**Web server vs application server**

Web server provides environment for only web application war files >>> TOMCAT

Webserver can support servlets jsps html

Application server: Webserver + can support any tech from javaj2ee .EAR file

I have web application. To run application web server is required. If you have enterprise application then u need application server.

**Application SERVER**

A Java Application Server has two containers (runtime environments) - one is a Web container and the other is a EJB container.

The **Web container** hosts Web applications based on JSP or the Servlets API - designed specifically for web request handling - so more of a request/response style of distributed computing. A Web container requires the Web module to be packaged as a **WAR file** - that is a special JAR file with a web.xml file in the WEB-INF folder.

An **EJB container** hosts Enterprise java beans based on the EJB API designed to provide extended business functionality such as declarative transactions, declarative method level security and multiprotocol support - so more of an RPC style of distributed computing. EJB containers require EJB modules to be packaged as **JAR files** - these have an ejb-jar.xml file in the META-INF folder.

**Enterprise applications** may consist of one or more modules that can either be Web modules (packaged as a WAR file), EJB modules (packaged as a JAR file), or both of them. Enterprise applications are packaged as **EAR files** ― these are special JAR files containing an application.xml file in the META-INF folder.

Basically, **EAR files** are a superset containing WAR files and JAR files. Java Application Servers allow deployment of standalone web modules in a WAR file, though internally, they create EAR files as a wrapper around WAR files. Standalone web containers such as [Tomcat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apache_Tomcat) and [Jetty](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jetty_(web_server)) do not support EAR files ― these are not full-fledged Application servers. Web applications in these containers are to be deployed as WAR files only.

In application servers, EAR files contain configuratio

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**source file >>Javac >>>class files >> executed by JVM**

**packaging the class files >> .jar .war .ear >> while at run time its get unzip by JVM & execture**