Spring Framework

Provides core support for dependency injection, transaction management, web apps, data access, messaging and more.

* The Spring Framework provides a comprehensive programming and configuration model for modern Java-based enterprise applications – on any kind of deployment platform.
* A key element of Spring is infrastructural support at the application level: Spring focuses on the "plumbing" of enterprise applications so that teams can focus on application-level business logic, without unnecessary ties to specific deployment environments.

Features:

1. **Core Technologies** **–** dependency injection, events, resources, i18n, validation, data binding,

type Conversion, SpEL, AOP.

1. **Testing –** mock objects, TestContext Framework, Spring MVC Test, WebTestClient.
2. **Data Access** – transactions, DAO Support, JDBC, ORM, Marshalling XML
3. **Spring MVC** and **Spring WebFlux** web frameworks.
4. **Integration –** remoting, JMS, JCA, JMX, email, tasks, scheduling, cache.
5. **Languages –** Kotlin, Groovy, dynamic languages.

**Core Technologies**

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* All the technologies are absolutely integral to the Spring Framework.
* Inversion of Control container, Aspect Oriented Programming (AOP).

The IOC Container

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* Inversion Of Control (IOC) principle also known as Dependency Injection (DI).
* It is a process whereby objects define their dependencies (that is, the other objects they work with) only through constructor arguments, arguments to a factory method, or properties that are set on the object instance after it is constructed or returned from a factory method.
* The container then injects those dependencies when it creates the bean. This process is fundamentally the inverse (hence the name, Inversion of Control) of the bean itself controlling the instantiation or location of its dependencies by using direct construction of classes or a mechanism such as the Service Locator pattern.
* The org.springframework.beans and org.springframework.context packages are the basis for Spring Framework’s IoC container.
* The [BeanFactory](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/5.2.1.RELEASE/javadoc-api/org/springframework/beans/factory/BeanFactory.html) interface provides an advanced configuration mechanism capable of managing any type of object.
* [ApplicationContext](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/5.2.1.RELEASE/javadoc-api/org/springframework/context/ApplicationContext.html) is a sub-interface of BeanFactory. It adds:
* Easier integration with Spring’s AOP features
* Message resource handling (for use in internationalization)
* Event publication
* Application-layer specific contexts such as the WebApplicationContext for use in web applications.
* In short, the BeanFactory provides the configuration framework and basic functionality, and the ApplicationContext adds more enterprise-specific functionality.
* In Spring, the objects that form the backbone of your application and that are managed by the Spring IoC container are called beans. A bean is an object that is instantiated, assembled, and otherwise managed by a Spring IoC container.
* The org.springframework.context.ApplicationContext interface represents the **Spring IoC container** and is responsible for instantiating, configuring, and assembling the beans.
* The container gets its instructions on what objects to instantiate, configure, and assemble by reading **configuration metadata**.
* The configuration metadata is represented in XML, Java annotations, or Java code. It lets you express the objects that compose your application and the rich interdependencies between those objects.
* Several implementations of the ApplicationContext interface are supplied with Spring.
* In stand-alone applications, it is common to create an instance of [ClassPathXmlApplicationContext](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/5.2.1.RELEASE/javadoc-api/org/springframework/context/support/ClassPathXmlApplicationContext.html) or [FileSystemXmlApplicationContext](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/5.2.1.RELEASE/javadoc-api/org/springframework/context/support/FileSystemXmlApplicationContext.html).
* The Spring IoC container consumes a form of configuration metadata.
* This configuration metadata represents how you, as an application developer, tell the Spring container to instantiate, configure, and assemble the objects in your application.
* Configuration metadata can be in the form of XML, Annotation-Based or Java-Based.
* Typically, you define service layer objects, data access objects (DAOs), presentation objects such as Struts Action instances, infrastructure objects such as Hibernate SessionFactories, JMS Queues, and so forth. Typically, one does not configure fine-grained domain objects in the container, because it is usually the responsibility of DAOs and business logic to create and load domain objects.
* The location path or paths supplied to an ApplicationContext constructor are resource strings that let the container load configuration metadata from a variety of external resources, such as the local file system, the Java CLASSPATH, and so on.
* The ApplicationContext is the interface for an advanced factory capable of maintaining a registry of different beans and their dependencies.
* By using the method T getBean(String name, Class<T> requiredType), you can retrieve instances of your beans.
* your application code should have no calls to the getBean() method at all and thus have no dependency on Spring APIs at all.
* Spring’s integration with web frameworks provides dependency injection for various web framework components such as controllers and JSF-managed beans, letting you declare a dependency on a specific bean through metadata (such as an autowiring annotation).
* A Spring IoC container manages one or more beans. These beans are created with the configuration metadata that you supply to the container (for example, in the form of XML <bean/> definitions).
* Within the container itself, these bean definitions are represented as BeanDefinition objects, which contain (among other information) the following metadata:
* A package-qualified classname
* Bean behavioral configuration elements (scope, lifecycle, callback)
* References to other beans (collaborators or dependencies)
* Other configuration settings

This metadata translates to a set of properties that make up each bean definition. These are :

Class, Name, Scope, Constructor arguments, Properties, Autowiring mode, Lazy Initialization mode, Initialization method, Destruction method.

* In addition to bean definitions that contain information on how to create a specific bean, the ApplicationContext implementations also permit the registration of existing objects that are created outside the container (by users). This is done by accessing the ApplicationContext’s BeanFactory through the getBeanFactory() method, which returns the BeanFactory DefaultListableBeanFactory implementation. DefaultListableBeanFactory supports this registration through the registerSingleton(..) and registerBeanDefinition(..) methods. However, typical applications work solely with beans defined through regular bean definition metadata.
* Bean metadata and manually supplied singleton instances need to be registered as early as possible, in order for the container to properly reason about them during autowiring and other introspection steps.
* The registration of new beans at runtime (concurrently with live access to the factory) is not officially supported and may lead to concurrent access exceptions, inconsistent state in the bean container, or both.
* Every bean has one or more identifiers. These identifiers must be unique within the container that hosts the bean.
* In XML-based configuration metadata, you use the id attribute, the name attribute, or both to specify the bean identifiers.
* You are not required to supply a name or an id for a bean. If you do not supply a name or id explicitly, the container generates a unique name for that bean.
* In a bean definition itself, you can supply more than one name for the bean, by using a combination of up to one name specified by the id attribute and any number of other names in the name attribute.
* A bean definition is essentially a recipe for creating one or more objects. The container looks at the recipe for a named bean when asked and uses the configuration metadata encapsulated by that bean definition to create (or acquire) an actual object.
* If you want to configure a bean definition for a static nested class, you have to use the binary name of the nested class.
* For example, if you have a class called SomeThing in the com.example package, and this SomeThing class has a static nested class called OtherThing, the value of the class attribute on a bean definition would be com.example.SomeThing$OtherThing.
* **Dependency injection (DI)** is a process whereby objects define their dependencies (that is, the other objects with which they work) only through constructor arguments, arguments to a factory method, or properties that are set on the object instance after it is constructed or returned from a factory method.
* The container then injects those dependencies when it creates the bean.
* This process is fundamentally the inverse (hence the name, Inversion of Control) of the bean itself controlling the instantiation or location of its dependencies on its own by using direct construction of classes or the Service Locator pattern.
* Code is cleaner with the DI principle, and decoupling is more effective when objects are provided with their dependencies. Classes become easier to test.
* DI exists in two major variants: [Constructor-based dependency injection](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/current/spring-framework-reference/core.html#beans-constructor-injection) and [Setter-based dependency injection](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/current/spring-framework-reference/core.html#beans-setter-injection).
* **Constructor-based DI** is accomplished by the container invoking a constructor with a number of arguments, each representing a dependency.
* **Setter-based DI** is accomplished by the container calling setter methods on your beans after invoking a no-argument constructor or a no-argument static factory method to instantiate your bean.
* Since you can mix constructor-based and setter-based DI, it is a good rule of thumb to use constructors for mandatory dependencies and setter methods or configuration methods for optional dependencies.
* The Spring team generally advocates constructor injection, as it lets you implement application components as immutable objects and ensures that required dependencies are not null.  constructor-injected components are always returned to the client (calling) code in a fully initialized state.
* Setter injection should primarily only be used for optional dependencies that can be assigned reasonable default values within the class. Otherwise, not-null checks must be performed everywhere the code uses the dependency.
* One benefit of setter injection is that setter methods make objects of that class amenable to reconfiguration or re-injection later. Management through [JMX MBeans](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/current/spring-framework-reference/integration.html#jmx) is therefore a compelling use case for setter injection.
* The container performs bean dependency resolution as follows:
* The ApplicationContext is created and initialized with configuration metadata that describes all the beans. Configuration metadata can be specified by XML, Java code, or annotations.
* For each bean, its dependencies are expressed in the form of properties, constructor arguments, or arguments to the static-factory method (if you use that instead of a normal constructor). These dependencies are provided to the bean, when the bean is actually created.
* Each property or constructor argument is an actual definition of the value to set, or a reference to another bean in the container.
* Each property or constructor argument that is a value is converted from its specified format to the actual type of that property or constructor argument. By default, Spring can convert a value supplied in string format to all built-in types, such as int, long, String, boolean, and so forth.
* The Spring container validates the configuration of each bean as the container is created. However, the bean properties themselves are not set until the bean is actually created.
* he Spring IoC container detects this circular reference at runtime, and throws a BeanCurrentlyInCreationException.
* One possible solution is to edit the source code of some classes to be configured by setters rather than constructors. Alternatively, avoid constructor injection and use setter injection only. In other words, although it is not recommended, you can configure circular dependencies with setter injection.
* You can generally trust Spring to do the right thing. It detects configuration problems, such as references to non-existent beans and circular dependencies, at container load-time. Spring sets properties and resolves dependencies as late as possible, when the bean is actually created. This means that a Spring container that has loaded correctly can later generate an exception when you request an object if there is a problem creating that object or one of its dependencies.
* By default, ApplicationContext implementations eagerly create and configure all [singleton](https://docs.spring.io/spring-framework/docs/current/spring-framework-reference/core.html#beans-factory-scopes-singleton) beans as part of the initialization process. Generally, this pre-instantiation is desirable, because errors in the configuration or surrounding environment are discovered immediately, as opposed to hours or even days later.
* When this behavior is not desirable, you can prevent pre-instantiation of a singleton bean by marking the bean definition as being lazy-initialized. A lazy-initialized bean tells the IoC container to create a bean instance when it is first requested, rather than at startup.
* The Spring container can autowire relationships between collaborating beans. You can let Spring resolve collaborators (other beans) automatically for your bean by inspecting the contents of the ApplicationContext. Autowiring has the following advantages:
* Autowiring can significantly reduce the need to specify properties or constructor arguments.
* Autowiring can update a configuration as your objects evolve. For example, if you need to add a dependency to a class, that dependency can be satisfied automatically without you needing to modify the configuration. Thus autowiring can be especially useful during development, without negating the option of switching to explicit wiring when the code base becomes more stable.
* The autowiring functionality has four modes. You specify autowiring per bean and can thus choose which ones to autowire. The following table describes the four autowiring modes:

No, byname, byType, constructor

* Autowiring works best when it is used consistently across a project. If autowiring is not used in general, it might be confusing to developers to use it to wire only one or two bean definitions.