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Upload file using Servlets/JSP in Java

Posted on **JUNE 18, 2013**

([HTTP://KARANBALKAR.COM/2013/06/UPLOAD-FILE-USING-SERVLETSJSP-IN-JAVA/](http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servlets-jsp-in-java/)) by **KARAN BALKAR**
([HTTP://KARANBALKAR.COM/AUTHOR/KARANBALKAR/](http://karanbalkar.com/author/karanbalkar/))

Hello friends!

In many web applications, the user needs to upload a file on the web so that it can be used later on. Java EE allows developers to create dynamic web applications using **Servlets** or **JSP (Java Server Pages)**. A *Servlet* is like any other Java class. You insert your HTML code into print statements like you use **System.out**. On the other hand, a *JSP* gets converted to a Servlet and embeds the Java code into HTML. Servlets and JSP are functionally equivalent.

In this post I will demonstrate how to upload a file using the Servlets/JSP technology.

Pre-requisites: Eclipse IDE for Java EE developers, Apache Tomcat 7

Open Eclipse. Create a new **Dynamic web project**.



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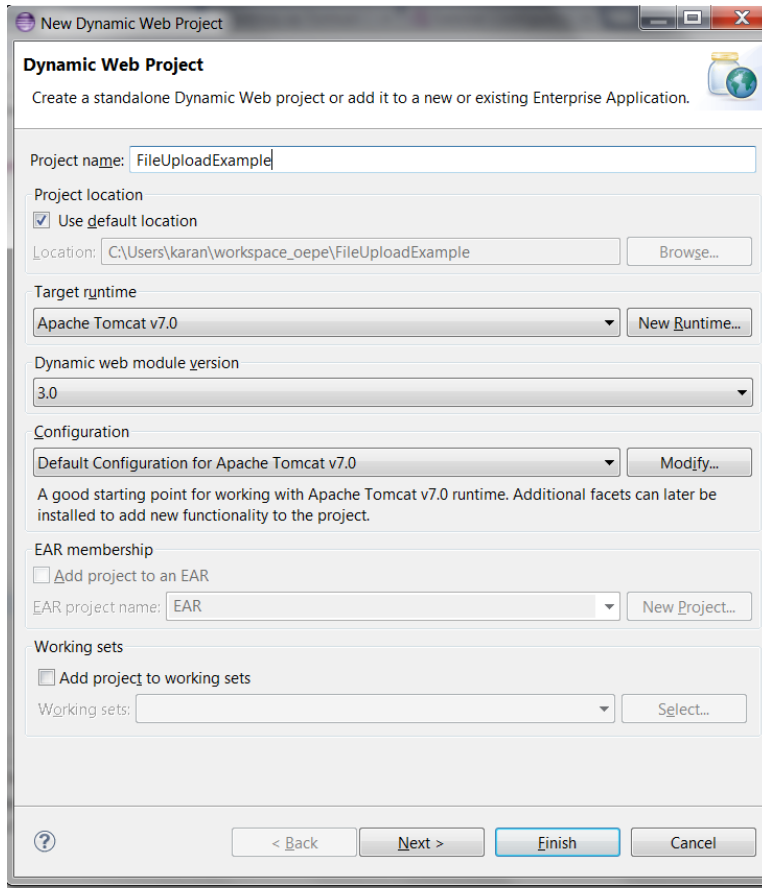
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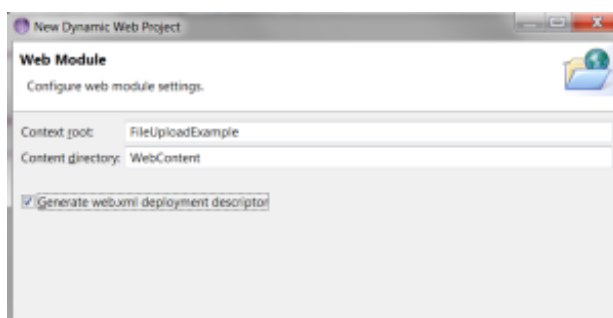
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Name the project as **FileUploadExample**. Select **Target Runtime** environment as Apache Tomcat 7.0. If you are unable to get this option, you need to configure and install Apache Tomcat 7 by following [this link](http://www.duckout.de/eclipse/setting-up-tomcat-7-0-with-eclipse-juno/) (<http://www.duckout.de/eclipse/setting-up-tomcat-7-0-with-eclipse-juno/>).



http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/file_upload_1/



http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/file_upload_2/

Create new dynamic web project

Step 1: Add .jar files

Before you start implementing your Servlet code, you need to add two jar files namely **commons-**

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you need to add two jar files namely **commons-fileupload-1.3.jar** and **commons-io-2.4.jar** to the *lib* folder present under **WEB-INF**.

Step 2: Create JSP page

Now create a new JSP page named **index.jsp** inside your *WebContent* folder.

index.jsp

```
<%@ page
contentType="text/html;charset=UTF-8"
language="java" %>
<html>
<head>
<title>File Upload</title>
</head>

<body>

<hr/>

<fieldset>
<legend>Upload File</legend>
<form action="fileuploadervlet"
method="post" enctype="multipart/form-
data">
<label for="filename_1">File: </label>
<input id="filename_1" type="file"
name="filename_1" size="50"/><br/>
<br/>
<input type="submit" value="Upload
File"/>
</form>
</fieldset>

</body>
</html>
```

Step 3: Create Servlet and modify web.xml

Right click the *src* folder, and select New -> Servlet. Name the Servlet **FileUploadDemoServlet** and give the package name as **com.example**

FileUploadDemoServlet.java

in-oracle/)

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```

package com.example;

import java.io.IOException;
import javax.servlet.ServletException;
import javax.servlet.http.HttpServlet;
import
javax.servlet.http.HttpServletRequest;
import
javax.servlet.http.HttpServletResponse
;
import
org.apache.commons.fileupload.servlet.
ServletFileUpload;
import
org.apache.commons.fileupload.FileItem
Factory;
import
org.apache.commons.fileupload.FileUplo
adException;
import
org.apache.commons.fileupload.FileItem
;
import
org.apache.commons.fileupload.disk.Dis
kFileItemFactory;
import javax.servlet.http.HttpServlet;
import
javax.servlet.http.HttpServletRequest;
import
javax.servlet.http.HttpServletResponse
;
import javax.servlet.ServletException;
import java.io.IOException;
import java.io.File;
import java.util.List;
import java.util.Iterator;

public class FileUploadDemoServlet
extends HttpServlet {
private static final long
serialVersionUID =
-3208409086358916855L;

protected void
doPost(HttpServletRequest request,
HttpServletResponse response)

throws ServletException, IOException
{

```

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```

boolean isMultipart =
ServletFileUpload.isMultipartContent(request);

if (isMultipart) {
FileItemFactory factory = new
DiskFileItemFactory();
ServletFileUpload upload = new
ServletFileUpload(factory);

try {
List items =
upload.parseRequest(request);
Iterator iterator = items.iterator();
while (iterator.hasNext())
{
FileItem item = (FileItem)
iterator.next();

if (!item.isFormField())
{

String fileName = item.getName();
String root =
getServletContext().getRealPath("/");

//path where the file will be stored
File path = new
File("C:\\programs\\java_documents" +
"/uploads");
if (!path.exists())
{
boolean status = path.mkdirs();
}

File uploadedFile = new File(path +
"/" + fileName);
System.out.println(uploadedFile.getAbsolutePath());
item.write(uploadedFile);
}
}
} catch (FileUploadException e) {
e.printStackTrace();
} catch (Exception e) {
e.printStackTrace();
}
}
}
}
}
}

```

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Modify your **web.xml** file as follows!

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<web-app
xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema
instance"
```

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```
xmlns="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee"
xmlns:web="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee/web-app_2_5.xsd"
xsi:schemaLocation="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee
http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee/web-app_3_0.xsd" id="WebApp_ID"
version="3.0">
<display-name>FileUploadExample2</display-name>

<welcome-file-list>
<welcome-file>index.html</welcome-file>
<welcome-file>index.htm</welcome-file>
<welcome-file>index.jsp</welcome-file>
<welcome-file>default.html</welcome-file>
<welcome-file>default.htm</welcome-file>
<welcome-file>default.jsp</welcome-file>
</welcome-file-list>

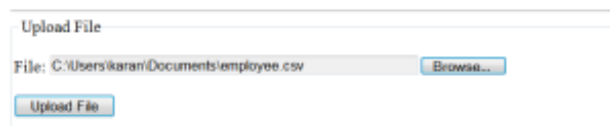
<servlet>
<servlet-
name>FileUploadDemoServlet</servlet-
name>
<servlet-
class>com.example.FileUploadDemoServlet</servlet-class>
</servlet>

<servlet-mapping>
<servlet-
name>FileUploadDemoServlet</servlet-
name>
<url-pattern>/fileuploadservlet</url-
pattern>
</servlet-mapping>

</web-app>
```

Finally, run the project on the Apache Tomcat server. Make sure no errors are present. You should see the following output on your console and browser respectively!

(http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/file_upload_output_2/)



(http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/file_upload_output_1/)

About Karan Balkar



(<http://karanbalkar.com/author/KaranBalkar/>)

self proclaimed extraterrestrial fandroid,
computer engineer, amateur gamer and die hard
punk rock fan!

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subh

July 30, 2013 at 11:37 am

(<http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/#comment-454>)

Hi , I am getting this error

java.lang.ClassNotFoundException:
org.apache.commons.io.output.DeferredFileOutputStream

**REPLY (/2013/06/UPLOAD-FILE-
USING-SERVLETSJSP-IN-JAVA/?
REPLYTOCOM=454#RESPOND)**



Karan Balkar

(<http://karanbalkar.com>)

July 30, 2013 at 7:24 pm

(<http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/#comment-457>)

It means the **.jar** file is not added properly. Make sure you use the latest version of the *apache.commons.io* file so that it is able to load all the classes contained in it!

**REPLY (/2013/06/UPLOAD-
FILE-USING-SERVLETSJSP-IN-
JAVA/?
REPLYTOCOM=457#RESPOND)**



Bhagyasri

November 21, 2014 at 2:25 pm

(<http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/#comment-7408>)

Hi..I am getting the class not found exception on clicking the upload button.

**REPLY (/2013/06/UPLOAD-FILE-
USING-SERVLETSJSP-IN-JAVA/?
REPLYTOCOM=7408#RESPOND)**



Karan Balkar

(<http://karanbalkar.com>)

November 21, 2014 at 9:57 pm

(<http://karanbalkar.com/2013/06/upload-file-using-servletsjsp-in-java/#comment-7426>)

Hi Bhagyasri,

That's because some of your .jar files are missing. Also, try and check the version of the .jar files.

**REPLY (/2013/06/UPLOAD-
FILE-USING-SERVLETSJSP-IN-
JAVA/?
REPLYTOCOM=7426#RESPOND)**

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