

# Consuming a RESTful Web Service

This guide walks you through the process of creating an application that consumes a RESTful web service.

## What you'll build

You'll build an application that uses Spring's `RestTemplate` to retrieve a random Spring Boot quotation at <http://gturnquist-quoters.cfapps.io/api/random> (<http://gturnquist-quoters.cfapps.io/api/random>).

## What you'll need

- About 15 minutes
- A favorite text editor or IDE
- JDK 1.8 (<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/index.html>) or later
- Gradle 2.3+ (<http://www.gradle.org/downloads>) or Maven 3.0+ (<http://maven.apache.org/download.cgi>)
- You can also import the code from this guide as well as view the web page directly into Spring Tool Suite (STS) (</guides/gs/sts>) and work your way through it from there.

## How to complete this guide

Like most Spring Getting Started guides (</guides>), you can start from scratch and complete each step, or you can bypass basic setup steps that are already familiar to you. Either way, you end up with working code.

To **start from scratch**, move on to Build with Gradle.

To **skip the basics**, do the following:

- Download (<https://github.com/spring-guides/gs-consuming-rest/archive/master.zip>) and unzip the source repository for this guide, or clone it using Git (</understanding/Git>):  

```
git clone https://github.com/spring-guides/gs-consuming-rest.git
```

 (<https://git-scm.com>)
- cd into `gs-consuming-rest/initial`
- Jump ahead to Fetch a REST resource.