Web.xml is called as deployment descriptor file and it is an XML file that contains information on the configuration of the web application, including the configuration of servlets.

Servlet to be accessible from a browser, then must tell the servlet container what servlets to deploy, and what URL's to map the servlets to. This is done in the web.xml file of your Java web application.

use web.xml in servlet

<servlet>

<description></description>

<display-name>servlet class name</display-name>

<servlet-name>servlet class name</servlet-name>

<servlet-class>servlet package name/servlet class name</servlet-class>

</servlet>

<servlet-mapping>

<servlet-name>servlet class name</servlet-name>

<url-pattern>/servlet class name</url-pattern>

</servlet-mapping>

Generally speaking, this is the configuration file of web applications in java. It instructs the servlet container (tomcat for ex.) which classes to load, what parameters to set in the context, and how to intercept requests coming from browsers.

There you specify:

* what servlets (and filters) you want to use and what URLs you want to map them to
* listeners - classes that are notified when some events happen (context starts, session created, etc)
* configuration parameters (context-params)
* error pages, welcome files
* security constriant

[**How to deploy a Java web application on Tomcat**](http://www.codejava.net/servers/tomcat/how-to-deploy-a-java-web-application-on-tomcat)