

Custom Tasks

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Custom Tasks and Task Templates

Tasks are the actions used in workflows to automate your system. For more information see [Workflow Automation](#).

AppDynamics provides task templates that you can modify for your use. You can create your own tasks using either:

- a Zip archive containing custom XML files
- a shell or batch script as an argument to the ExecuteShellScripts template

Custom Tasks Using XML

AppDynamics defines specific XML to use for custom tasks. You use the specified XML format and create the following two XML files:

- task.xml
- run.xml

To create a task.xml file

The task.xml file must have the structure as shown below. It must have the <java-task> child element. Do not rename this file.

```
<task>
  <name>Name of the File</name>
  <display-name>Display Name</display-name>
  <description>Description</description>
  <type>java</type>
  <task-arguments>
    <argument name="Arg1_Specified_In_Run.XML_File" description="Description"
      is-required="Specify_Boolean_Value_true/false" type="Type_Of_Argument"/>
    <argument name="Arg2_Specified_In_Run.XML_File" description="Description"
      is-required="Specify_Boolean_Value_true/false"/>
  </task-arguments>
  <java-task>
    <impl-class>com.singularity.ee.agent.systemagent.task.ant.AntTask
    </impl-class>
  </java-task>
</task>
```

To create a run.xml file

The run.xml file contains the details for the action that will be executed when this task is triggered.

Use following sample structure to create the run.xml file.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<project name="run" default="run" basedir=".">
  <property file="args.properties" />
  <target name="run">
    <"Operation_Name_that_the_task_will_perform" file="\${Arg_1}"
todir="\${arg_2}" />
  </target>
</project>
```

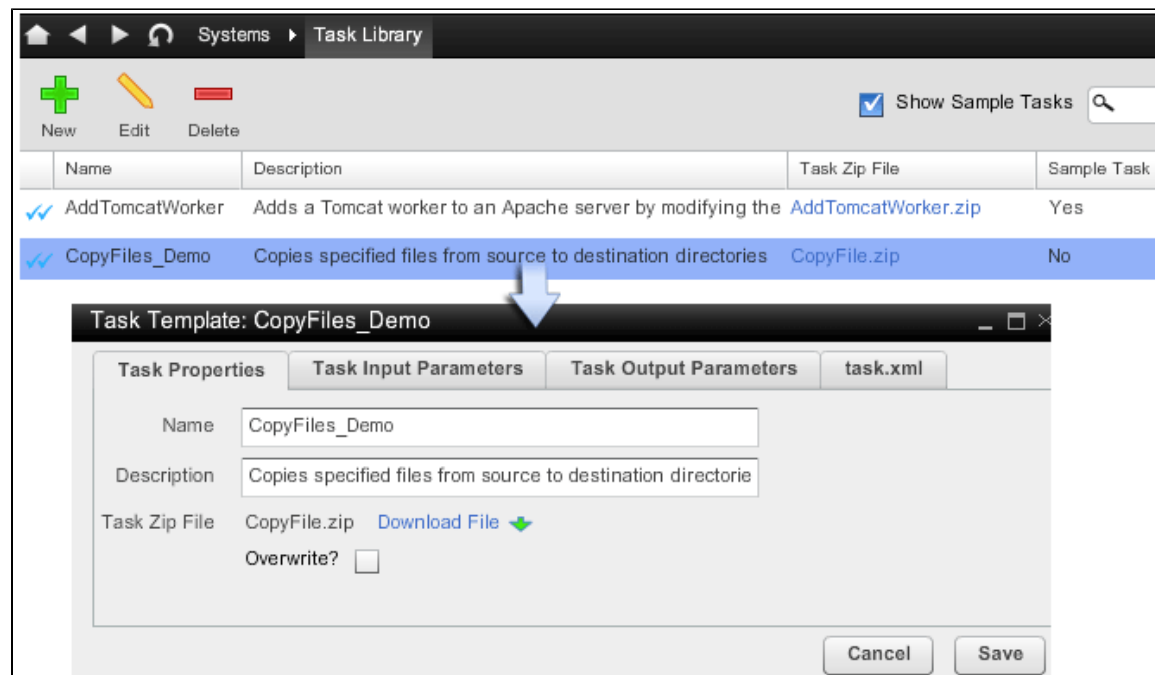
To package the XML files as a Zip archive

Add the task.xml and run.xml files to a Zip archive and name this Zip archive the name of the task.

To add the Zip archive as a task template

1. From the **Cloud Auto-Scaling** menu select **Task Library**.
2. Click **New**.
3. Provide the name and description for the task.
4. Upload the Zip file containing the XML task files.
5. Click **Create Task Template**.

AppDynamics adds the task template to the Task Library where you can use it in your workflows.



Custom Tasks Using Shell or Batch Scripts

1. Create the shell or batch script file on the system.
2. In the Workflows window, select the task template ExecuteShellScripts. It will accept the shell or batch script file as an argument to the task. For instructions see [Add Tasks for Workflow Steps](#).

Learn More

- [Workflow Automation](#)
- [Add Tasks for Workflow Steps](#)