

Webpack Learnings

Greg Harley

Resonant Mass, Inc.

Greg@ResMass.com

<https://github.com/gharley/webpack-presi.git>

Agenda

- Overview
- Basic tools
- Configuration
- Loaders
- Plugins
- Resources

Overview

- Webpack was created to handle the problem of bundling various assets.
- Actually a pipeline/plugin processor.
- Identifies dependencies, converts all assets to JavaScript using loaders, applies plugins at various stages.
- Processing defined by configuration file (or command line, but why?)
- Config file is a Node.js input file that exports a configuration object.

Basic Tools

- node/npm (<https://nodejs.org/en/>)
- webpack
- webpack-merge
- webpack-dev-server
- webpack-dev-middleware

Configuration

- context: points to source file root, defaults to CWD.
- target: tells webpack which of its internal plugins to load, defaults to 'web' which is what most of us will use.
- entry: defines the root(s) of dependency trees.
- output: defines where the bundles will be written.
- resolve: tells webpack what to look for and where.
- module: contains values pertinent to the build, most notably loaders.
- plugins: defines additional processing pieces applied at various times during the build.
- devServer: sets properties for webpack-dev-server cli when it is run instead of the webpack cli.

Loaders

- Loaders convert non-JavaScript assets such as css, images and fonts to JavaScript.
- Common Loaders:
 - css-loader
 - style-loader
 - scss-loader
 - babel-loader
 - file-loader
 - url-loader

Plugins

Common Plugins:

- html-webpack-plugin
- webpack.ProviderPlugin
- extract-text-webpack-plugin
- clean-webpack-plugin
- npm-install-webpack-plugin
- copy-webpack-plugin

Resources

<https://webpack.github.io/docs/>

<http://www.pshrmn.com/tutorials/#webpack> (great overview)

<http://survivejs.com/webpack/introduction/>

<https://k94n.com/webpack-ftw>

<https://github.com/webpack/tapable> (plugin class used throughout Webpack)