



# Beginning Ruby on Rails

Session Three

# All About Views

- ERB
- Helpers
- Layouts
- Partials
- Forms



The background of the image is a solid black field. On the left side, there is a dense cluster of small, out-of-focus light points. These points are primarily red, with a significant portion being bright yellow or white, creating a bokeh effect. The lights appear to be emanating from a central point on the left, spreading out towards the right. The overall impression is one of a dynamic, energetic light display, possibly representing a network or a data visualization.

# ERB

Embedded Ruby

# ERB Templates

- ERB is the default type of view template
  - Another popular choice is Haml
- ERB lets you mix Ruby code with HTML
  - Similar to ASP, JSP, or PHP

# Output

- Edit `app/views/posts/show.html.erb`
- Output text, convert HTML:  
`<%= @post.title %>`
- Output raw text, can be dangerous:  
`<%= raw @post.body %>`

# Code

- Edit app/views/posts/index.html.erb
- Looping over an array of posts:

```
<% @posts.each do |post| %>
```

```
...
```

```
<% end %>
```

# Comments

- Notes to yourself or other programmers
- Will not appear in HTML source:

`<%# This code is crazy %>`



# Helpers

Simplify views and remove duplication



# URL Helpers

- Create links with `link_to`:

`link_to 'Show', post`

`link_to 'Edit', edit_post_path(post)`

`link_to 'Destroy', post, :confirm =>  
'Are you sure?', :method => :delete`

# Number Helpers

- Handy methods for displaying numbers:

`number_to_currency`

`number_to_human`

`number_to_percentage`

`number_with_precision`

# Your Own Helpers

- Edit app/helpers/application\_helper.rb

```
module Application Helper
```

```
  def friendly_date(d)
```

```
    d.strftime("%B %e, %Y")
```

```
  end
```

```
end
```



A long pier extends from a sandy beach into the ocean at dusk. The sky is a deep blue, and the water reflects the warm orange and yellow light of the setting sun. The pier is illuminated by several small lights, and its structure is visible through the water. On the beach in the foreground, a series of footprints leads towards the water. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

# Layouts

Base HTML for the web site

# Application Layout

- Edit `app/view/layouts/application.html.erb`
- Contains the basic HTML for a page
- Links to stylesheets
- Includes Javascript

# Asset Tags

- Assets are in the public directory
    - Error pages, images, css, javascript
- stylesheet\_link\_tag
- javascript\_include\_tag



# yield

- In a layout, the `yield` statement identifies where content from the view should be inserted.
- It is possible to have more than one `yield` per layout:
  - For example, `<%= yield :head %>` is often used in the page header.

# content\_for

- The content\_for statement denotes content for a named yield block:

```
<% content_for(:head) do %>
```

```
...
```

```
<% end %>
```



The background of the slide is a photograph of a blue, textured wall. On the left side, there are white pipes with some rust at the joints. A yellow gas meter is visible at the bottom left, partially obscured by a yellow vertical bar.

# Partials

Share code between pages



# Partials

- Repeated parts of pages are commonly separated out into partials.
- Partials are view templates that begin with an underscore.
- For example, `_form.html.erb`  
`<%= render 'form' %>`

# Collections

- Can eliminate loops in view templates.
- The partial is inserted for each member.

```
<%= render :partial => 'post',  
          :collection => @posts %>
```

or simply:

```
<%= render @posts %>
```

# Showing Comments

- Let's add a partial to display the comments collection.





# Forms

Get input from users



# form\_for

- The `form_for` block is used to create a form bound to a model.
- Within this block, you have access to methods to build controls on the form.
- For example, `f.text_field :title` tells Rails to create a text input, and connect it to the `title` attribute.

# Form Helpers

- label
- text\_field
- text\_area
- submit

# form\_tag

- The form\_tag block is used to create a form not bound to a model.
- All form helpers used with form\_tag include \_tag at the end
  - For example, label\_tag and text\_field\_tag