

Using Active Scaffold

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Integrallis

Ideas, Implemented.

Implemented, Ideas.

ABOUT ME



developing professionally since 1997
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uses mainly java, ruby, groovy

Currently playing with Objective C for the iPhone



ABOUT THIS TALK



ActiveScaffold :: A Ruby on Rails plugin for dynamic, AJAX CRUD interfaces

<http://activescaffold.com/>

RSS Google

ACTIVE SCAFFOLD

A Ruby on Rails plugin from the makers of [AjaxScaffold](#)

Home Documentation Team Help Contribute Blog Demo latest release is 1.1.1: [DOWNLOAD](#) | [SVN](#)

Welcome

Most web applications have many more model objects exposed on the backend, or admin side, than they do on the front. Coding interfaces for all those models is redundant and a waste of resources when all you need is CRUD functionality that's smart enough to handle all your ActiveRecord associations.

Enter the ActiveScaffold plugin. The successor to the popular [AjaxScaffold](#) project that amassed [over 36,000 downloads](#), ActiveScaffold provides you with a wealth of dynamically created goodness:

- An AJAXified table interface for creating, updating, and deleting objects
- Automatic handling of ActiveRecord associations
- Sorting, Search and Pagination
- Graceful JavaScript degradation
- RESTful API support (XML/YAML/JSON) baked in
- Sexy CSS styling and theming support
- More extension points than you can shake a stick at
- Guaranteed to work on Firefox 1+, IE 6+ and Safari 2+
- Released under the MIT License, the same one as Rails itself, so you can use it freely in your commercial applications.

[Getting Started](#) ([OR READ THE FULL TUTORIAL](#))

Widgets

Name	Version	In Stock	Number Sold	Actions
SNES	0.5	true	1000	Edit Delete
Wii	1.0	false	350	Edit Delete
iPod	5.0	true	153	Edit Delete
Zune	1.0	true	1	Edit Delete

[view the demo](#)

 [Donate](#)
Open source doesn't just write itself :)

 [Who's using ActiveScaffold?](#)
Add your company!

 [Third Party Plugins](#)
Add-ons for ActiveScaffold

Sponsors

 **SLIMTIMER**
Time Tracking w/o the Timesheet

QualitySmith®
HOME + AUTO SERVICES

A /



WHAT IS ACTIVE SCAFFOLD



<http://activescaffold.com/>

Production quality scaffolding

Ajaxified / Restful / Sexy

Third party plug-ins available





OUR DOMAIN



Todo

Category

Keyword



keyword

```
class Keyword < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_and_belongs_to_many :todos

end

create_table :keywords do |t|
  t.string :name
  t.string :description
  t.timestamps

  ## FK Constraint
  t.integer :todo_id

end
```



category

```
class Category < ActiveRecord::Base  
  has_many :todos  
end
```

```
create_table :categories do |t|  
  t.string :name  
  t.timestamps  
  
  ## FK Constraint  
  t.integer :todo_id  
end
```



todo

```
class Todo < ActiveRecord::Base
  belongs_to :category
  has_and_belongs_to_many :keywords
end

create_table :todos do |t|
  t.string  :name, :description
  t.integer :priority
  t.boolean :complete
  t.date   :due_date
  t.timestamps

## FK
  t.integer :user_id
  t.integer :category_id
end
```



keywords.todos

```
create_table "keywords.todos", :id => false do |t|
  t.column "todo_id", :integer, :null => false
  t.column "keyword_id", :integer, :null => false
end
```

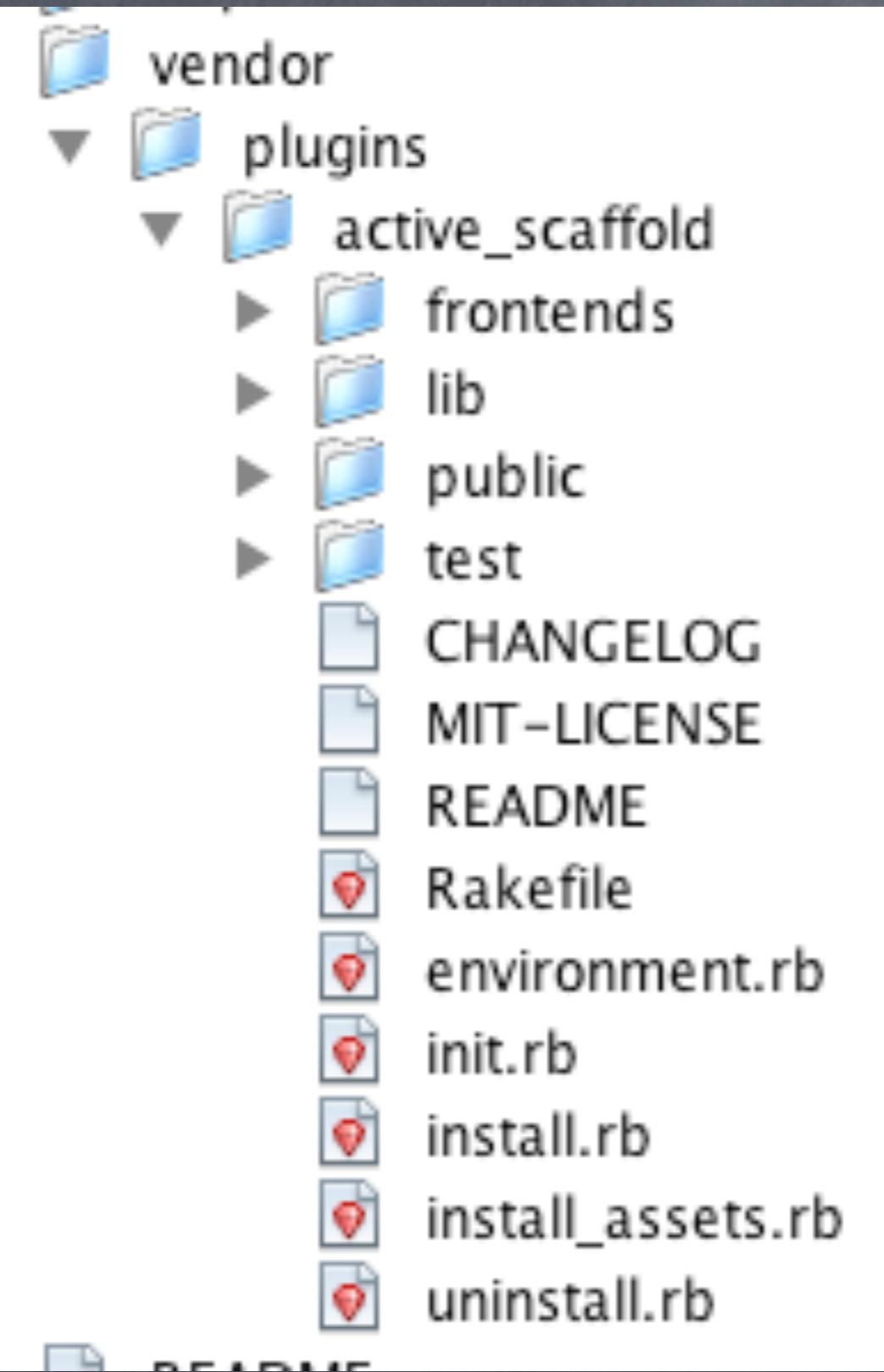


INSTALLING ACTIVE SCAFFOLD



```
git clone git://github.com/activescaffold/  
active_scaffold.git vendor/plugins/active_scaffold  
&& rm -rf vendor/plugins/active_scaffold/.git
```





GETTING STARTED



add to the layout

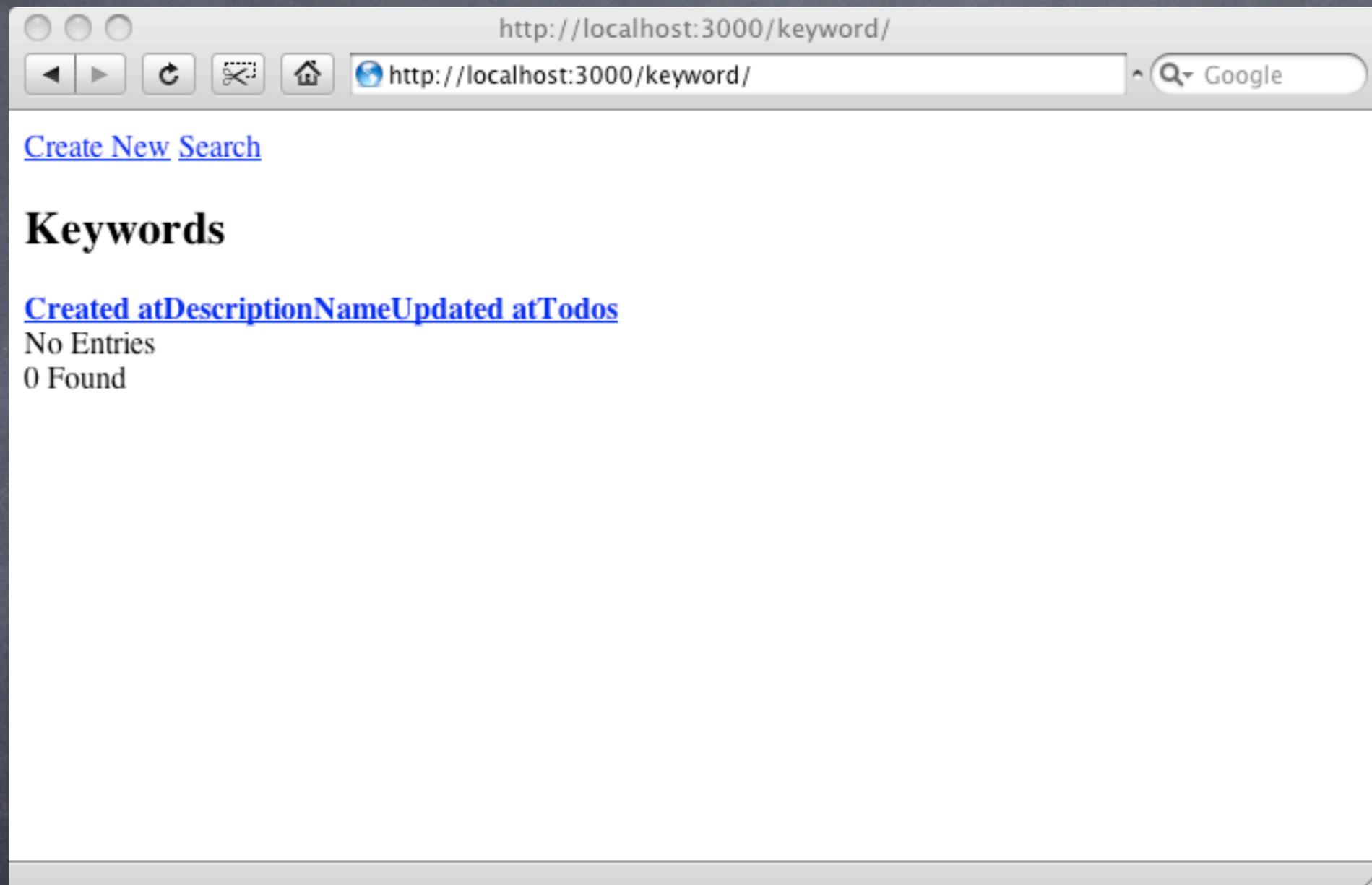
```
<%= javascript_include_tag :defaults  
%>  
<%= active_scaffold_includes %>
```



adding to the controller

```
class KeywordController <  
 ApplicationController  
 active_scaffold :keyword  
  
end
```





adding to the controller

```
class KeywordController <  
 ApplicationController  
 active_scaffold :keyword  
   layout 'main'  
 end
```



BalletMet Referral

http://localhost:3000/keyword/

Google

Keywords

Search Create New

Created at	Description	Name	Updated at	Todos
No Entries				

0 Found



take a look at what all it has

BalletMet Referral

http://localhost:3000/keyword/

BalletMet Referral BalletMet Referral

Keywords

Search Create New

Created at	Description	Name	Updated at
No Entries			
0 Found			



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword/

Search Google

Keywords

[Create New](#)

Create Keyword

Description

Name

[Create](#) [Cancel](#)

Friends

Search Reset [x](#)

Created at	Description	Name	Updated at	
2008-10-09 03:23:49 UTC	Friends	My other friends?	2008-10-09 03:23:49 UTC	Edit Delete Show

1 Found



CUSTOMIZING DISPLAY



modify the column order

```
class KeywordController < ApplicationController
  layout 'main'

  active_scaffold :keyword do |conf|
    conf.create.columns = [:name, :description]
  end
end
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword

Google

Keywords

Search Create New

Create Keyword

Name

Description

[Create](#) [Cancel](#)

Created at	Description	Name	Updated at	
2008-10-09 19:02:38 UTC	Friends	My other friends	2008-10-09 19:02:38 UTC	Edit Delete Show

1 Found



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword

Google

Keywords

Search Create New

Created at	Description	Name	Updated at	
2008-10-09 20:58:18 UTC	My family	Family	2008-10-09 20:58:18 UTC	Edit Delete Show

Update My other friends x

Description

Name

Update **Cancel**

2 Found



modify the column order
for an update

```
conf.update.columns = [:name, :description]
```



LIST DISPLAY



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword

Google

Keywords

Search Create New

Create Keyword

Name

Description

[Create](#) [Cancel](#)

Created at	Description	Name	Updated at	
2008-10-09 19:02:38 UTC	Friends	My other friends	2008-10-09 19:02:38 UTC	Edit Delete Show

1 Found



modifying list order

```
conf.list.columns = [:name, :description]
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword

Google

Keywords

Search Create New

Name	Description	
My other friends	Friends	Edit Delete Show
Family	My family	Edit Delete Show

2 Found

Go to "http://localhost:3000/keyword/destroy/1?_method=delete&authenticity_token=0807ec0519b55b1910c4fc078a84fe84077d46a0"



modifying defaults globally

```
ActiveScaffold.set_defaults do |config|
  config.ignore_columns.add
  [:created_at, :updated_at, :interests]
end
```



CHANGING NAMES



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword

Google

Keywords

Search Create New

Name	Description	
My other friends	Friends	Edit Delete Show
Family	My family	Edit Delete Show

2 Found

Go to "http://localhost:3000/keyword/destroy/1?_method=delete&authenticity_token=0807ec0519b55b1910c4fc078a84fe84077d46a0"



modifying the display name

```
conf.create.link.label = "Add keyword"  
conf.update.link.label = "Edit Keyword"  
conf.delete.link.label = "Delete Keyword"
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword/

Keywords

Search Add keyword

Name	Description	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword	Show
Family	My familia	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword	Show
Workers	My worker buddies	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword	Show

2 Found



**EXCLUDE
COLUMNS**



remove a column

conf.actions.exclude :show



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword/ Google

Keywords

Search Add keyword

Name	Description		
Family	My familia	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword
Workers	My worker buddies	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword

2 Found



TYING VALIDATIONS



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword

Google

Keywords

Search Add keyword

Name	Description
No Entries	

0 Found

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Todo Example". The address bar displays the URL "http://localhost:3000/keyword". Below the address bar is a search bar with the text "Google". The main content area is titled "Keywords" and features a search bar with the text "Search" and a button labeled "Add keyword". A table is present with two columns: "Name" and "Description". The message "No Entries" is displayed in the center of the table. At the bottom left, it says "0 Found". The browser interface includes standard window controls (minimize, maximize, close) and a back/forward navigation bar.



add validations

```
class Keyword < ActiveRecord::Base
  has_and_belongs_to_many :todos

  validates_presence_of :name
  validates_length_of :name,
    :within => 2..20,
    :too_long => "must be shorter than 20 chars",
    :too_short => "must be longer than 2 chars"
end
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword

Google

Keywords

Search Add keyword

Name	Description
-	-

Edit Keyword Delete Keyword

1 Found

The screenshot shows a web application titled "Todo Example" running at "http://localhost:3000/keyword". The main heading is "Keywords". There are two buttons: "Search" and "Add keyword". Below the heading is a table with two columns: "Name" and "Description". A single row is present in the table, with both cells being empty. At the bottom of the table, there are links for "Edit Keyword" and "Delete Keyword". A message "1 Found" is displayed below the table.



SEARCH



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword/ Google

Keywords

Search Add keyword

Name	Description	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword
Family	My familia	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword
Workers	My worker buddies	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword

2 Found



ajaxified server

```
conf.actions.swap :search, :live_search
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/keyword/ Google

Keywords

Search Add keyword

Name	Description	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword
Family	My familia	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword
Workers	My worker buddies	Edit Keyword	Delete Keyword

2 Found



TODO
CUSTOMIZATION



Todos

[Search](#) [Create New](#)

Create Todo



Complete

- select -

Description

Due date

2008 | **October** | **10** | — | **01** | : | **45**

Name

Priority

Categories (hide)

Name

[Create Another](#)

Keywords (hide)

Name

Description

[Create Another](#)**- select -**[Add Existing](#)[Create](#) [Cancel](#)

Complete	Created at	Description	Due date	Name	Priority	Updated at	Categories	Keywords
----------	------------	-------------	----------	------	----------	------------	------------	----------

No Entries

0 Found



updating column order

```
conf.create.columns =  
[:complete, :name, :description, :priority, :due_date, :category, :keywords]  
]  
  
conf.update.columns =  
[:complete, :name, :description, :priority, :due_date, :category, :keywords]  
]  
  
conf.list.columns =  
[:complete, :name, :description, :priority, :due_date, :category, :keywords]  
]
```





Todos

[Search](#) [Create New](#)

Create Todo



Complete

- select -

Name

Description

Priority

Due date

2008 | **October** | **10** – **02** : **30****Category (hide)**

Name

[Replace With New](#)**- select -**[Add Existing](#)**Keywords (hide)**

Name

Description

[Create Another](#)**- select -**[Add Existing](#)[Create](#) [Cancel](#)

Complete	Created at	Description	Due date	Name	Priority	Updated at	Category	Keywords
----------	------------	-------------	----------	------	----------	------------	----------	----------

No Entries

0 Found



changing fields

```
conf.columns[:category].form_ui = :select  
conf.columns[:keywords].form_ui = :select  
conf.columns[:description].form_ui = :textarea  
conf.columns[:complete].form_ui = :checkbox
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Google

Todos

Search Create New

Create Todo

Complete

Name

Description

Priority

Due date 2008 October 10

Category

Keywords Family Friends

Complete	Created at	Description	Due date	Name	Priority	Updated at	Category	Keywords
No Entries								
0 Found								



controlling field display

can create a file for direct control

_<column_name>_form_column.rhtml
ie - _description_form_column.rhtml

```
<label>Description</label>
<%= text_area :record, :description, :cols => 25, :rows => 10
%>
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Google

Todos

Search Create New

Create Todo

Complete

Name

Description

Priority

Due date 2008 October 11

Category

Keywords Family Friends

Complete	Name	Description	Priority	Due date	Category	Keywords
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prep for Great Lakes	Great Lakes Ruby	▲	2008/10/11	Coding	Friends,



grouping of fields

logically group items together

```
conf.create.columns.add_subgroup "Details" do |name_group|
  name_group.add :priority, :due_date, :category, :keywords
end
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Search Create New

Todos

Create Todo

Complete

Name

Description

Details (hide)

Priority

Due date 2008 October 11

Category

Keywords Family Friends

Complete	Name	Description	Priority	Due date	Category	Keywords
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prep for Great Lakes Ruby	Great Lakes Ruby Prep	1	10/11/2008	Coding	Friends, Family
<input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="button" value="Show"/>						



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Google

Todos

Search Create New

Create Todo

Complete

Name

Description

Priority

Due date 2008 October 11

Category

Keywords Family Friends

Complete	Name	Description	Priority	Due date	Category	Keywords
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prep for Great Lakes	Great Lakes Ruby	▲	2008/10/11	Coding	Friends,



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Google

Todos

Search Create New

Complete	Name	Description	Priority	Due date	Category	Keywords			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prep for Great Lakes Ruby	Great Lakes Ruby Prep	1	10/11/2008	Coding	Friends, Family	Edit	Delete	Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply to Space Camp	i want to be astronaut!	2	10/10/2009	Fun	-	Edit	Delete	Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Zoolander	Be a Male Model	2	12/10/2008	Fun	-	Edit	Delete	Show

3 Found



sorting columns

```
conf.list.sorting = { :due_date => :asc }
```

```
conf.list.sorting = [{ :due_date => :asc }, { :priority => :asc }]
```

```
config.list.sorting = { :due_date => :asc }
config.list.sorting.add :priority, :asc
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Google

Todos

Search Create New

Complete	Name	Description	Priority ▲	Due date ▲	Category	Keywords			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prep for Great Lakes Ruby	Great Lakes Ruby Prep	1	10/11/2008	Coding	Friends, Family	Edit	Delete	Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Zoolander	Be a Male Model	2	12/10/2008	Fun	-	Edit	Delete	Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply to Space Camp	i want to be astronaut!	2	10/10/2009	Fun	-	Edit	Delete	Show

3 Found



list conditions

```
def conditions_for_collection
  ['user_id IN (?)', ['admin', 'sysop']]
end
```



MORE
SEARCHING



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Search [Create New](#)

Todos

Complete	Name	Description	Priority▲	Due date ▲	Category	Keywords	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prep for Great Lakes Ruby	Great Lakes Ruby Prep	1	10/11/2008	Coding	Friends, Family	Edit Delete Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Zoolander	Be a Male Model	2	12/10/2008	Fun	Family	Edit Delete Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply to Space Camp	i want to be astronaut!	2	10/10/2009	Fun	-	Edit Delete Show

3 Found



searching associations

```
conf.columns[:keywords].search_sql = 'keywords.name'  
conf.search.columns << :keywords  
  
conf.columns[:category].search_sql = 'categories.name'  
conf.search.columns << :category
```



Todo Example

http://localhost:3000/todo

Search Create New

Todos

Complete	Name	Description	Priority▲	Due date ▲	Category	Keywords	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Prep for Great Lakes Ruby	Great Lakes Ruby Prep	1	10/11/2008	Coding	Friends, Family	Edit Delete Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Zoolander	Be a Male Model	2	12/10/2008	Fun	Family	Edit Delete Show
<input type="checkbox"/>	Apply to Space Camp	i want to be astronaut!	2	10/10/2009	Fun	-	Edit Delete Show

3 Found



what else is there?

perform calculations on fields

derive associations

change label names

style sheet changes

add functionality to helpers

before save / before update functionality



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**That's
Hot!**

