

Testing in Web Applications

So we've learned the basics of testing and Web applications.



But how can we tie them together?



Let's take a look at how to bring a Week 1 exercise to the Web.



Let's build a Sinatra blog system.



We are going to give each piece a distinct role in our application.



These roles will follow the MVC pattern. (model-view-controller)



First let's compare Week 1's blog to Week 2's blog.



In our Week 1 blog we had two main classes: Post and Blog.

We are still keeping those.



But the function of Post and Blog will change slightly.

In Week 1, they were partially in charge of **presentation**, how they looked on the screen.



On our Web blog, we are going to let the views handle presentation concerns (HTML).

The Post and Blog classes are only going to handle our data.



Since the Post and Blog classes are only going to handle our data, they are in essence our models.

They represent what our application is all about.



Both Post and Blog need to have unit tests that make sure they function as expected throughout the development of the blog.



You don't necessarily have to use TDD (testing first), but every feature you add needs tests.

If you add any more classes, they **need tests** as well.



Our project structure might look like this:

```
sinatra blog/
   - Gemfile
    models/
     — blog.rb
     post.rb
    server.rb
    spec/
    blog_spec.rb
     — post_spec.rb
    views/
```



So our classes are our models. How do we use them in a Web application?



For now, the main instances of your Blog and Post classes will live in your server.rb.

They will be defined outside any route but they will all be accessible in the routes.



For example:

```
# server.rb
require "sinatra"
require_relative "lib/blog.rb"
require relative "lib/post.rb"
blog = Blog.new(...)
blog.add_post Post.new(...)
blog.add_post Post.new(...)
get "/" do
  # Use blog in some way
  blog.posts
end
```



Start with the Sinatra part of the app until the point you either:

(1) need to call a method a Blog or Post (like if you need data)

or

(2) need to make a new instance of a Post (you only need the one instance of Blog)



Then add the method or functionality you need on Blog or Post and create a test for that method!



Let's help you along for the first tests.



Starting with the blog's home page, you will need the list of posts from the Blog.



Maybe you have a **#posts** method on **Blog** that provides the array of posts.

```
# server.rb
# [...]

get "/" do
    @posts = blog.posts
    erb(:home)
end
```



That needs a test, of course!

```
# spec/blog spec.rb
require relative("../lib/blog.rb")
RSpec.describe Blog do
  before(:each) do
    @blog = Blog.new(...)
  end
  it("#posts returns list of posts") do
    expect(@blog.posts).to # ??? which matcher should we use
  end
end
```



Your Blog instance is full of Post instances that provide the post information like the title.

```
<!-- views/home.erb -->
<% @posts.each do |post| %>
    <%= post.title %>
<% end %>
```

Yup, that needs a test as well.



```
# spec/post spec.rb
require relative("../lib/post.rb")
RSpec.describe Post do
  before(:each) do
    @post1 = Post.new(...)
    @post2 = Post.new(...)
  end
  it("#title returns title") do
    expect(@post1.title).to # ??? which matcher
    expect(@post2.title).to # ??? which matcher
  it("#date returns date") do
  end
  it("#text returns text") do
  end
end
```



Remember in tests we test methods and their return values.



In Web applications, think about what methods you need for your routes.



What should the method be named?



What should the method return? An array? A string? Nothing?



What should the method receive as a parameter?



You decide what you need!



Remember, classes are your models. They represent data.



They shouldn't have any HTML inside them.



Onto the exercise!

