

Maven Troubleshooting Tips and FAQs

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Maven is Great

- ... when you get it working
- ... most problems occur trying to get it working
- ... at the point that you know least

These Tips and FAQs can help you when you get stuck.

TIP: Debug maven issues from the command line, not from the IDE

Use the command line to debug maven problems, that way it is just Maven and Java that you are working with.

This way you can see the error messages generated.

TIP: Read the error messages

If maven is complaining about corrupt jars then chances are something went wrong when it was downloading the dependencies, delete them and try again.

If your compile is complaining that it can't find classes from libraries in your class path then maven didn't download the dependencies, delete them and try again.

You might be able to run with the "-q" option to zoom in on errors, warnings and messages output by the plugins.

TIP: Read and work through "Maven in 5 minutes"

Before doing anything.

Read and work through "Maven in 5 minutes"

<http://maven.apache.org/guides/getting-started/maven-in-five-minutes.html>

This is a good check if you have installed maven correctly and if maven can connect to the internet. Since it is all done from the command line, any problems you encounter will be related to maven.

TIP: Compile without running tests

```
mvn clean compile -DskipTests=true
```

This helps you focus on the maven dependency problems, and you won't be distracted by any other error messages.

Tip: Download issues

Maven shows you the urls it tries to download, try them manually by entering the URL in your browser.

Check your proxy settings, in case Maven is blocked by your firewall.

If a url fails, and you aren't blocked try and force a download again with

```
mvn clean -DskipTests=true
```

TIP: Set proxy settings for maven

- find the file in `%M2_HOME%conf`
- edit the `settings.xml` file

Helpful Links:

- <http://seleniumsimplified.com/2013/08/16/maven-proxies-troubleshooting-404-errors/>
- <http://www.mkyong.com/maven/how-to-enable-proxy-setting-in-maven/>
- <http://stackoverflow.com/questions/4828567/maven-proxy-settings>
- <http://stackoverflow.com/questions/2354001/make-maven-proxy-server-settings-configurable-based-on-location?rq=1>

TIP: Read the maven FAQs

<http://maven.apache.org/users/getting-help.html>

Read the maven "how to I get help" section

<http://maven.apache.org/users/getting-help.html>

TIP: Read some other hints and tips

see - Algorithm for troubleshooting “Maven doesn't work for me” problems

<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/2690343/algorithm-for-troubleshooting-maven-doesnt-work-for-me-problems>

TIP: Force update of dependencies

```
mvn clean compile -U -DskipTests=true
```

TIP: Delete your local repository cache

from %UserProfile%.m2repository

delete whichever folders you want from the cache to force a download, then do a ...

```
mvn clean compile -DskipTests=true
```

TIP: Force a purge of local repository

```
mvn dependency:purge-local-repository
```

<http://maven.apache.org/plugins/maven-dependency-plugin/purge-local-repository-mojo.html>

TIP: Look at the effective pom and settings

```
mvn help:effective-pom
```

Shows you the full pom, with the fields, defaults, inheritance and paths.

```
mvn help:effective-settings
```

Shows the settings with full output

TIP: Use the dependency tree

A bit more advanced but...

```
mvn dependency:tree
```

Can show you all dependencies and versions, if you have ordering clashes then this might reveal them.

Final Notes

1. Run Maven from the command line
2. Read the error messages
3. Google for the error messages.
 - Other people **will** have faced the same problem.
4. Experiment with these tips

Do all of this, **Before you ask for help.** That way you will learn more about how maven works, and won't be so dependent on other people.

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Blogs and Websites

- CompendiumDev.co.uk
- SeleniumSimplified.com
- EvilTester.com
- JavaForTesters.com
- Twitter: [@eviltester](https://twitter.com/eviltester)

Online Training Courses

- Technical Web Testing 101
 - Unow.be/at/udemy101
- Intro to Selenium
 - Unow.be/at/udemystart
- Selenium 2 WebDriver API
 - Unow.be/at/udemyapi

Videos

youtube.com/user/EviltesterVideos

Books

Selenium Simplified

Unow.be/rc/selsimp

Java For Testers

leanpub.com/javaForTesters

