authentication etc. In Object Oriented Programming, modularity of application is achieved by Classes whereas in AOP application modularity is achieved by Aspects and they are configured to cut across different classes methods.

AOP takes out the direct dependency of cross-cutting tasks from classes that is not possible in normal object oriented programming. For example, we can have a separate class for logging but again the classes will have to call these methods for logging the data. Read more about Spring AOP support at Spring AOP Example.

8. What is Aspect, Advice, Pointcut, JointPoint and Advice Arguments in AOP?

Aspect: Aspect is a class that implements cross-cutting concerns, such as transaction management. Aspects can be a normal class configured and then configured in Spring Bean configuration file or we can use Spring AspectJ support to declare a class as Aspect using <code>@Aspect</code> annotation.

Advice: Advice is the action taken for a particular join point. In terms of programming, they are methods that gets executed when a specific join point with matching pointcut is reached in the

application. You can think of Advices as Spring interceptors or Servlet Filters.

Pointcut: Pointcut are regular expressions that is matched with join points to determine whether advice needs to be executed or not. Pointcut uses different kinds of expressions that are matched with the join points. Spring framework uses the AspectJ pointcut expression language for determining the join points where advice methods will be applied.

Join Point: A join point is the specific point in the application such as method execution, exception handling, changing object variable values etc. In Spring AOP a join points is always the execution of a method.

Advice Arguments: We can pass arguments in the advice methods. We can use args() expression in the pointcut to be applied to any method that matches the argument pattern. If we use this, then we need to use the same name in the advice method from where argument type is determined.

These concepts seems confusing at first, but if you go through Spring Aspect, Advice Example then you can easily relate to them.

9. What is the difference between Spring AOP and AspectJ AOP?

AspectJ is the industry-standard implementation for Aspect Oriented Programming whereas Spring implements AOP for some cases. Main differences between Spring AOP and AspectJ are:

- Spring AOP is simpler to use than AspectJ because we don't need to worry about the weaving process.
- Spring AOP supports AspectJ annotations, so if you are familiar with AspectJ then working with Spring AOP is easier.
- Spring AOP supports only proxy-based AOP, so it can be applied only to method execution join points. AspectJ support all kinds of pointcuts.
- One of the shortcoming of Spring AOP is that it can be applied only to the beans created through Spring Context.

10. What is Spring IoC Container?

Inversion of Control (IoC) is the mechanism to achieve loose-coupling between Objects dependencies. To achieve loose coupling and dynamic binding of the objects at runtime, the objects define their dependencies that are being injected by other assembler objects. Spring IoC container is the program that injects dependencies into an object and make it ready for our use.

Spring Framework IoC container classes are part of org.springframework.beans and org.springframework.context packages and provides us different ways to decouple the object dependencies.

Some of the useful ApplicationContext implementations that we use are;

- AnnotationConfigApplicationContext: For standalone java applications using annotations based configuration.
- ClassPathXmlApplicationContext: For standalone java applications using XML based configuration.
- FileSystemXmlApplicationContext: Similar to ClassPathXmlApplicationContext except that the xml configuration file can be loaded from anywhere in the file system.
- AnnotationConfigWebApplicationContext and XmlWebApplicationContext for web applications.

11 What is a Spring Bean?

Any normal java class that is initialized by Spring IoC container is called Spring Bean. We use Spring ApplicationContext to get the Spring Bean instance.

Spring IoC container manages the life cycle of Spring Bean, bean scopes and injecting any required dependencies in the bean.

12. What is the importance of Spring bean configuration file?

We use Spring Bean configuration file to define all the beans that will be initialized by Spring Context. When we create the instance of Spring ApplicationContext, it reads the spring bean xml file and initialize all of them. Once the context is initialized, we can use it to get different bean instances.

Apart from Spring Bean configuration, this file also contains spring MVC interceptors, view resolvers and other elements to support annotations based configurations.

13. What are different ways to configure a class as Spring Bean?

There are three different ways to configure Spring Bean.

1 **XML Configuration**: This is the most popular configuration and we can use bean element in context file to configure a Spring Bean. For example:

```
<bean name="myBean" class="com.journaldev.spring.beans.MyBean"></bean>
```

2. **Java Based Configuration**: If you are using only annotations, you can configure a Spring bean using <code>@Bean</code> annotation. This annotation is used with <code>@Configuration</code> classes to configure a spring bean. Sample configuration is:

```
@Configuration
@ComponentScan(value="com.journaldev.spring.main")
public class MyConfiguration {
     @Bean
     public MyService getService(){
```

```
return new MyService();
}
```

To get this bean from spring context, we need to use following code snippet:

3. **Annotation Based Configuration**: We can also use @Component, @Service, @Repository and @Controller annotations with classes to configure them to be as spring bean. For these, we would need to provide base package location to scan for these classes. For example:

```
<context:component-scan base-package="com.journaldev.spring" />
```

14 What are different scopes of Spring Bean?

There are five scopes defined for Spring Beans.

- 1. singleton: Only one instance of the bean will be created for each container. This is the default scope for the spring beans. While using this scope, make sure spring bean doesn't have shared instance variables otherwise it might lead to data inconsistency issues because it's not threadsafe.
- 2. **prototype**: A new instance will be created every time the bean is requested.
- 3. **request**: This is same as prototype scope, however it's meant to be used for web applications. A new instance of the bean will be created for each HTTP request.
- 4. session: A new bean will be created for each HTTP session by the container.
- 5. **global-session**: This is used to create global session beans for Portlet applications.

Spring Framework is extendable and we can create our own scopes too, however most of the times we are good with the scopes provided by the framework.

To set spring bean scopes we can use "scope" attribute in bean element or @Scope annotation for annotation based configurations.

15. What is Spring Bean life cycle?

Spring Beans are initialized by Spring Container and all the dependencies are also injected. When context is destroyed, it also destroys all the initialized beans. This works well in most of the cases but sometimes we want to initialize other resources or do some validation before making our beans ready to use. Spring framework provides support for post-initialization and pre-destroy methods in spring beans.

We can do this by two ways – by implementing InitializingBean and DisposableBean interfaces or using init-method and destroy-method attribute in spring bean configurations. For more details, please read Spring Bean Life Cycle Methods.

16. How to get ServletContext and ServletConfig object in a Spring Bean?

There are two ways to get Container specific objects in the spring bean.

- 1. Implementing Spring *Aware interfaces, for these ServletContextAware and ServletConfigAware interfaces, for complete example of these aware interfaces, please read Spring Aware Interfaces
- 2. Using <code>@Autowired</code> annotation with bean variable of type <code>ServletContext</code> and <code>ServletConfig</code>. They will work only in servlet container specific environment only though.

@Autowired
ServletContext servletContext;

17. What is Bean wiring and @Autowired annotation?

The process of injection spring bean dependencies while initializing it called Spring Bean Wiring.

Usually it's best practice to do the explicit wiring of all the bean dependencies, but spring framework also supports autowiring. We can use <code>@Autowired</code> annotation with fields or methods for **autowiring** byType. For this annotation to work, we also need to enable annotation based configuration in spring bean configuration file. This can be done by context:annotation-config element.

For more details about @Autowired annotation, please read Spring Autowire Example.

18. What are different types of Spring Bean autowiring?

There are four types of autowiring in Spring framework.

- 1. autowire byName
- 2. autowire byType
- 3. autowire by constructor
- 4. autowiring by @Autowired and @Qualifier annotations

Prior to Spring 3.1, **autowire by autodetect** was also supported that was similar to autowire by constructor or byType. For more details about these options, please read Spring Bean Autowiring.

19. Does Spring Bean provide thread safety?

The default scope of Spring bean is singleton, so there will be only one instance per context. That means that all the having a class level variable that any thread can update will lead to inconsistent data. Hence in default mode spring beans are not thread-safe.

However we can change spring bean scope to request, prototype or session to achieve thread-safety at the cost of performance. It's a design decision and based on the project requirements.

20. What is a Controller in Spring MVC?

Just like MVC design pattern, Controller is the class that takes care of all the client requests and send them to the configured resources to handle it. In Spring MVC,

org.springframework.web.servlet.DispatcherServlet is the front controller class that initializes the context based on the spring beans configurations.

A Controller class is responsible to handle different kind of client requests based on the request mappings. We can create a controller class by using <code>@Controller</code> annotation. Usually it's used with <code>@RequestMapping</code> annotation to define handler methods for specific URI mapping.

21. What's the difference between @Component, @Controller, @Repository & @Service annotations in Spring?

- **@Component** is used to indicate that a class is a component. These classes are used for auto detection and configured as bean, when annotation based configurations are used.
- **@Controller** is a specific type of component, used in MVC applications and mostly used with RequestMapping annotation.

- **@Repository** annotation is used to indicate that a component is used as repository and a mechanism to store/retrieve/search data. We can apply this annotation with DAO pattern implementation classes.
- **Service** is used to indicate that a class is a Service. Usually the business facade classes that provide some services are annotated with this.

We can use any of the above annotations for a class for auto-detection but different types are provided so that you can easily distinguish the purpose of the annotated classes.

22. What is DispatcherServlet and ContextLoaderListener?

DispatcherServlet is the front controller in the Spring MVC application and it loads the spring bean configuration file and initialize all the beans that are configured. If annotations are enabled, it also scans the packages and configure any bean annotated with <code>@Component</code>, <code>@Controller</code>, <code>@Repository</code> or <code>@Service</code> annotations.

ContextLoaderListener is the listener to start up and shut down Spring's root
WebApplicationContext. It's important functions are to tie up the lifecycle of ApplicationContext to

the lifecycle of the ServletContext and to automate the creation of ApplicationContext. We can use it to define shared beans that can be used across different spring contexts.

23 What is ViewResolver in Spring?

ViewResolver implementations are used to resolve the view pages by name. Usually we configure it in the spring bean configuration file. For example:

InternalResourceViewResolver is one of the implementation of ViewResolver interface and we are providing the view pages directory and suffix location through the bean properties. So if a controller handler method returns "home", view resolver will use view page located at /WEB-INF/views/home.jsp.

24. What is a MultipartResolver and when its used?

MultipartResolver interface is used for uploading files – CommonsMultipartResolver and StandardServletMultipartResolver are two implementations provided by spring framework for file uploading. By default there are no multipart resolvers configured but to use them for uploading files, all we need to define a bean named "multipartResolver" with type as MultipartResolver in spring bean configurations.

Once configured, any multipart request will be resolved by the configured MultipartResolver and pass on a wrapped HttpServletRequest. Then it's used in the controller class to get the file and process it. For a complete example, please read Spring MVC File Upload Example.

25. How to handle exceptions in Spring MVC Framework?

Spring MVC Framework provides following ways to help us achieving robust exception handling.

- 1. **Controller Based** We can define exception handler methods in our controller classes. All we need is to annotate these methods with @ExceptionHandler annotation.
- 2. **Global Exception Handler** Exception Handling is a cross-cutting concern and Spring provides @ControllerAdvice annotation that we can use with any class to define our global exception handler.
- 3. HandlerExceptionResolver implementation For generic exceptions, most of the times we serve static pages. Spring Framework provides HandlerExceptionResolver interface that we can implement to create global exception handler. The reason behind this additional way to

define global exception handler is that Spring framework also provides default implementation classes that we can define in our spring bean configuration file to get spring framework exception handling benefits.

For a complete example, please read Spring Exception Handling Example.

26. How to create ApplicationContext in a Java Program?

There are following ways to create spring context in a standalone java program.

- 1. AnnotationConfigApplicationContext: If we are using Spring in standalone java applications and using annotations for Configuration, then we can use this to initialize the container and get the bean objects.
- 2. ClassPathXmlApplicationContext: If we have spring bean configuration xml file in standalone application, then we can use this class to load the file and get the container object.
- 3. **FileSystemXmlApplicationContext**: This is similar to ClassPathXmlApplicationContext except that the xml configuration file can be loaded from anywhere in the file system.

27. Can we have multiple Spring configuration files?

For Spring MVC applications, we can define multiple spring context configuration files through contextConfigLocation. This location string can consist of multiple locations separated by any number of commas and spaces. For example;

We can also define multiple root level spring configurations and load it through context-param. For example;

Another option is to use import element in the context configuration file to import other configurations, for example:

```
<beans:import resource="spring-jdbc.xml"/>
```

28 What is ContextLoaderListener?

ContextLoaderListener is the listener class used to load root context and define spring bean configurations that will be visible to all other contexts. It's configured in web.xml file as:

29. What are the minimum configurations needed to create Spring MVC application?

For creating a simple Spring MVC application, we would need to do following tasks.

- Add spring-context and spring-webmvc dependencies in the project.
- Configure DispatcherServlet in the web.xml file to handle requests through spring container.
- Spring bean configuration file to define beans, if using annotations then it has to be configured here. Also we need to configure view resolver for view pages.
- Controller class with request mappings defined to handle the client requests.

Above steps should be enough to create a simple Spring MVC Hello World application.

30. How would you relate Spring MVC Framework to MVC architecture?

As the name suggests Spring MVC is built on top of **Model-View-Controller** architecture. **DispatcherServlet** is the Front Controller in the Spring MVC application that takes care of all the incoming requests and delegate it to different controller handler methods.

Model can be any Java Bean in the Spring Framework, just like any other MVC framework Spring provides automatic binding of form data to java beans. We can set model beans as attributes to be used in the view pages.

View Pages can be JSP, static HTMLs etc. and view resolvers are responsible for finding the correct view page. Once the view page is identified, control is given back to the DispatcherServlet controller. DispatcherServlet is responsible for rendering the view and returning the final response to the client.

31 How to achieve localization in Spring MVC applications?

Spring provides excellent support for localization or i18n through resource bundles. Basis steps needed to make our application localized are:

- Creating message resource bundles for different locales, such as messages_en.properties, messages_fr.properties etc.
- Defining messageSource bean in the spring bean configuration file of type
 ResourceBundleMessageSource or ReloadableResourceBundleMessageSource.
- 3. For change of locale support, define localeResolver bean of type CookieLocaleResolver and configure LocaleChangeInterceptor interceptor. Example configuration can be like below:

```
<beans:bean id="messageSource"</pre>
class="org.springframework.context.support.ReloadableResourceBundleMessageSource
<beans:property name="basename" value="classpath:messages" />
<beans:property name="defaultEncoding" value="UTF-8" />
</beans:bean>
<beans:bean id="localeResolver"</pre>
    class="org.springframework.web.servlet.i18n.CookieLocaleResolver">
    <beans:property name="defaultLocale" value="en" />
    <beans:property name="cookieName" value="myAppLocaleCookie">
</beans:property>
    <beans:property name="cookieMaxAge" value="3600"></beans:property>
</beans:bean>
<interceptors>
    <beans:bean</pre>
class="org.springframework.web.servlet.i18n.LocaleChangeInterceptor">
        <beans:property name="paramName" value="locale" />
    </beans:bean>
</interceptors>
```

4. Use **spring:message** element in the view pages with key names, DispatcherServlet picks the corresponding value and renders the page in corresponding locale and return as response.

For a complete example, please read Spring Localization Example.

32 How can we use Spring to create Restful Web Service returning JSON response?

We can use Spring Framework to create Restful web services that returns JSON data. Spring provides integration with Jackson JSON API that we can use to send JSON response in restful web service.

We would need to do following steps to configure our Spring MVC application to send JSON response:

1. Adding Jackson JSON dependencies, if you are using Maven it can be done with following code:

2. Configure RequestMappingHandlerAdapter bean in the spring bean configuration file and set the messageConverters property to MappingJackson2HttpMessageConverter bean. Sample configuration will be:

3. In the controller handler methods, return the Object as response using @ResponseBody annotation. Sample code:

```
@RequestMapping(value = EmpRestURIConstants.GET_EMP, method =
RequestMethod.GET)
public @ResponseBody Employee getEmployee(@PathVariable("id") int empId) {
    logger.info("Start getEmployee. ID="+empId);
    return empData.get(empId);
}
```

4. You can invoke the rest service through any API, but if you want to use Spring then we can easily do it using RestTemplate class.

For a complete example, please read Spring Restful Webservice Example.

33. What are some of the important Spring annotations you have used?

Some of the Spring annotations that I have used in my project are:

- @Controller for controller classes in Spring MVC project.
- @RequestMapping for configuring URI mapping in controller handler methods. This is a very important annotation, so you should go through Spring MVC RequestMapping Annotation Examples
- @ResponseBody for sending Object as response, usually for sending XML or JSON data as response.
- @PathVariable for mapping dynamic values from the URI to handler method arguments.
- **@Autowired** for autowiring dependencies in spring beans.
- @Qualifier with @Autowired annotation to avoid confusion when multiple instances of bean type is present.
- @Service for service classes.
- @Scope for configuring scope of the spring bean.
- @Configuration, @ComponentScan and @Bean for java based configurations.
- AspectJ annotations for configuring aspects and advices, @Aspect, @Before, @After, @Around,
 aPointcut etc.

34 Can we send an Object as the response of Controller handler method?

Yes we can, using **@ResponseBody** annotation. This is how we send JSON or XML based response in restful web services.

35. How to upload file in Spring MVC Application?

Spring provides built-in support for uploading files through **MultipartResolver** interface implementations. It's very easy to use and requires only configuration changes to get it working. Obviously we would need to write controller handler method to handle the incoming file and process it. For a complete example, please refer Spring File Upload Example.

36. How to validate form data in Spring Web MVC Framework?

Spring supports JSR-303 annotation based validations as well as provide Validator interface that we can implement to create our own custom validator. For using JSR-303 based validation, we need to annotate bean variables with the required validations.

For custom validator implementation, we need to configure it in the controller class. For a complete example, please read Spring MVC Form Validation Example.

37. What is Spring MVC Interceptor and how to use it?

Spring MVC Interceptors are like Servlet Filters and allow us to intercept client request and process it. We can intercept client request at three places – **preHandle**, **postHandle** and **afterCompletion**.

We can create spring interceptor by implementing HandlerInterceptor interface or by extending abstract class **HandlerInterceptorAdapter**.

We need to configure interceptors in the spring bean configuration file. We can define an interceptor to intercept all the client requests or we can configure it for specific URI mapping too. For a detailed example, please refer Spring MVC Interceptor Example.

38. What is Spring JdbcTemplate class and how to use it?

Spring Framework provides excellent integration with JDBC API and provides JdbcTemplate utility class that we can use to avoid bolier-plate code from our database operations logic such as Opening/Closing Connection, ResultSet, PreparedStatement etc.

For JdbcTemplate example, please refer Spring JDBC Example.

39. How to use Tomcat JNDI DataSource in Spring Web Application?

For using servlet container configured JNDI DataSource, we need to configure it in the spring bean configuration file and then inject it to spring beans as dependencies. Then we can use it with <code>JdbcTemplate</code> to perform database operations.

Sample configuration would be:

For complete example, please refer Spring Tomcat JNDI Example.

40. How would you achieve Transaction Management in Spring?

Spring framework provides transaction management support through Declarative Transaction Management as well as programmatic transaction management. Declarative transaction management is most widely used because it's easy to use and works in most of the cases.

We use annotate a method with @Transactional annotation for Declarative transaction management. We need to configure transaction manager for the DataSource in the spring bean configuration file.

41 What is Spring DAO?

Spring DAO support is provided to work with data access technologies like JDBC, Hibernate in a consistent and easy way. For example we have JdbcDaoSupport, HibernateDaoSupport, JdoDaoSupport and JpaDaoSupport for respective technologies.

Spring DAO also provides consistency in exception hierarchy and we don't need to catch specific exceptions.

42. How to integrate Spring and Hibernate Frameworks?

We can use Spring ORM module to integrate Spring and Hibernate frameworks, if you are using Hibernate 3+ where SessionFactory provides current session, then you should avoid using HibernateTemplate or HibernateDaoSupport classes and better to use DAO pattern with dependency injection for the integration.

Also Spring ORM provides support for using Spring declarative transaction management, so you should utilize that rather than going for hibernate boiler-plate code for transaction management.

For better understanding you should go through following tutorials:

- Spring Hibernate Integration Example
- Spring MVC Hibernate Integration Example

43. What is Spring Security?

Spring security framework focuses on providing both authentication and authorization in java applications. It also takes care of most of the common security vulnerabilities such as CSRF attack.

It's very beneficial and easy to use Spring security in web applications, through the use of annotations such as <code>@EnableWebSecurity</code>. You should go through following posts to learn how to use Spring Security framework.

- Spring Security in Servlet Web Application
- Spring MVC and Spring Security Integration Example

44. How to inject a java.util.Properties into a Spring Bean?

We need to define propertyConfigurer bean that will load the properties from the given property file. Then we can use Spring EL support to inject properties into other bean dependencies. For example;

If you are using annotation to configure the spring bean, then you can inject property like below.

```
@Value("${maxReadResults}")
private int maxReadResults;
```

45. Name some of the design patterns used in Spring Framework?

Spring Framework is using a lot of design patterns, some of the common ones are:

- 1. Singleton Pattern: Creating beans with default scope.
- 2. Factory Pattern: Bean Factory classes
- 3. Prototype Pattern: Bean scopes
- 4. Adapter Pattern: Spring Web and Spring MVC
- 5. Proxy Pattern: Spring Aspect Oriented Programming support
- 6. Template Method Pattern: JdbcTemplate, HibernateTemplate etc
- 7. Front Controller: Spring MVC DispatcherServlet
- 8. Data Access Object: Spring DAO support
- 9. Dependency Injection and Aspect Oriented Programming

46. What are some of the best practices for Spring Framework?

Some of the best practices for Spring Framework are:

- 1 Avoid version numbers in schema reference, to make sure we have the latest configs.
- 2. Divide spring bean configurations based on their concerns such as spring-jdbc.xml, spring-security.xml.
- 3. For spring beans that are used in multiple contexts in Spring MVC, create them in the root context and initialize with listener.
- 4. Configure bean dependencies as much as possible, try to avoid autowiring as much as possible.

- 5. For application level properties, best approach is to create a property file and read it in the spring bean configuration file.
- 6. For smaller applications, annotations are useful but for larger applications annotations can become a pain. If we have all the configuration in xml files, maintaining it will be easier.
- 7. Use correct annotations for components for understanding the purpose easily. For services use @Service and for DAO beans use @Repository.
- 8. Spring framework has a lot of modules, use what you need. Remove all the extra dependencies that gets usually added when you create projects through Spring Tool Suite templates.
- g. If you are using Aspects, make sure to keep the join pint as narrow as possible to avoid advice on unwanted methods. Consider custom annotations that are easier to use and avoid any issues.
- 10. Use dependency injection when there is actual benefit, just for the sake of loose-coupling don't use it because it's harder to maintain.

| That's all for Spring Framework interview questions. I hope these questions will help you in coming Java EE |
|---|
| interview. I will keep on adding more questions to the list as soon as I found them. If you know some more |
| questions that should be part of the list, make sure to add a comment for it and I will include it. |

FILED UNDER: INTERVIEW QUESTIONS, SPRING

About Pankaj

If you have come this far, it means that you liked what you are reading. Why not reach little more and connect with me directly on **Google Plus**, **Facebook** or **Twitter**. I would love to hear your thoughts and opinions on my articles directly.

Recently I started creating video tutorials too, so do check out my videos on Youtube.

« Spring MVC Interceptor HandlerInterceptorAdapter, HandlerInterceptor Example Spring Security Example Tutorial »

Comments

Yogesh Katkar says

APRIL 3, 2018 AT 10:07 PM good tutorial to learn Reply

Sandeep says

JANUARY 12, 2018 AT 10:55 PM
Thanks a lot , Its realy helpful
Reply

Gundamaiah says

NOVEMBER 15, 2017 AT 2:25 AM

In question no.44, for property injection using annotations we need to use @PropertySource also to read the properties.

Reply

Gundamaiah says

NOVEMBER 15, 2017 AT 2:26 AM

@PropertySource to load the properties.

Reply

Kumudam says

AUGUST 27, 2017 AT 10:51 AM

Thanks a lot for sharing wonderful post

Reply

gauri says

MAY 26, 2017 AT 9:44 PM

hi i purchased spring+hibernate course from udemy in 15 doller and it is really awsm for fresher as well as experienced person.

Reply

Arul says

AUGUST 21, 2017 AT 12:38 AM

Hi dude.

Could you share that Spring and hibernate notes.

Reply

Abhi says

DECEMBER 3, 2017 AT 8:54 AM

You can get that from Udemy. You cant share 100's of videos. It is just 10 -15 dollars.

Reply

Manisha says

MAY 9, 2018 AT 12:17 PM

Could you please send me the name/link of the tutorial available on Udemy?

Thanks

Reply

Ron says

DECEMBER 15, 2017 AT 3:55 AM

10\$ only on Udemy

Reply

Hemant Ghaydar says

MAY 10, 2017 AT 9:07 AM

Configure bean dependencies as much as possible, try to avoid autowiring as much as possible. Why should avoid auto wiring please elaborate more on this.

Reply

Samba siva says

JANUARY 24, 2017 AT 11:51 PM

Nice startup place to start preparing for interviews.

Reply

Suraj says

SEPTEMBER 9, 2016 AT 5:53 AM

Nice work...

Reply

anreddy says

AUGUST 25, 2016 AT 11:44 AM

Nice blog.. Thanks alot

Reply

Alex says

JULY 22, 2016 AT 12:27 PM

Wow, excellent selection of interview questions. I would like to add to the question "What's the difference between @Component, @Controller, @Repository & @Service annotations in Spring?" by say that the Repository annotation confers special behavior to all beans it marks. The

PersistenceExceptionTranslationPostProcessor automatically applies persistence exception translation to any bean marked with @Repository. I have post more about this here:

https://readlearncode.com/2016/02/13/insights-from-stackoverflow-most-voted-for-spring-4-questions/#1

Reply

Annalakshmi says

JUNE 13, 2016 AT 8:23 AM

Hi, Do you have any spring-jdbc interview questions and examples latest (4.* version)?

Reply

Annalakshmi says

JUNE 9, 2016 AT 12:17 PM

Thanks Pankaj, Could you please add Spring and (other) REST API integration examples also.

Reply

Pankaj says

JUNE 9, 2016 AT 12:34 PM

Let me know which REST APIs integration you are looking for?

Reply

Annalakshmi says

JUNE 13, 2016 AT 8:24 AM

Jersey or Apache CXF with Spring.

Reply

Champ says

APRIL 6, 2016 AT 10:55 AM

very nice collection of spring quetions.

Reply

Rajesh Ingole says

FEBRUARY 15, 2016 AT 1:28 AM

In the interview given on 14th Feb 2016 I came across below new question:

- 1. What is the difference between beanfactory and applicationcontext in spring
- 2. Write a code for implementing inheritance in the Spring

Reply

Lokesh says

MARCH 16, 2016 AT 3:06 AM

- Its not a difference but you can say a relationship between them is, BeanFactory + Decorator Design Pattern = ApplicationContext, and both are the java interfaces and their relation is ApplicationContext extends BeanFactory.
- 2. implementing inheritance in spring is inheriting the common properties of beans using, this will inherit all the proprieties of the parent bean into the new bean.

Reply

anonoumus says

FEBRUARY 4, 2016 AT 1:56 AM

Good explanation

Reply

Ganesh says

JANUARY 26, 2016 AT 11:23 PM

Thanks for the aritcle.

I had some questions.

1.In which case @Autowired is not preferable?

2.In which scenario, we have to prefer Spring-JDBC than Spring-Hibernate?

3. What happens if we autowire all the objects?

Please help me on this questions

Reply

upendra says

NOVEMBER 6, 2016 AT 12:26 PM

Hi Ganesh

@Autowired doesnot allow the programmer to enable the restrictio on specific property. it allow the
programmer to enable restriction on simple, object, all

Reply

Prestigio says

DECEMBER 13, 2015 AT 9:18 AM

Thanks Pankaj for all the questions and answers, it's so easy and benifits.

Reply

Pankaj says

DECEMBER 13, 2015 AT 9:26 AM

Thanks for the appreciation, make sure to subscribe to newsletter where I share exclusive tips and free eBooks.

Reply

bala says

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015 AT 7:33 AM

Hello sir i have been following your site since 6 months awesome site sir.and also interview questions collections also great.thank u very much sir.

Reply

Abhideep Bakshi says

JUNE 4, 2015 AT 4:25 AM

"singleton: Only one instance of the bean will be created for each container. This is the default scope for the spring beans. While using this scope, make sure spring bean doesn't have shared instance variables otherwise it might lead to data inconsistency issues because it's not thread-safe."

But If you ceate a instance of same class twice in applicationcontext.xml with diff. id and apply session scope that dosen't mean that only one instance of that class will be created.

The singleton scope mean only one instance of the bean will create for every request.

Nice blogs on spring. Thanks a lot

Reply

Abhideep Bakshi says

JUNE 4, 2015 AT 4:27 AM

like :- bean id="abc" class="ABC" scope="singleton" \bean bean id="abc1" class="ABC" scope="singleton" \bean

it works in Spring 3.0.5

Reply

Jai says

MARCH 24, 2015 AT 12:21 PM

I have been involved in Spring development from last 5 years. But when it comes to interview questions, it becomes difficult to arrange your words and answer them in the best way. Thanks a lot for all the efforts that you take to write your knowledge down.

Reply

prasanna says

MARCH 8, 2015 AT 1:28 PM

Answers for all questions are not visible in the page. Please fix the problem and let us know.

Reply

Prakash says

JANUARY 22, 2015 AT 4:21 AM

It is very easy to understand and prepare for interview

Reply

Sai says

JANUARY 16, 2015 AT 5:00 AM

Questions after 13 is are not visible on this page. this seems to be the issue with other topics as well.

Please fix this that would be really helpful.

Reply

Sadhna says

DECEMBER 15, 2014 AT 10:10 AM

Nice blogs on spring . Thanks a lot.

Reply

Jaya says

DECEMBER 1, 2014 AT 12:50 PM

Your collection is awesome and very helpful and updated to latest technology.

Thanks for helping us!!!

Reply

YOGESH says

NOVEMBER 5, 2014 AT 4:07 AM

where is other questions answer. all questions are not answered

Reply

Vasant Talpada says

OCTOBER 15, 2014 AT 1:13 AM

Hi Pankaj,

I can't see questions-answers after 13 on this page. However I can see all in view-source of this page.

I suspect some javascript or css hiding rest of the . Please check.

Reply

Vasant Talpada says

OCTOBER 15, 2014 AT 2:05 AM

Hi Pankai.

Sorry Pankaj, but I didn't see your request for facebook or G+ like after 13th onwards.

I have +1 you on G+ and I can see all answers now. Thanks.

Reply

Purvesh says

OCTOBER 10, 2014 AT 12:44 PM

Supurb work

Reply

hemant chauhan says

OCTOBER 6, 2014 AT 12:51 AM

Hi JournalDev,

Please provide answer of all questions

Reply

Pravindrasingh says

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014 AT 1:47 PM

Would you post about the difference between Abstract factory and Spring DI?

Reply

ASHOK says

SEPTEMBER 23, 2014 AT 5:15 AM

Thank you very much Pankaj for the questions and answers, most of them are accurate and clear.

Reply

Ravi says

AUGUST 31, 2014 AT 11:08 PM

Hi Pankaj, I have a question

Can Spring Controller instance's method return the below:

1) null

2) SpEL

3) com.u2ware.spring field.view.jstl.Jstl ViewResolver

Reply

rakesh says

AUGUST 14, 2014 AT 8:28 PM

thanks its very helpful add more questions and answers

when to use constructor injection and when to use setter injection with differnt scenarioes?

Reply

sheetal says

AUGUST 7, 2014 AT 4:09 AM

Can you please explain the difference between IOC and DI?

Reply

Amol Waghule says

AUGUST 28, 2014 AT 10:31 AM

sheetal the ioc it means inverce of control it means mange the dependancey in beetween multiple calssses

supoes compny is a class which has multilple classes like dept,eployee,custom so here mange the the depency in btween them, another one thing is that spring is ioc frame work its taking care of creation of object

Reply

xyz says

NOVEMBER 19, 2014 AT 11:45 PM

" RIP English "

Reply

Jack says

JULY 19, 2014 AT 6:42 PM

Well done! would you please consider questions about different type of testings as well such as performance testing and methods to pass such testings.

Reply

Sachin Kakkar says

JULY 1, 2014 AT 12:43 AM

Hi Pankaj,

I have couple of questions:

- 1. how many mappings we are having in spring MVC (e.g. requestMapping, resourceMapping etc.) and what is their use?
- 2. Can we have empty requestMapping declaration

```
@requestMapping()
public void defaultMethod(){
System.out.println("I am Sachin");
}
```

- 3. can we call one method that having requestMapping annotation from another method that also having some requestMapping annotation?
- 4. how can we create default method in spring MVC that always execute?

Reply

Pankaj says

JULY 1, 2014 AT 6:20 AM

- 1. Important Mapping classes are @RequestMapping, SimpleUrlHandlerMapping and BeanNameUrlHandlerMapping. I am not aware of anything like ResourceMapping.
- 2. Yes, we can have empty RequestMapping annotated method, it's to create a default method. For example, if your controller class is annotated with RequestMapping with value as "/home", then this default method will work for /home URI request. Similarly if we put value as "*", the method will become fallback method when no match found. For more read

https://www.journaldev.com/3358/spring-mvc-requestmapping-annotation-example-with-controller-methods-headers-params-requestparam-pathvariable

3. Yes, why not. They are methods and as long as they are visible, you can call them. However it will be a simple method invocation and nothing related to Spring.

4. If you want some method to be invoked for all the requests, you need to create interceptor, like servlet filters.

Reply

ashok says

AUGUST 26, 2014 AT 4:02 AM

types of ioc containers

Reply

sumit says

JUNE 26, 2014 AT 3:31 AM

Good work !!!

Reply

akshay says

JUNE 18, 2014 AT 5:49 AM

Your site is really helpful for java related resources. Thanks a lot. Keep up the good work.

Reply

eshwar says

JUNE 15, 2014 AT 6:04 PM

Thanks Pankaj for the questions and answers, most of them are prescise and clear.

Reply

Vara Prasad says

JUNE 5, 2014 AT 11:46 PM

Simply and clear examples and explavnations, thank you

Reply

Pranay says

APRIL 27, 2014 AT 11:04 AM

| Thanks Reply | | | | | | |
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- > Spring @Autowired
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- Spring ActiveMQ Tutorial
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