

Bower Framework and setup



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Agenda

- What is Bower
- Installing Bower
- Bower.json
- Adding project dependencies
- Useful commands
- DEMO
- Exercise

Learning Objectives

Understand what Bower does and why

Learn to install bower

Be able to set up custom bower configuration

Install project dependencies

Get to know Bower API

What is Bower

- Web Frontend **Package**/dependency **manager**
- Downloads, installs and updates packages for your project
- JS frameworks, libraries, assets, utilities
- Installed through **NPM** requires **GIT**
- Provides hooks for workflow tools (Grunt)
- Eliminates searching and maintaining of JavaScript libraries by hand



Installing Bower

- Bower is a node module (command line tool)
- Requires nodeJS, NPM and GIT installed on your system
- To install bower run:
 - **npm install -g bower**



Bower.json

- Bower metafile for your project
- a JSON file (similar to package.json)
- Basic information about your project (name, version, etc.)
- General dependencies (needed for execution)
- Development dependencies (needed for development)
- To interactively create a bower.json run:
 - **bower init**

```
{
  "name": "my-project",
  "version": "1.0.0",
  "main": "path/to/main.css",
  "ignore": [
    ".jshintrc",
    "**/*.txt"
  ],
  "dependencies": {
    "<name>": "<version>",
    "<name>": "<folder>",
    "<name>": "<package>"
  },
  "devDependencies": {
    "<test-framework>": "<version>"
  }
}
```

Adding Project Dependencies

- Adding regular dependencies:
 - **bower install <package> --save**
- Adding development dependencies:
 - **bower install <package> --save-dev**
- <package> can be any package in bower's repository (e.g. jQuery)
- Installed packages are placed in **bower_components** folder unless overridden with *.bowerrc* file
- Omitting **--save** and **--save-dev** flags will install package without adding entry to *bower.json* file.

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Useful Commands

Commands that might come in handy:

- **bower init**
- **bower install**
- bower search <name>
- bower update [<name>]
- bower cache clean [<name>]
- bower uninstall <name>

You can find more information on <http://bower.io/docs/api/>