



# Jenkins Pipeline : Declarative and IaC approaches for DevOps

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## I.Introduction:

How we can write pipeline scripts and Jenkins using the UI in a declarative way and how we can also write Jenkins files and have that file committed to source code management in the tools such as git help and to have all of our pipelines committed as code.

### Prerequisites:

Jenkins server

java installed

choco

maven

### a. Task 1: What is a pipeline?

we're going to focus a lot just on pipelines and how we can use that to automate all of our processes and so without further ado what exactly is a pipeline?

Jenkins pipeline is nothing more than a collection of plugins that supports our continuous delivery procedures from source code management down to end user and this is all concerned with the product development lifecycle, which starts from developers submitting code and having to go through all of those processes and the variations of different outcomes or different, for example, like a success or a failure.

Second point, your application code goes through a complex web of process is on its way to being released as a final product.

So we have these different environments, testing, staging deployment, um, and other environments as well and different stages.

We need to be able to automate, the processes that happen at each of these actual stages, which takes occurred from the repo level to release level.

The definition of a pipeline can be written either directly as a pipeline script which is written directly in the UI. The Jenkins UI itself very popular way to actually define our pipelines and secondly, can also be written as a Jenkins file, which would contain some variation of the UI version of the pipeline script essentially is file that's committed usually at root level along with the source code and a pipeline can be written either in declarative or scripted format.

just looking at the benefits of Jenkins file, Jenkins file, That process really immerses us in the whole infrastructure as code world.

And the pipeline is considered a part of the project code and it's treated as such by being committed along with the application code. Of course, the pipeline code is part of the project code and having it at that level.



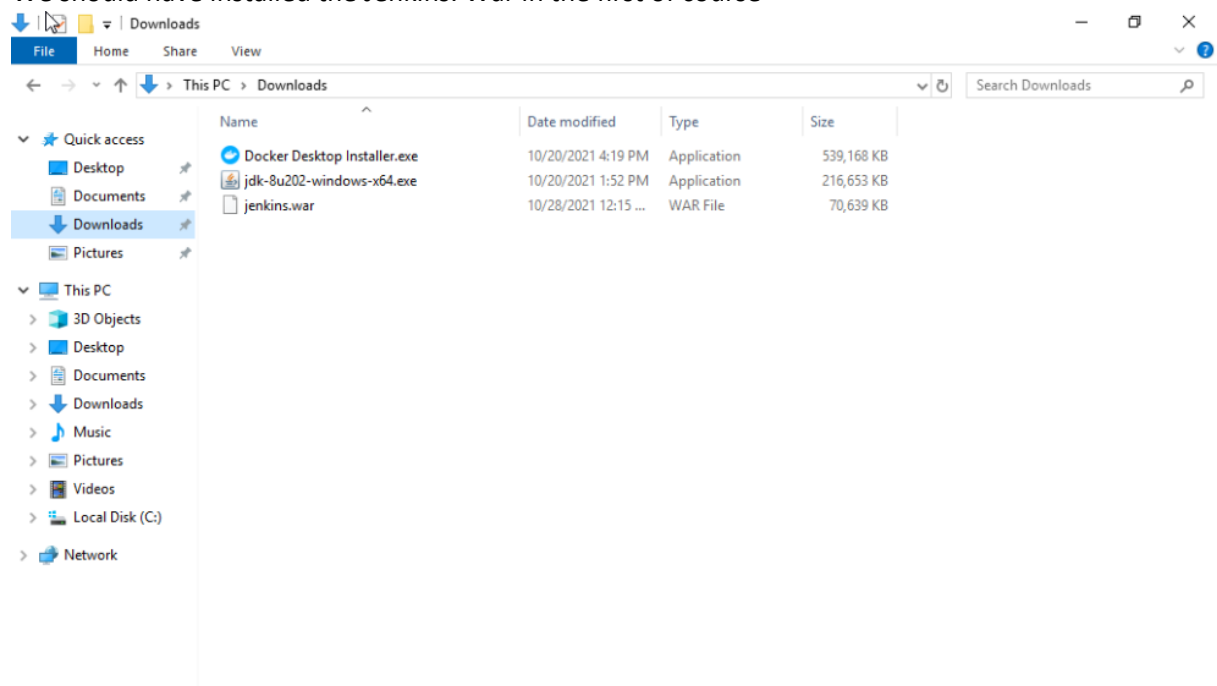
It could be visualized by all members of the team that it concerns um whether you're working in development, whether you're working in, in in the product team or if you're working in the operations team, for example or the testing team. everyone can have a look and see to what part of the pipeline they're concerned, which can be very useful.

## b. Task 2: Pipeline Script format and global environment variables

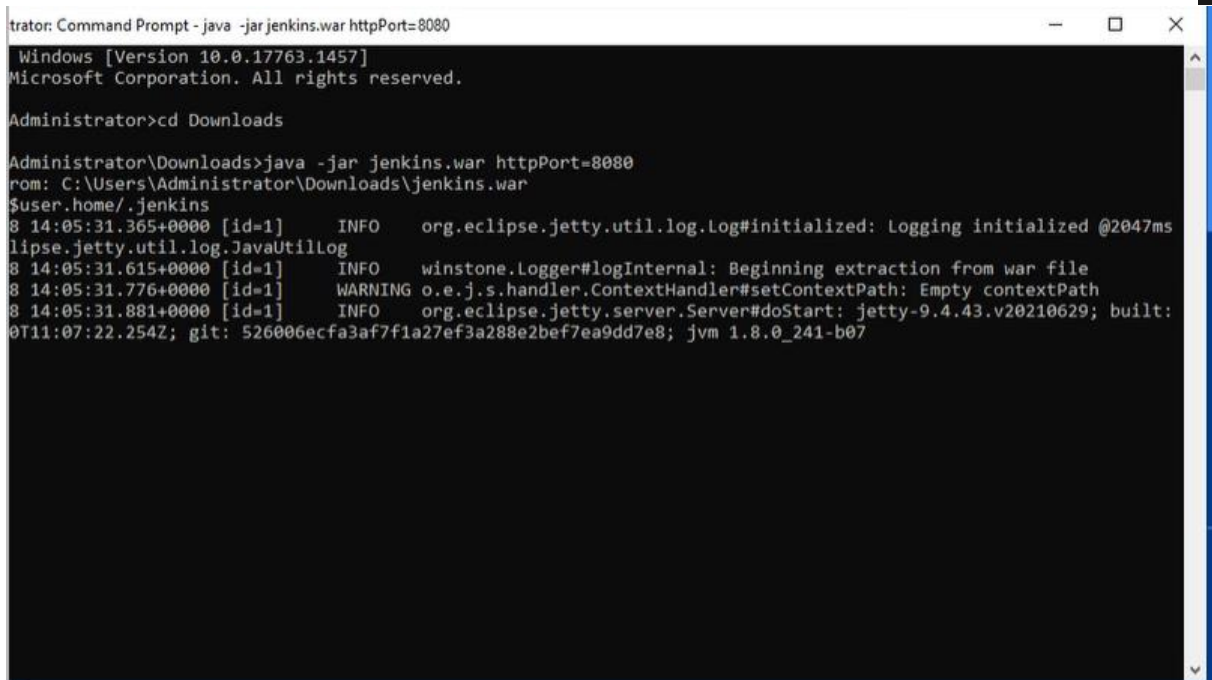
In this task we gonna start writing our first pipeline scripts inside the Jenkins Ui, and also have a look at how we're able to inject environment variables into our code itself. So, we're gonna have a look at the environment variables that are available out the box and how we can actually inject that into our scripts.

Firstly, we need to actually get our server up and running.

We should have installed the Jenkins. War in the first of course



We open command prompts and then we want to see the into downloads and type the command:



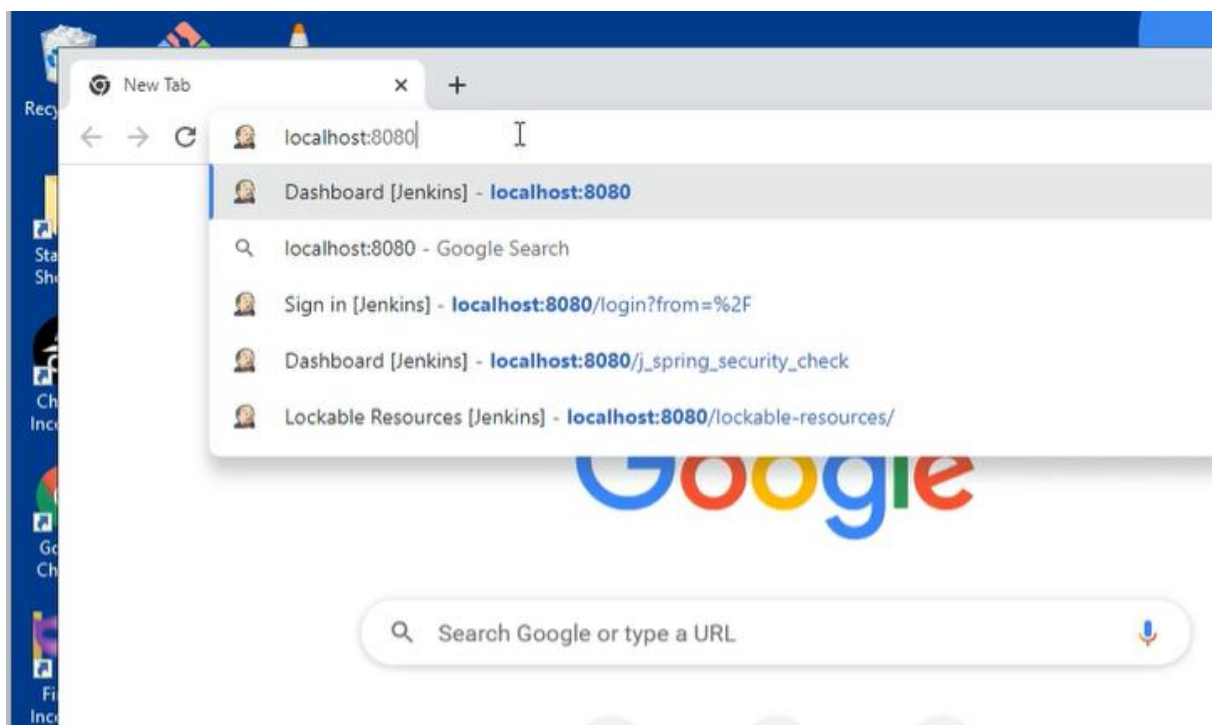
```
Administrator: Command Prompt - java -jar jenkins.war httpPort=8080
Windows [Version 10.0.17763.1457]
Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

Administrator>cd Downloads

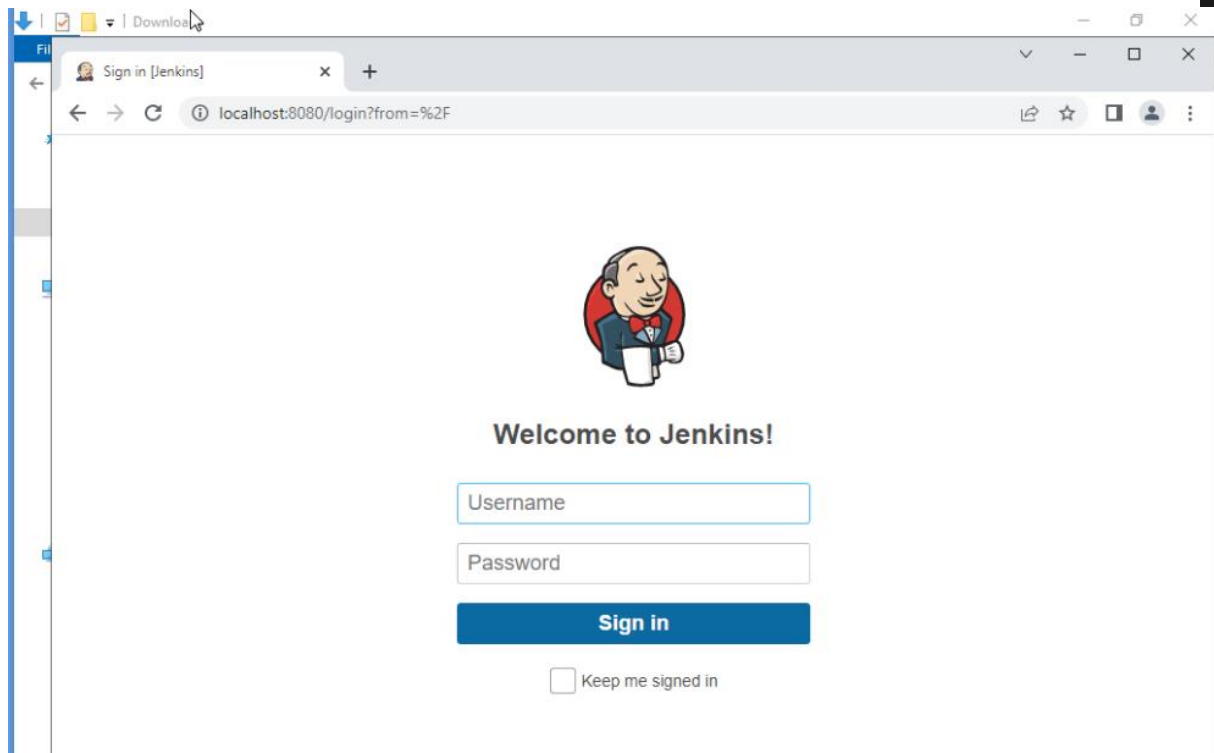
Administrator\Downloads>java -jar jenkins.war httpPort=8080
rom: C:\Users\Administrator\Downloads\jenkins.war
$user.home/.jenkins
8 14:05:31.365+0000 [id=1] INFO org.eclipse.jetty.util.log.Log#initialized: Logging initialized @2047ms
lipse.jetty.util.log.JavaUtilLog
8 14:05:31.615+0000 [id=1] INFO winstone.Logger#logInternal: Beginning extraction from war file
8 14:05:31.776+0000 [id=1] WARNING o.e.j.s.handler.ContextHandler#setContextPath: Empty contextPath
8 14:05:31.881+0000 [id=1] INFO org.eclipse.jetty.server.Server#doStart: jetty-9.4.43.v20210629; built:
0T11:07:22.254Z; git: 526006ecfa3af7f1a27ef3a288e2bef7ea9dd7e8; jvm 1.8.0_241-b07
```

we have the default ports for Jenkins server of 8080

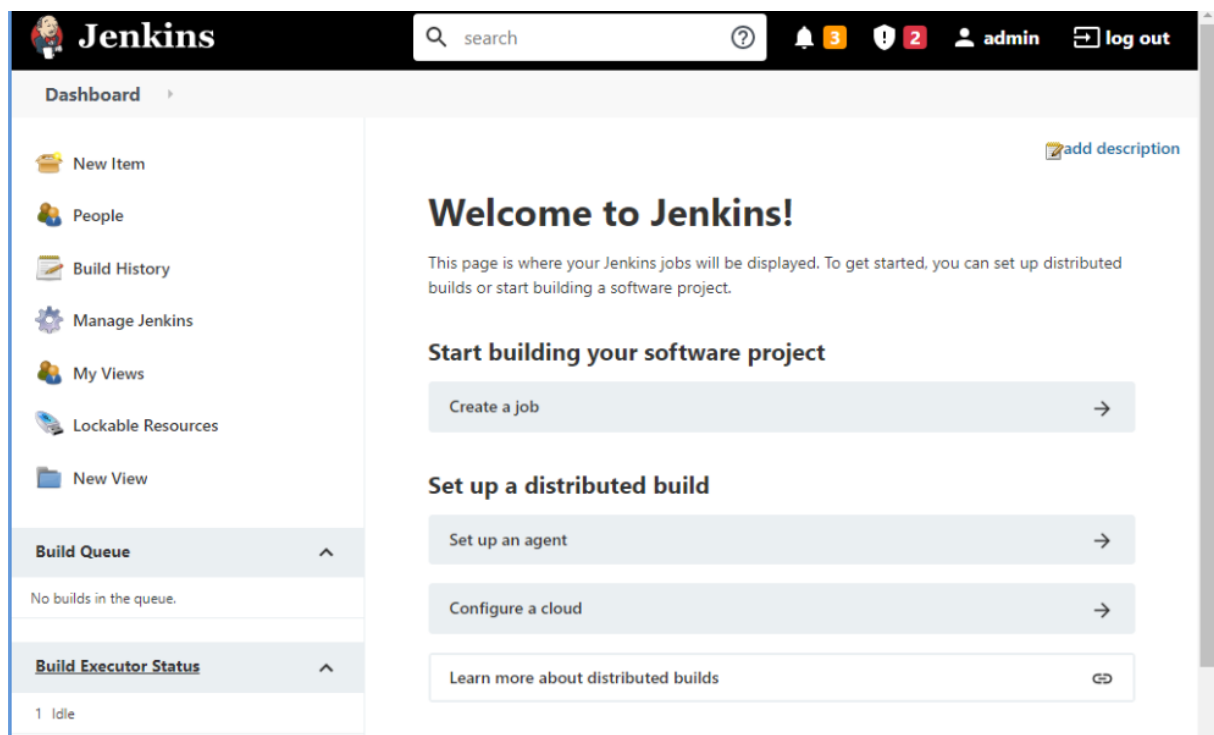
So, it's gonna expose a Jenkins server on this port of our local host With type in localhost:8080:



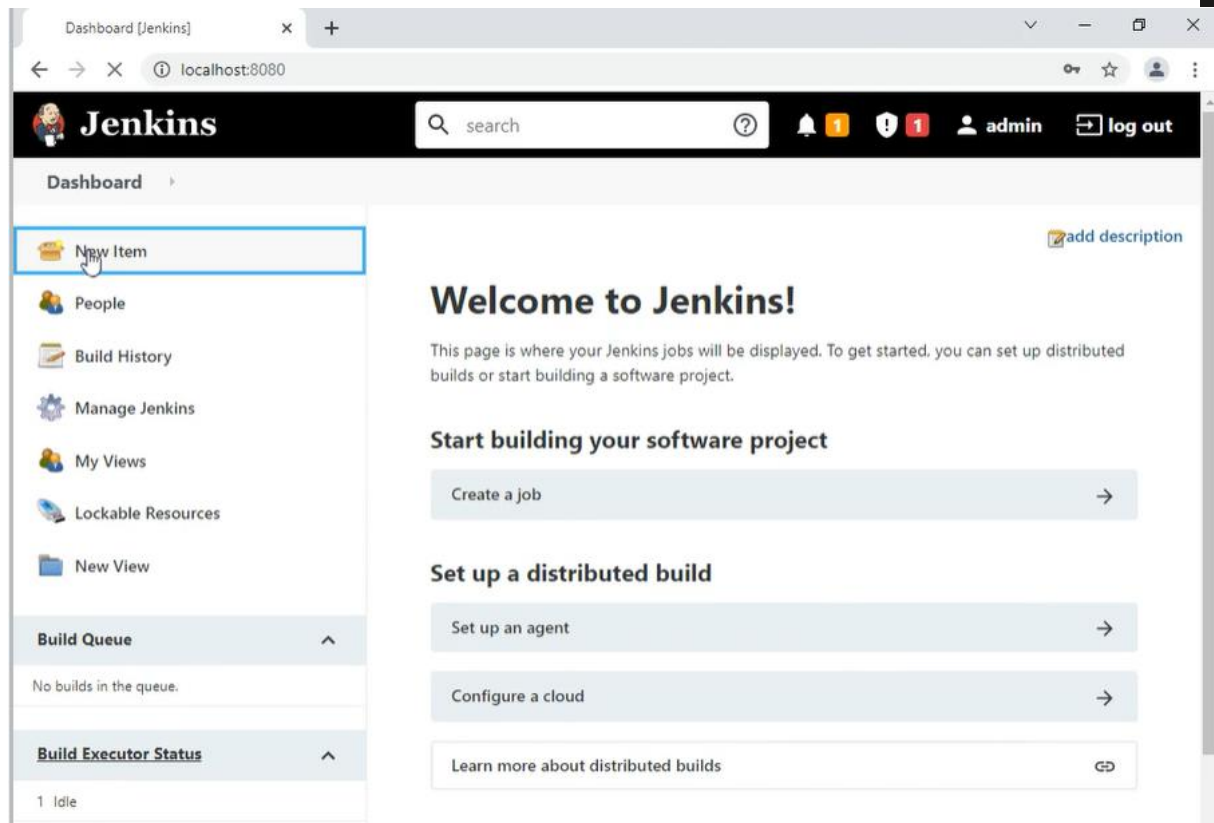
So, we should be brought here to the log in page, so we gonna type the name of user and the password. Here we type: User='admin' and password='admin'



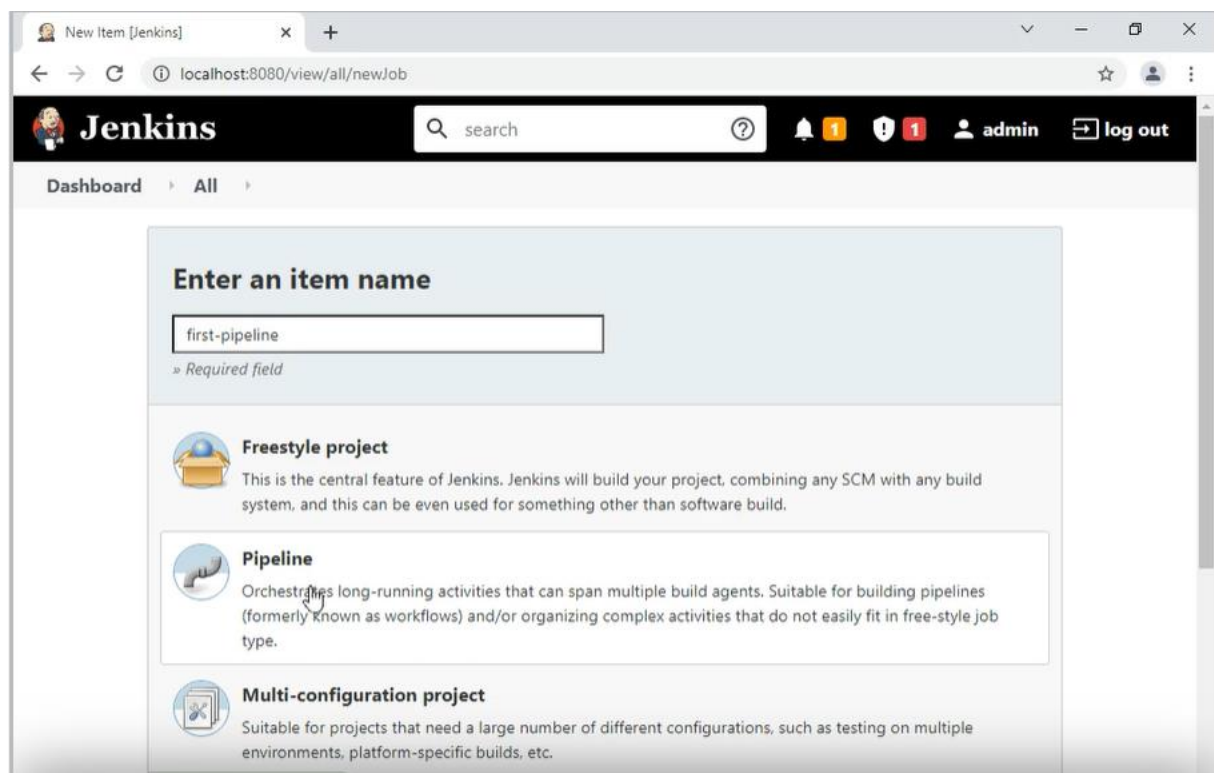
This is now bringing us here to the Jenkins dashboard.



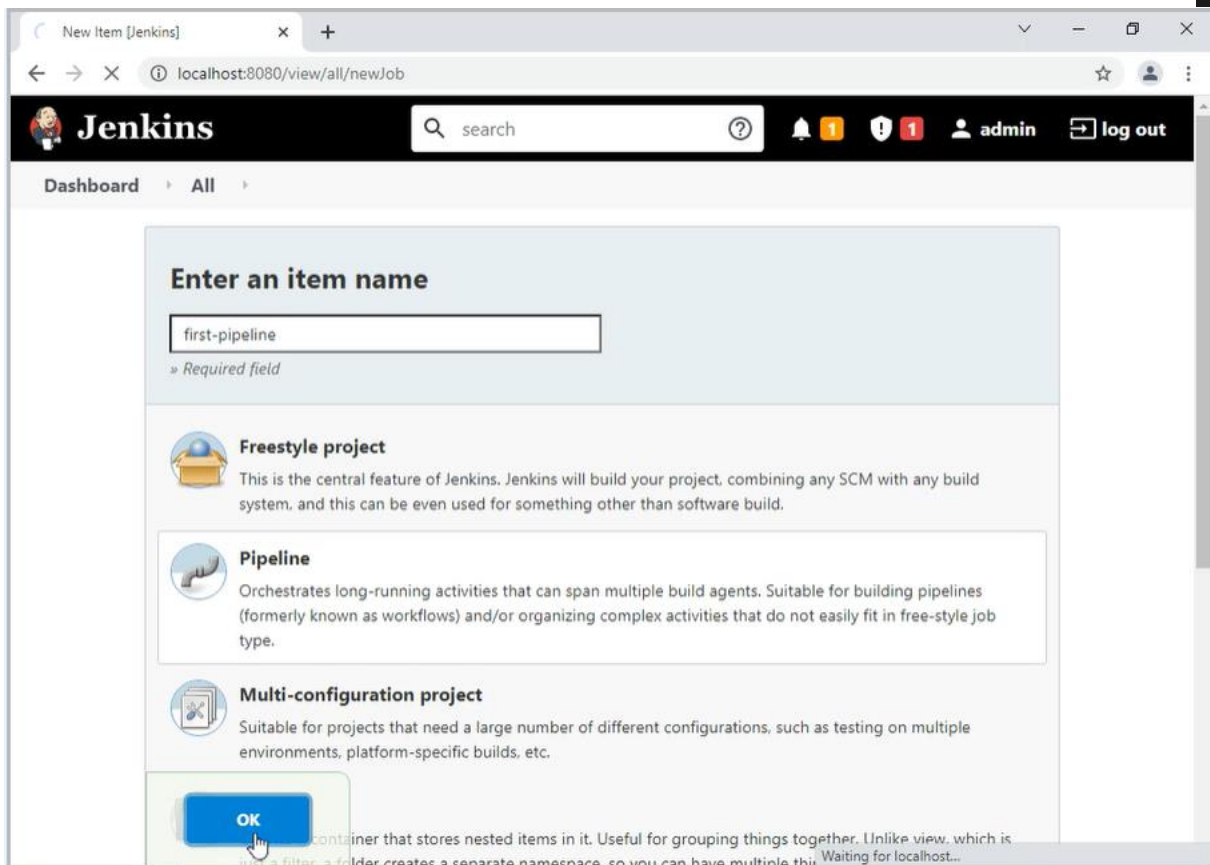
So let's click on 'new item' here



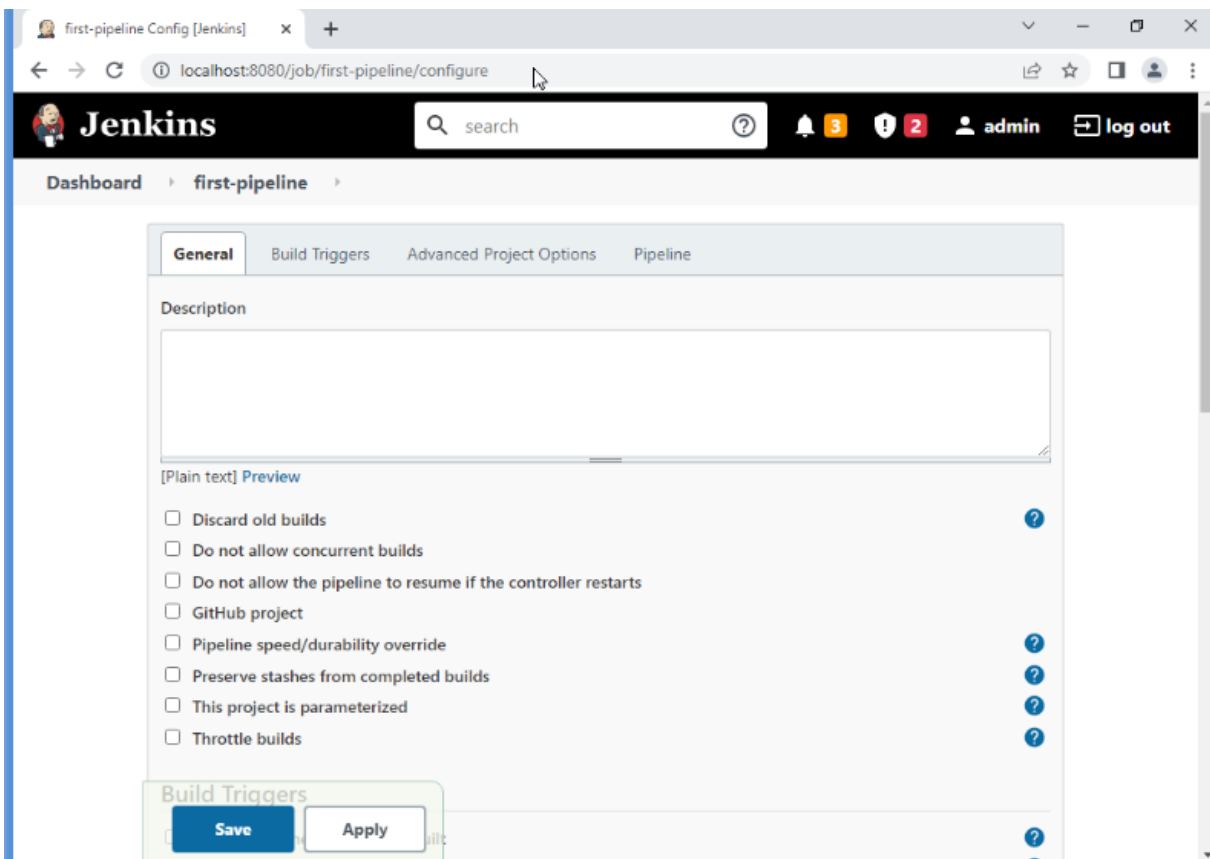
So we type the name of the item and click on Pipeline projects:



Now let's click on 'OK':



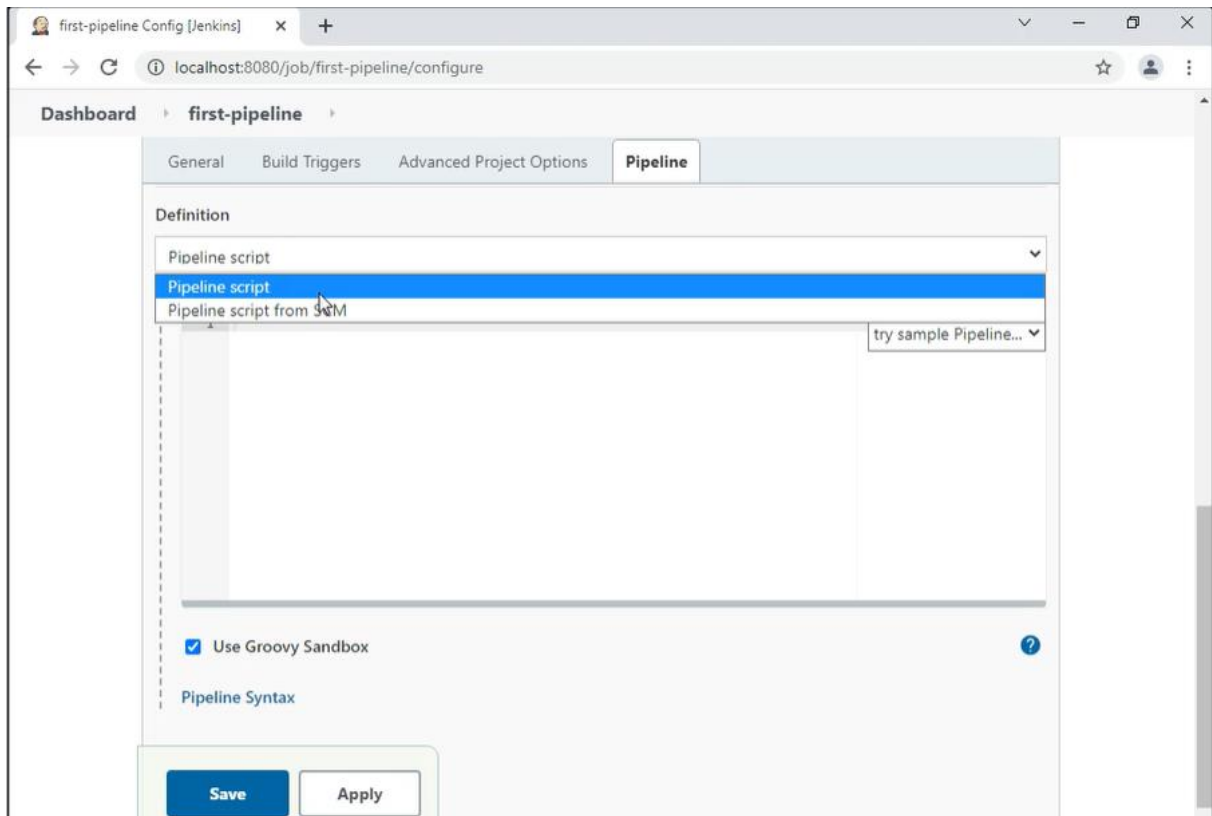
it's gonna bring us to the configuration page and at this point we're not actually connecting this to some kind of source code.







So if you click pipeline here, bring you down to this pipeline script section and then here we have the option here on this drop down of providing a pipeline script or pipeline script from source code management.



And this pipeline script here is the one that we're actually going to start writing here ourselves. And so to be able to actually write our script, we need to take an aside and that she start having a look at the formatting of a pipeline script.

And Jenkins and as we know, the pipeline is focused around continuous delivery And most importantly, with Jenkins, it's flexible when it's a user defined model of a continuous delivery pipeline.

So, we can have a typical example where the build test and deploy stage, we could have a staging stage, we could have a preparation stage, we could have a post stage which handles things after the actual pipeline has been completed.



## Declarative Pipeline Scripting

```
Jenkinsfile (Declarative Pipeline)
pipeline {
  agent any ❶
  stages {
    stage('Build') { ❷
      steps {
        // ❸
      }
    }
    stage('Test') { ❹
      steps {
        // ❺
      }
    }
    stage('Deploy') { ❻
      steps {
        // ❼
      }
    }
  }
}
```

- ❶ Execute this Pipeline or any of its stages, on any available **agent**.
- ❷ Defines the "Build" stage.
- ❸ Perform some steps related to the "Build" stage.
- ❹ Defines the "Test" stage.
- ❺ Perform some steps related to the "Test" stage.
- ❻ Defines the "Deploy" stage.
- ❼ Perform some steps related to the "Deploy" stage.

So, if we have a look over here at the script, pipeline scripts are actually written in groovy syntax

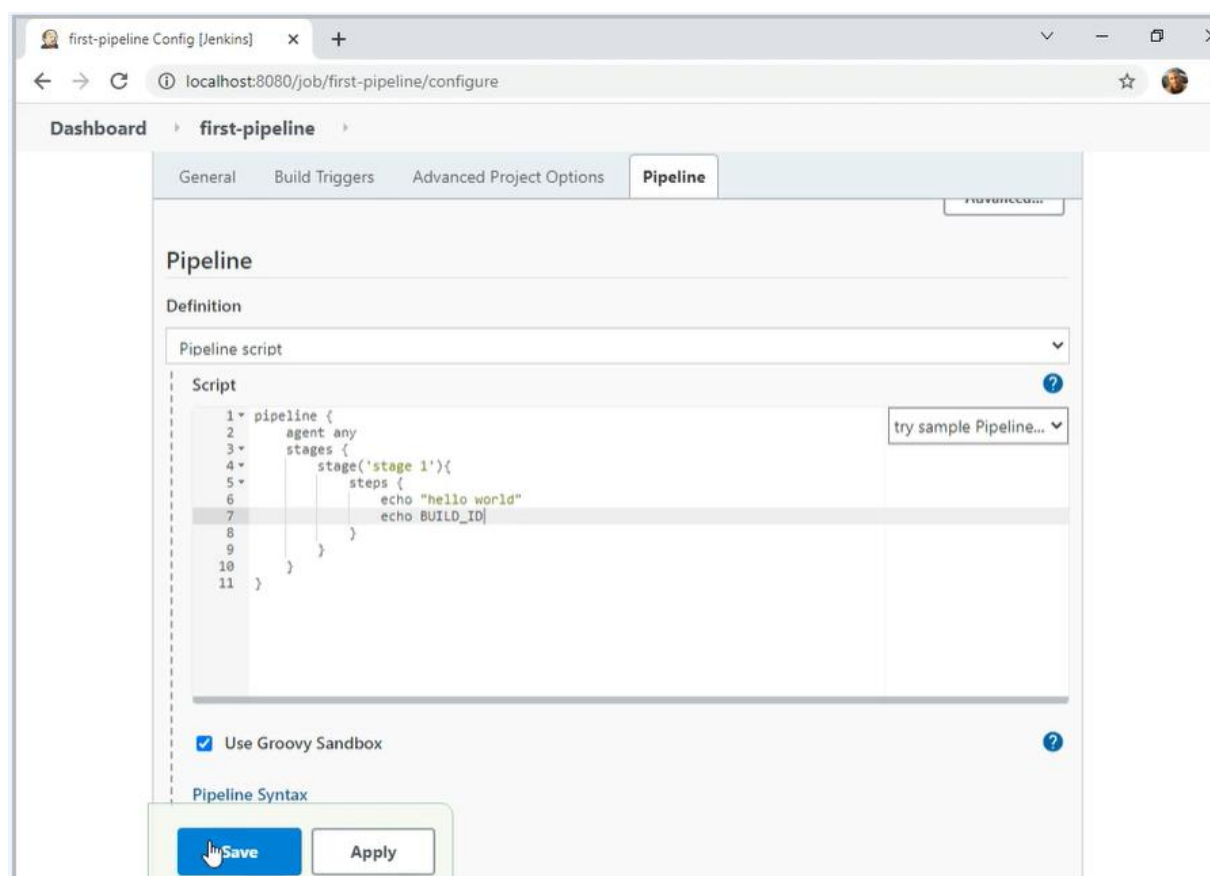
So no parentheses, no quotations is just literally pipeline open block and the first thing you'll see here is agent

And the agent in this case is more or less to do

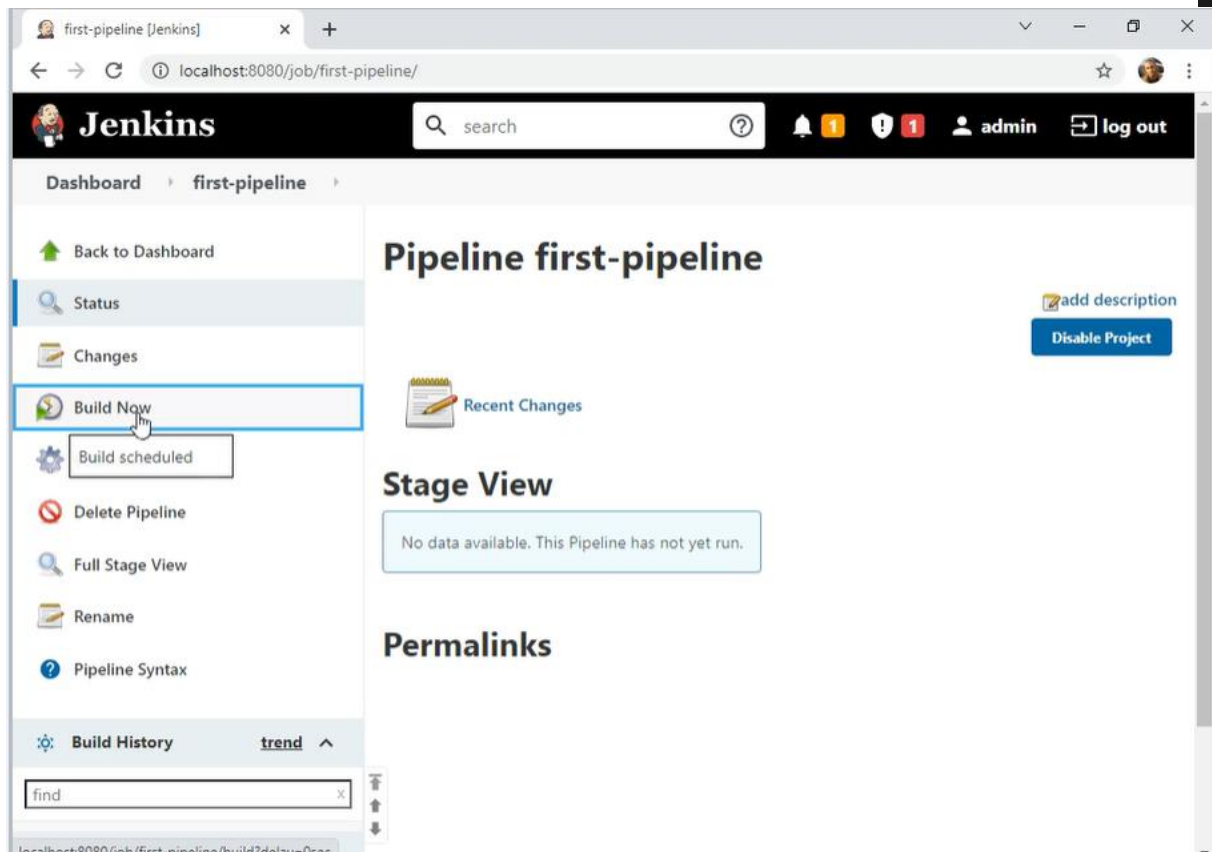
The steps represent a single task and it tells Jenkins what to do at a particular point in time or a particular step in the process.

### c. Task 3: Write our first Pipeline script and inject envvars

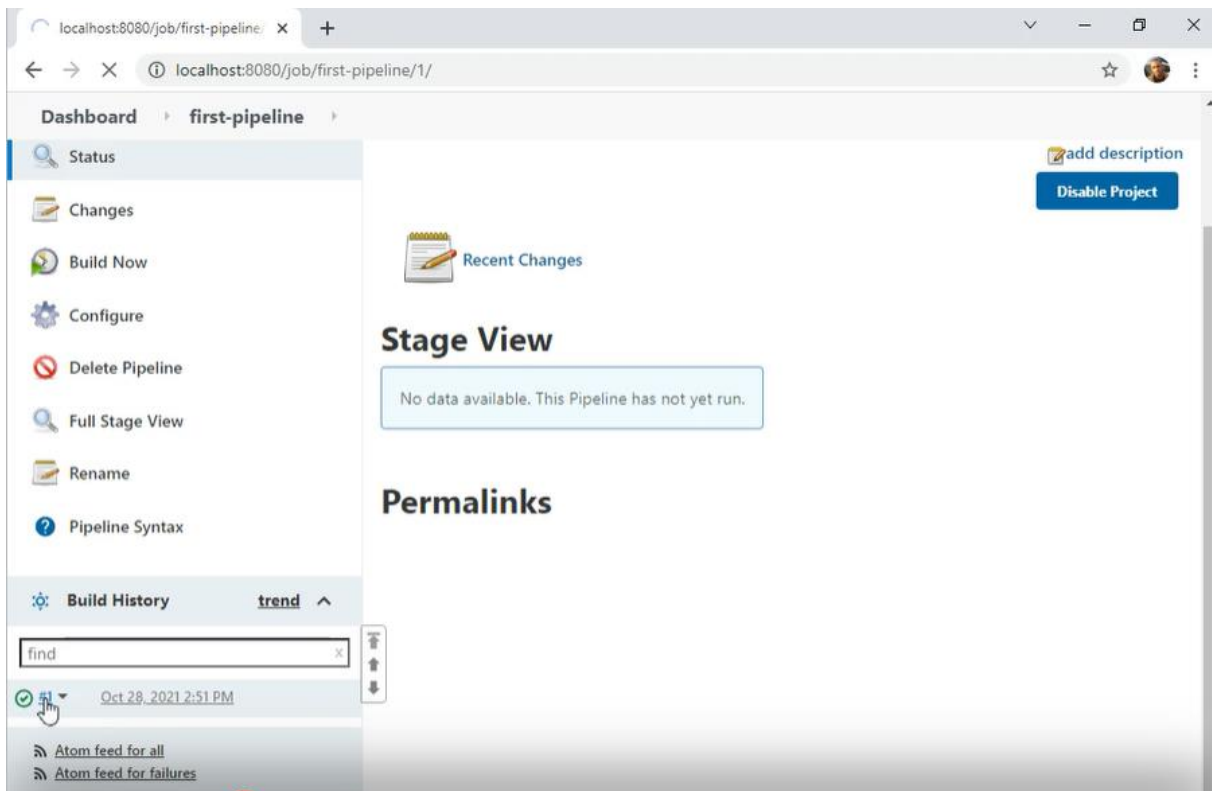
I'm gonna get to start writing our first pipelines groups and inject into that some environment variables.



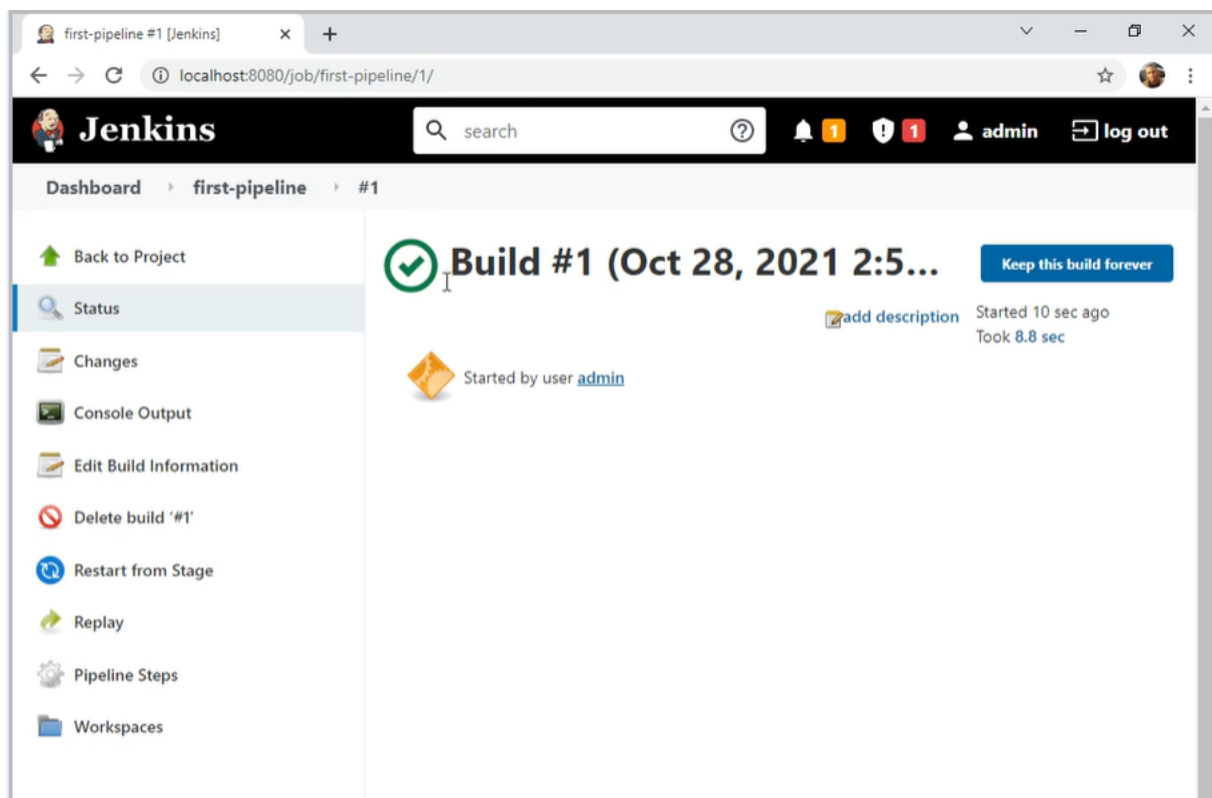
After saving the script, Let's try to run our first pipeline on click on '**Build Now**'



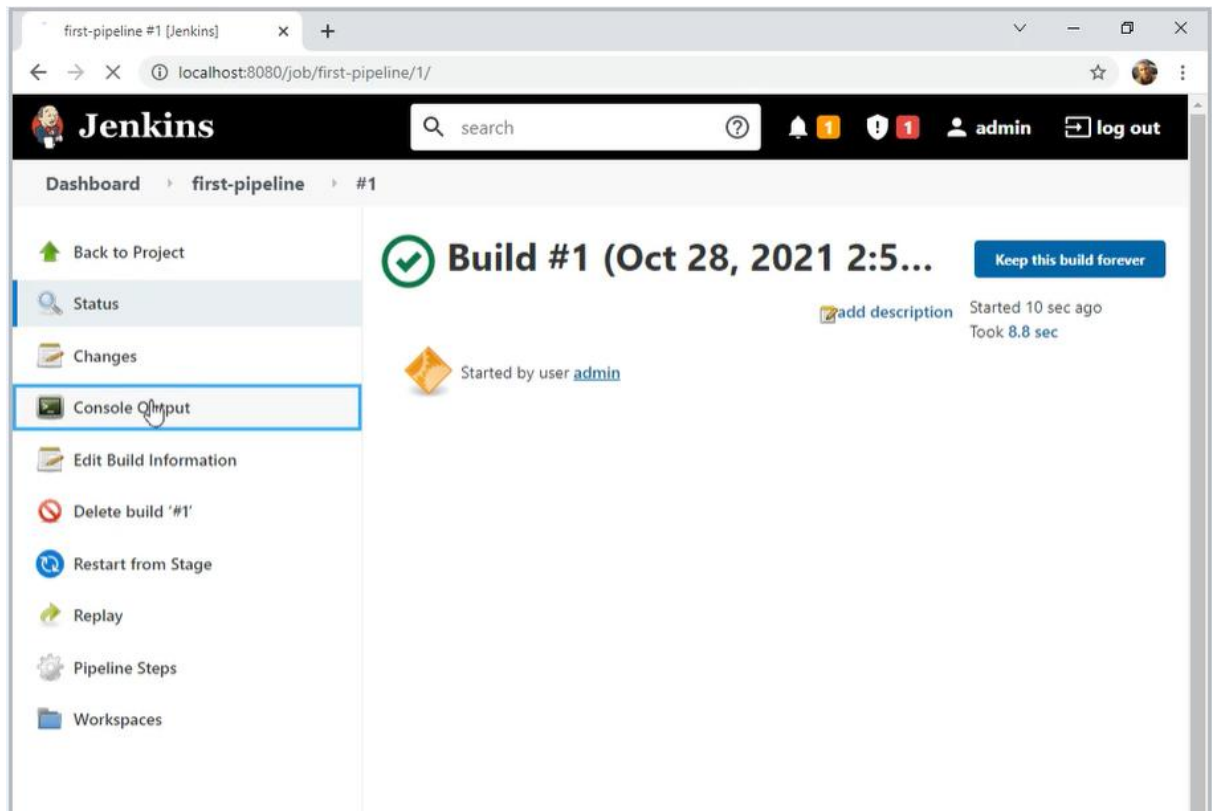
And if we scroll down, we gonna see inside to **'Build History'** the number of the build. So, when we click on:



We go to this page below:



And we go to a 'Console Output'



So, we can see here Hello world, and echo, and the ID of the build is number 1



The screenshot shows the Jenkins web interface for the 'first-pipeline' job. The left sidebar contains navigation links: 'Back to Project', 'Status', 'Changes', 'Console Output' (selected), 'View as plain text', 'Edit Build Information', 'Delete build '#1'', 'Restart from Stage', 'Replay', 'Pipeline Steps', and 'Workspaces'. The main area displays the 'Console Output' for build #1, which shows the pipeline execution log. The log indicates the pipeline was started by user 'admin', ran on Jenkins in the workspace 'first-pipeline', and executed a stage named 'stage 1' with an 'echo' step that printed 'hello world'. The pipeline finished successfully.

```
Started by user admin
[Pipeline] Start of Pipeline
[Pipeline] node
Running on Jenkins in C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\first-pipeline
[Pipeline] {
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (stage 1)
[Pipeline] echo
hello world
[Pipeline] echo
1
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // node
[Pipeline] End of Pipeline
Finished: SUCCESS
```

If we want to back of the project, we can click on 'Configure' for updating or changing something in the pipeline:

The screenshot shows the Jenkins 'Configure' page for the 'first-pipeline' job. The left sidebar includes links: 'Back to Dashboard', 'Status', 'Changes', 'Build Now', 'Configure' (selected), 'Delete Pipeline', 'Full Stage View', 'Rename', 'Pipeline Syntax', and 'Build History'. The main area is titled 'Pipeline first-pipeline' and includes a 'Recent Changes' section showing a change on Oct 26 at 14:51. Below this is the 'Stage View' section, which displays a bar chart for 'stage 1' with an average stage time of 740ms. The 'Permalinks' section at the bottom shows the last build (#1) completed 35 seconds ago.



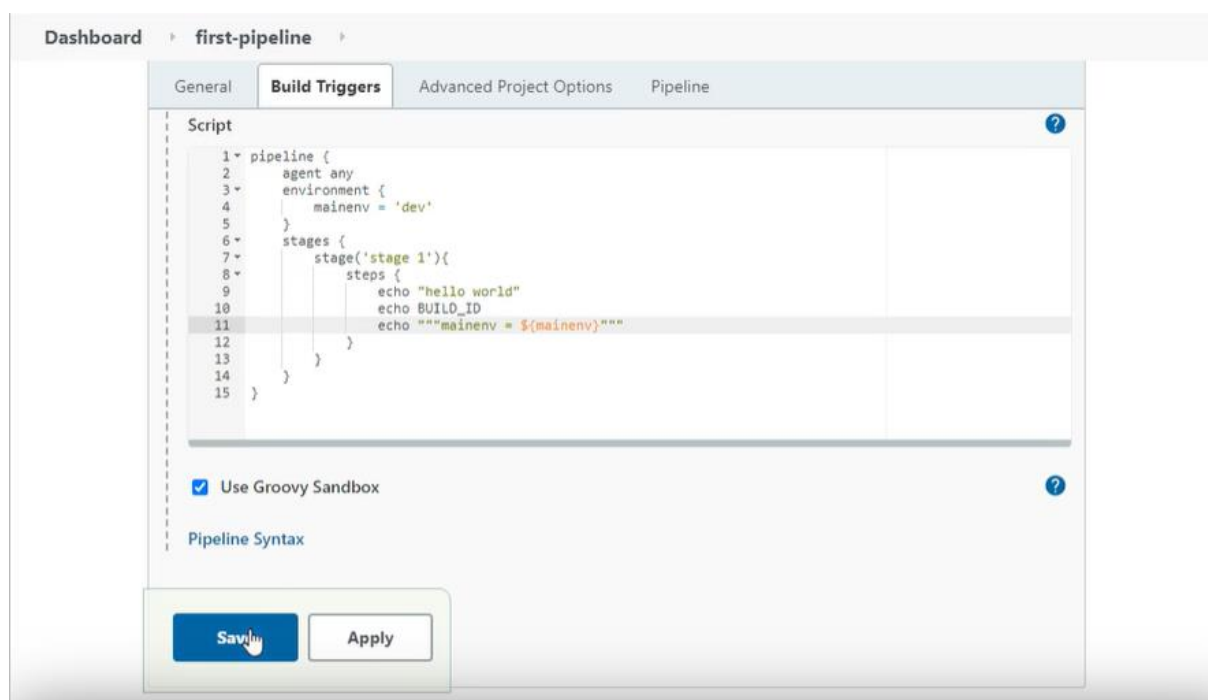
So we've already covered the concept of using the globally available environment variables. But we can also inject environment variables of our own into our code to be able to use throughout the pipeline process or life cycle.

And to do that, we use the Environment directive and the environment directive usually goes in the top level block and if it does in this case it will apply to every single step inside or every single stage inside of our pipeline.

So I can go ahead and simply define our variables. I'm gonna define a variable called **'mainenv'**

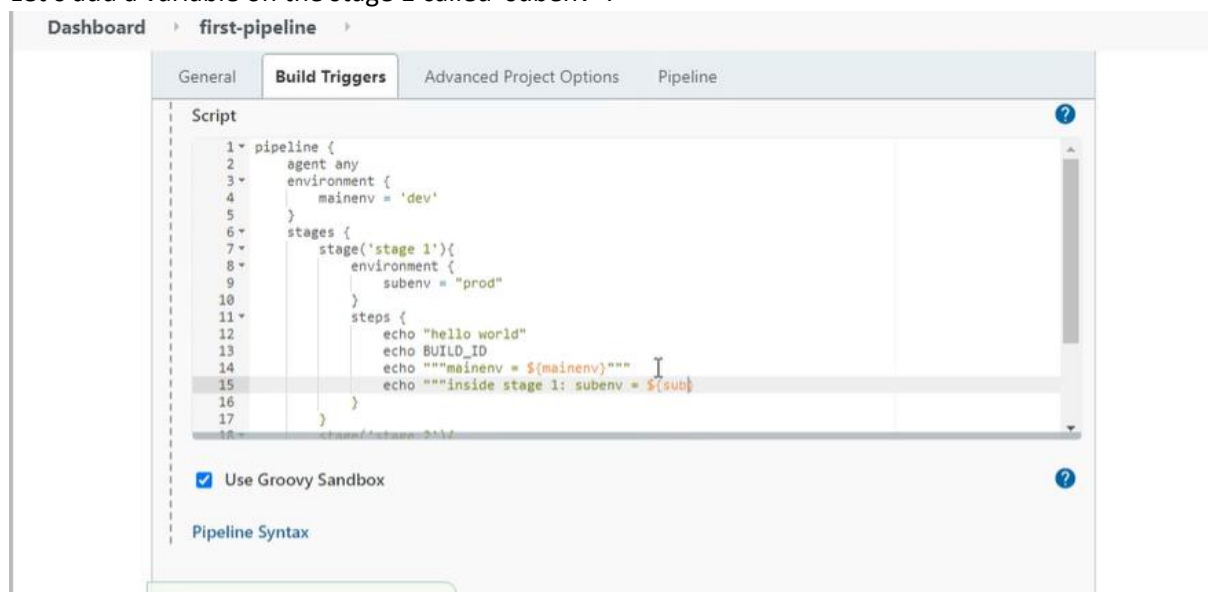
One thing which we can do here in groovy is we can provide three double quotation marks here too.

And now So let's save that here.



And when we build this now, wait for the build to start here.

Let's add a variable on the stage 1 called **'subenv'** :





And let's build too same steps in the both stages:

The screenshot shows the Jenkins Pipeline configuration page for a pipeline named 'first-pipeline'. The 'Build Triggers' tab is selected. The 'Script' section contains a Groovy script defining two stages, 'stage 1' and 'stage 2'. Both stages have an 'environment' block with 'subenv = "prod"' and a 'steps' block with two 'echo' steps: 'echo ""inside stage 1: mainenv = \${mainenv}""' and 'echo ""inside stage 1: subenv = \${subenv}""'. The 'Use Groovy Sandbox' checkbox is checked. At the bottom, there are 'Save' and 'Apply' buttons.

```
stage('stage 1'){
  environment {
    subenv = "prod"
  }
  steps {
    echo ""inside stage 1: mainenv = ${mainenv}""
    echo ""inside stage 1: subenv = ${subenv}""
  }
}
stage('stage 2'){
  steps {
    echo ""inside stage 2: mainenv = ${mainenv}""
    echo ""inside stage 2: subenv = ${subenv}""
  }
}
```

And if we see the Console Output, we note that the steps of the stage 1 was executed , but for the steps of stage 2, only the first step was executed because in stage 2 we cannot access to the variable 'subenv' because it scoped to the block of stage 1

The screenshot shows the Jenkins Console Output for build #4. The output displays the execution of the pipeline script. It shows the environment setup for 'stage 1' and the execution of its steps. However, for 'stage 2', only the first 'echo' step is executed, and the second 'echo' step fails with a 'groovy.lang.MissingPropertyException: No such property: subenv for class: groovy.lang.Binding'. This is because the 'subenv' variable is scoped to the 'stage 1' block and is not available in 'stage 2'.

```
Running on Jenkins in C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\first-pipeline
[Pipeline] {
[Pipeline] withEnv
[Pipeline] {
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (stage 1)
[Pipeline] withEnv
[Pipeline] {
[Pipeline] echo
inside stage 1: mainenv = dev
[Pipeline] echo
inside stage 1: subenv = prod
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // withEnv
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (stage 2)
[Pipeline] echo
inside stage 2: mainenv = dev
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // withEnv
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // node
[Pipeline] End of Pipeline
groovy.lang.MissingPropertyException: No such property: subenv for class:
groovy.lang.Binding
```

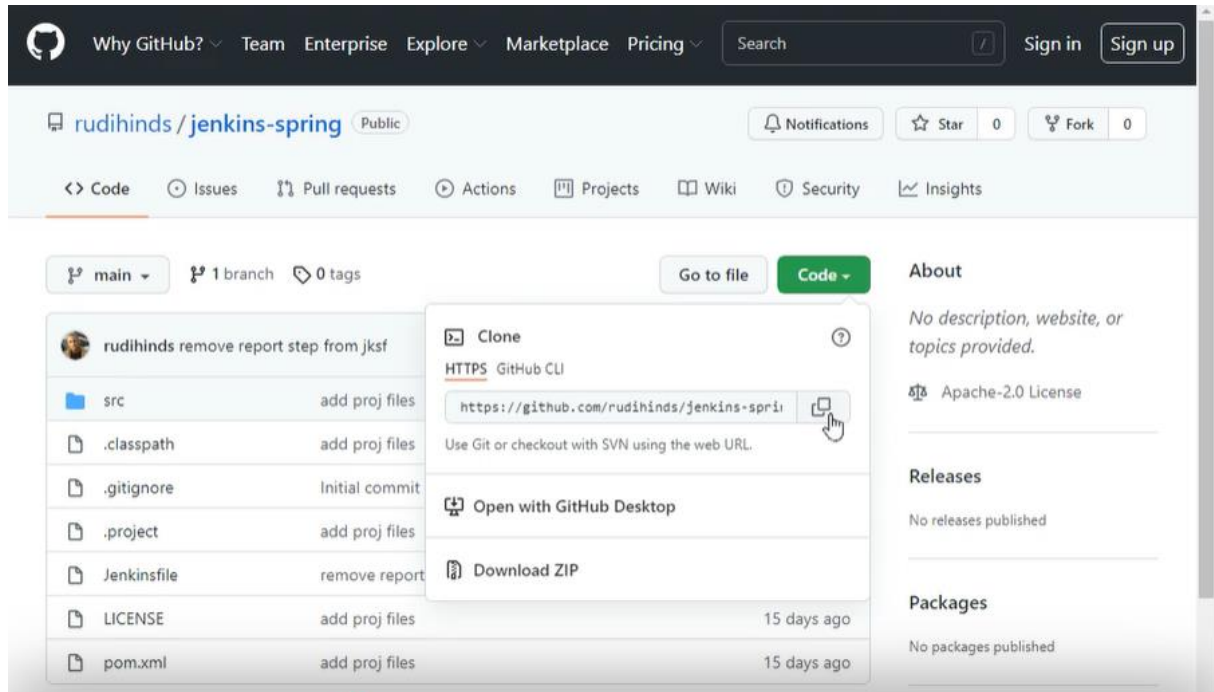




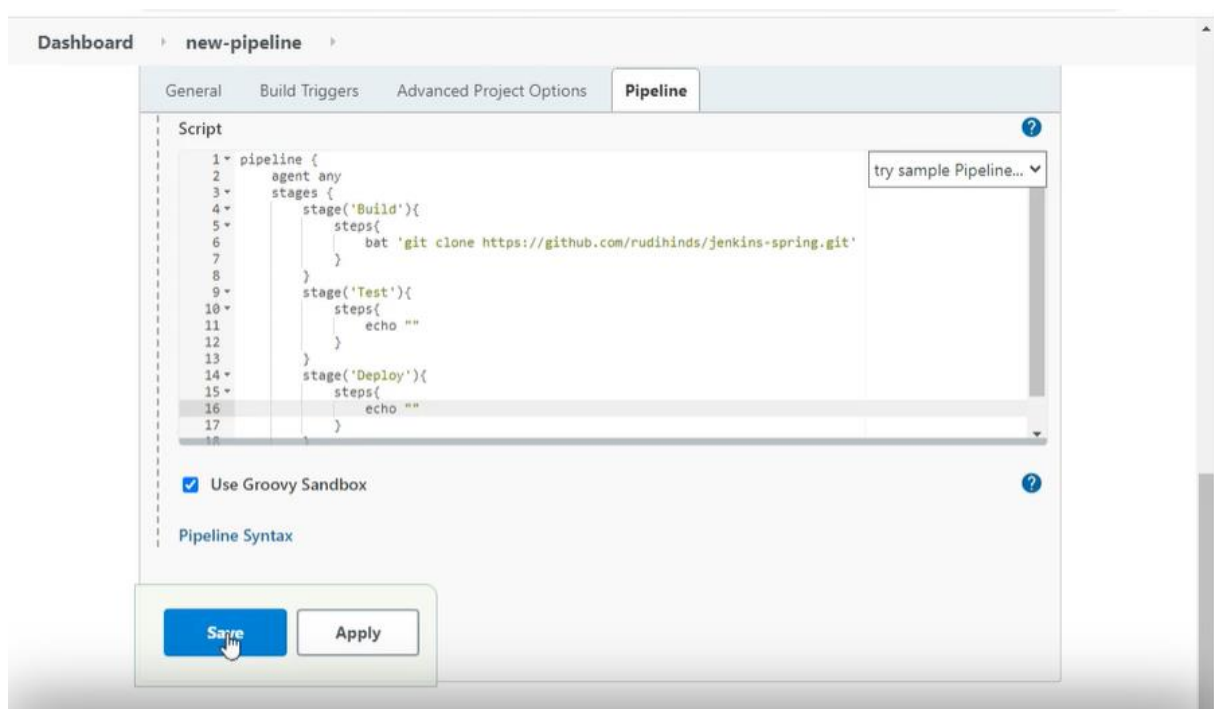
#### d. Task 4: Pipeline Script using real GitHub repo and build steps

It gives us a pipeline here with a very simple Hello World example.

So, we gonna copy the URL of a project in GitHub:



and clone it in pipeline script:



So, that the process was successfully executed



Dashboard > new-pipeline > #1

Back to Project

Status

Changes

Console Output

View as plain text

Edit Build Information

Delete build '#1'

Restart from Stage

Replay

Pipeline Steps

Workspaces

## Console Output

Started by user admin

```
[Pipeline] Start of Pipeline
[Pipeline] node
Running on Jenkins in C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\new-pipeline
[Pipeline] { (hide)
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Build)
[Pipeline] bat

C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\new-pipeline>git clone
https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git
Cloning into 'jenkins-spring'...
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Test)
[Pipeline] echo

[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Deploy)
[Pipeline] echo

[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
```

If we see this file location in folders

Jenkins

search

admin log out

Dashboard > new-pipeline > #1

Back to Project

Status

Changes

Console Output

View as plain text

Edit Build Information

Delete build '#1'

Restart from Stage

Replay

Pipeline Steps

Workspaces

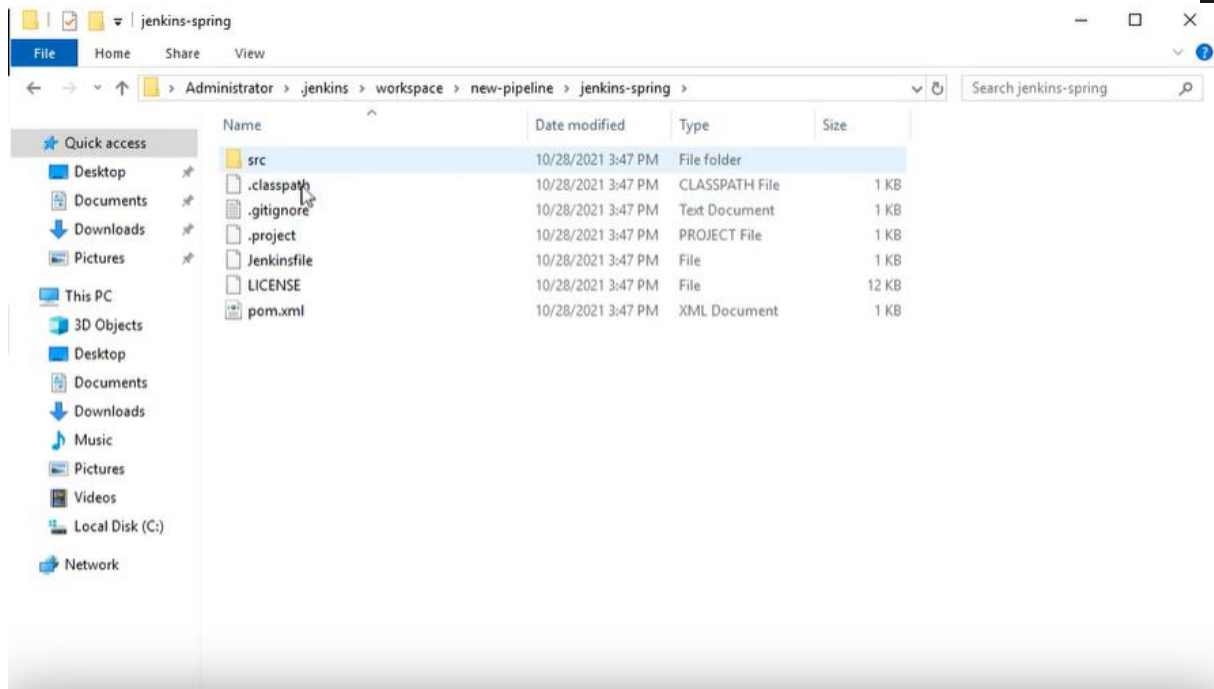
## Console Output

Started by user admin

```
[Pipeline] Start of Pipeline
[Pipeline] node
Running on Jenkins in C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\new-pipeline
[Pipeline] {
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Build)
[Pipeline] bat

C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\new-pipeline>git clone
https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git
Cloning into 'jenkins-spring'...
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Test)
[Pipeline] echo

[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Deploy)
[Pipeline] echo
```



So, we see that because it's been cloned successfully on our local system the formats of files look similar to the format inside of GitHub.

In this second step, we're gonna use the popular built or Maven to run. And what I want to do with Maven is to provide the command Maven Clean which actually execute Maven and then cleans the target directory of all the old files that were generated from the previous build before it goes ahead and run that particular in particular stage itself.

So, we certainly must to have a look from the most common Maven build phases:

We provide the maven clean command along with **validate** compiled test packages to deploy

Most common MVN build phases	
Build Phase	Description
validate	Validates that the project is correct and all necessary information is available. This also makes sure the dependencies are downloaded.
compile	Compiles the source code of the project.
test	Runs the tests against the compiled source code using a suitable unit testing framework. These tests should not require the code be packaged or deployed.
package	Packs the compiled code in its distributable format, such as a JAR.
install	Install the package into the local repository, for use as a dependency in other projects locally.
deploy	Copies the final package to the remote repository for sharing with other developers and projects.

So, I gonna use it in this step:



Dashboard > new-pipeline >

General Build Triggers Advanced Project Options **Pipeline**

Script

```
3 stages {
4   stage('Build'){
5       steps{
6           bat 'mvn clean -f jenkins-spring'
7           bat 'git clone https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git'
8       }
9   }
10  stage('Test'){
11      steps{
12          bat 'mvn clean test -f jenkins-spring'
13      }
14  }
15  stage('Deploy'){
16      steps{
17          bat 'mvn clean package -f jenkins-spring'
18      }
19  }
20 }
```

☒ Use Groovy Sandbox

Pipeline Syntax

**Save** Apply

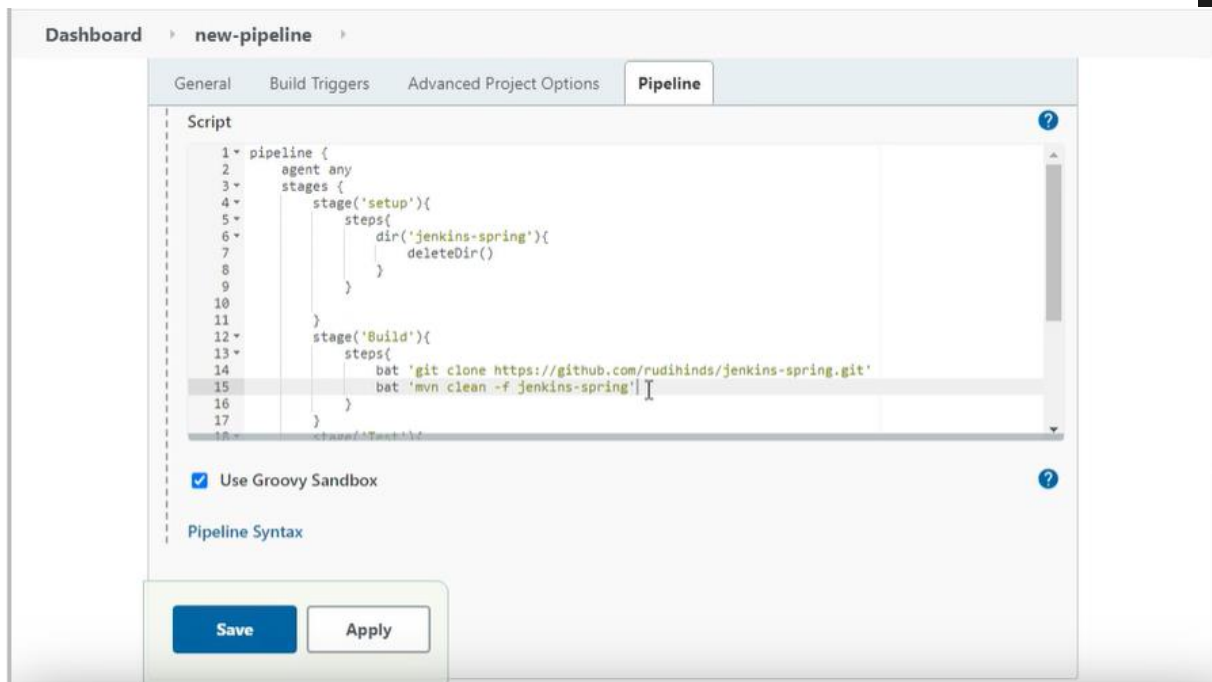
And this is the result in the Console Output:

Dashboard > new-pipeline > #2

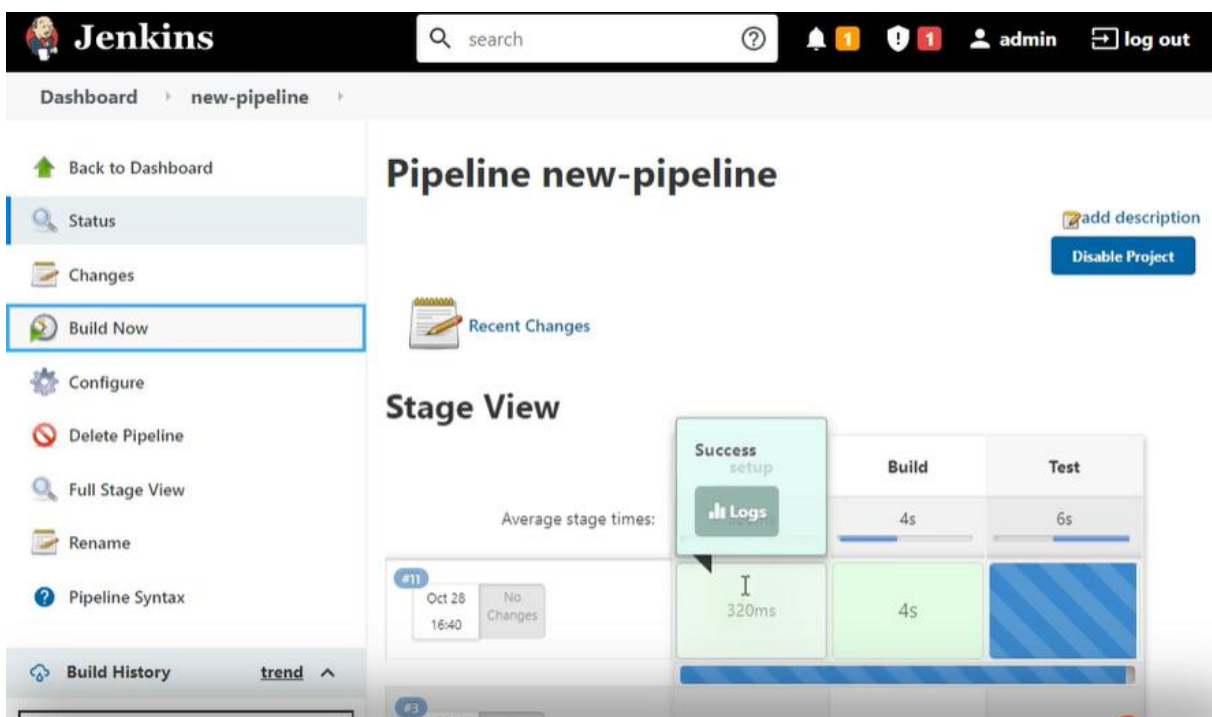
```
utils/3.0/plexus-utils-3.0.jar (226 kB at 2.1 MB/s)
[INFO] -----
[INFO] BUILD SUCCESS
[INFO] -----
[INFO] Total time: 4.964 s
[INFO] Finished at: 2021-10-28T16:00:14Z
[INFO] -----
[Pipeline] bat

C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\new-pipeline>git clone
https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git
fatal: destination path 'jenkins-spring' already exists and is not an empty directory.
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Test)
Stage "Test" skipped due to earlier failure(s)
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] stage
[Pipeline] { (Deploy)
Stage "Deploy" skipped due to earlier failure(s)
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // stage
[Pipeline] }
[Pipeline] // node
[Pipeline] End of Pipeline
ERROR: script returned exit code 128
Finished: FAILURE
```

The stage 'test' and 'deploy' skipped due to



So we can see in the status that the stage setup was added:



#### e. Task 5: Connect pipeline to SCM with Jenkins file

In this task, we need to have a Jenkins file uploaded in a source code management like Git



The screenshot shows the GitHub repository page for 'rudihinds/jenkins-spring'. The repository is public and has 0 stars and 0 forks. The 'Code' tab is selected, showing a list of files and their commit history. The files listed are: src, .classpath, .gitignore, .project, Jenkinsfile, LICENSE, and pom.xml. The 'Jenkinsfile' is highlighted, showing it was committed yesterday by 'rudihinds' to remove a report step from jksf. The right sidebar shows the repository's description, license (Apache-2.0), and release/package status.

And, on opened this Jenkins file, we got:

The screenshot shows the content of the 'Jenkinsfile' in a GitHub browser view. The file is 260 bytes and contains 20 lines of Jenkins pipeline code. The code defines a pipeline with an 'any' agent and three stages: 'Build', 'Test', and 'Deploy'. The 'Build' stage runs 'mvn clean', the 'Test' stage runs 'mvn test', and the 'Deploy' stage runs 'mvn package'.

```
1 pipeline {
2   agent any
3   stages {
4     stage('Build') {
5       steps {
6         bat 'mvn clean'
7       }
8     }
9     stage('Test') {
10      steps {
11        bat 'mvn test'
12      }
13    }
14    stage('Deploy') {
15      steps {
16        bat 'mvn package'
17      }
18    }
19  }
20 }
```

Now, the part of the script where we had to clone the repo is not going to be used because getting this, we are gonna be telling Jenkins to get the repo directly from source code management and it's going to get the Jenkins file from there and it's gonna know what to do with that by itself.

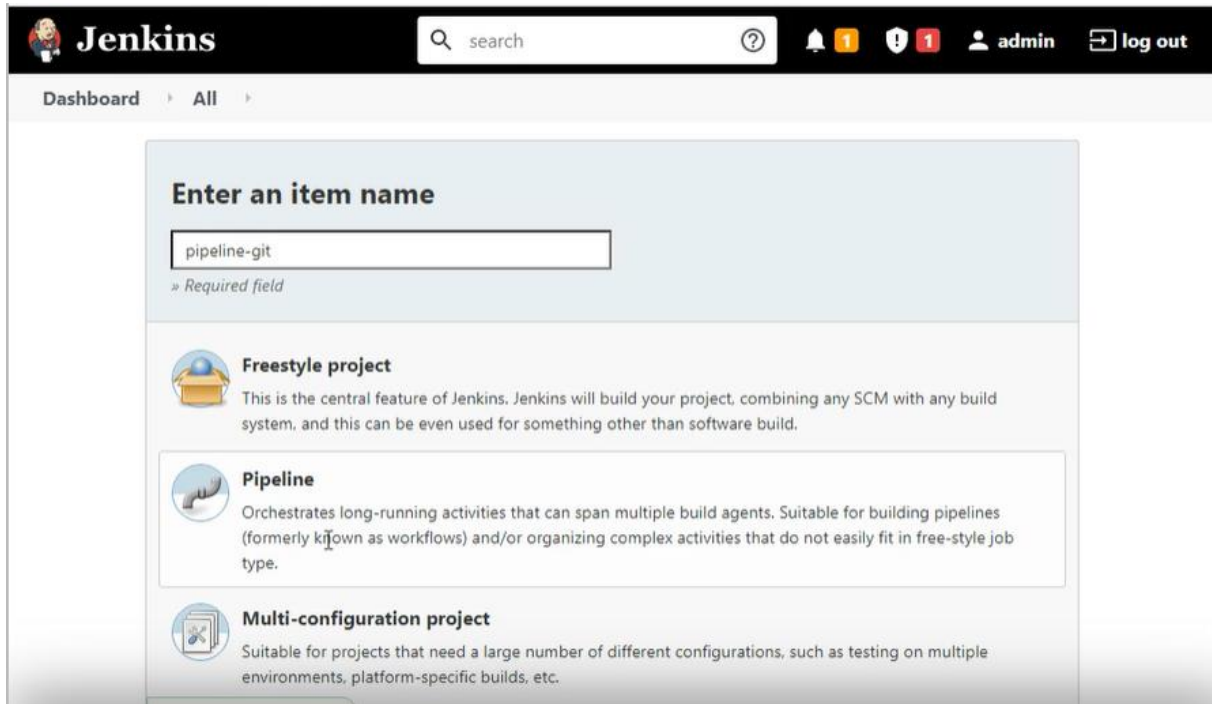




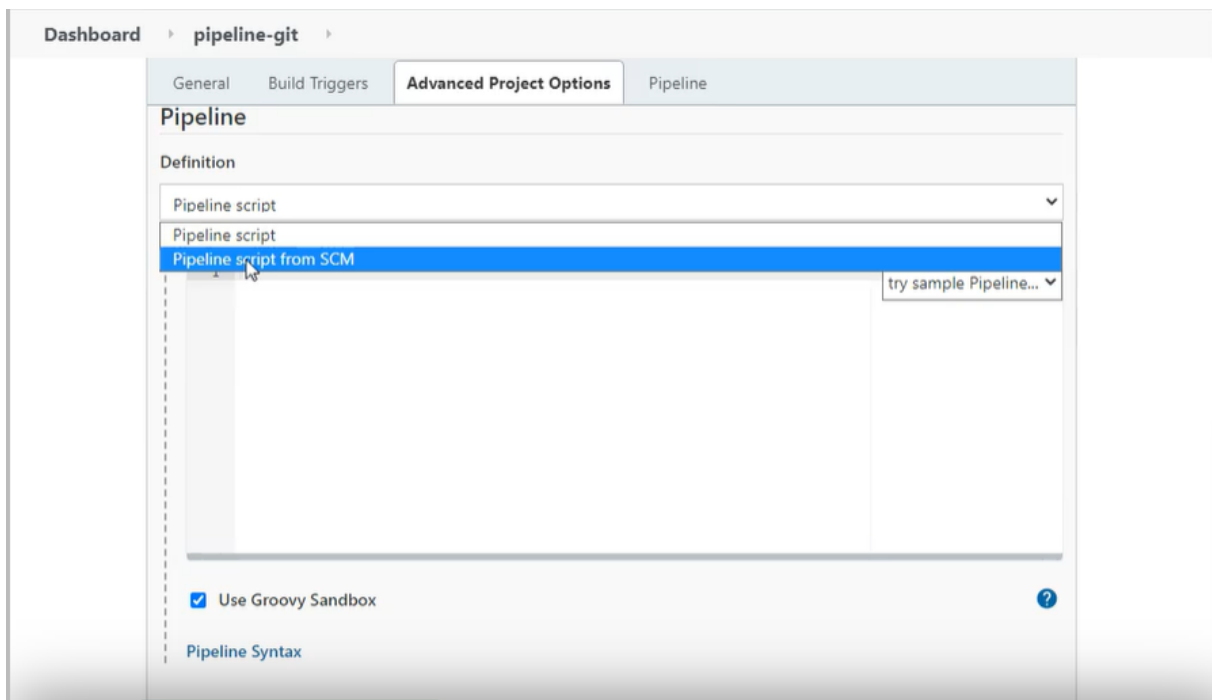
So, we don't need to provide that as a separate step in and of itself.

So, we do simply have three separate steps where we provide a batch command and we are just doing a clean process here.

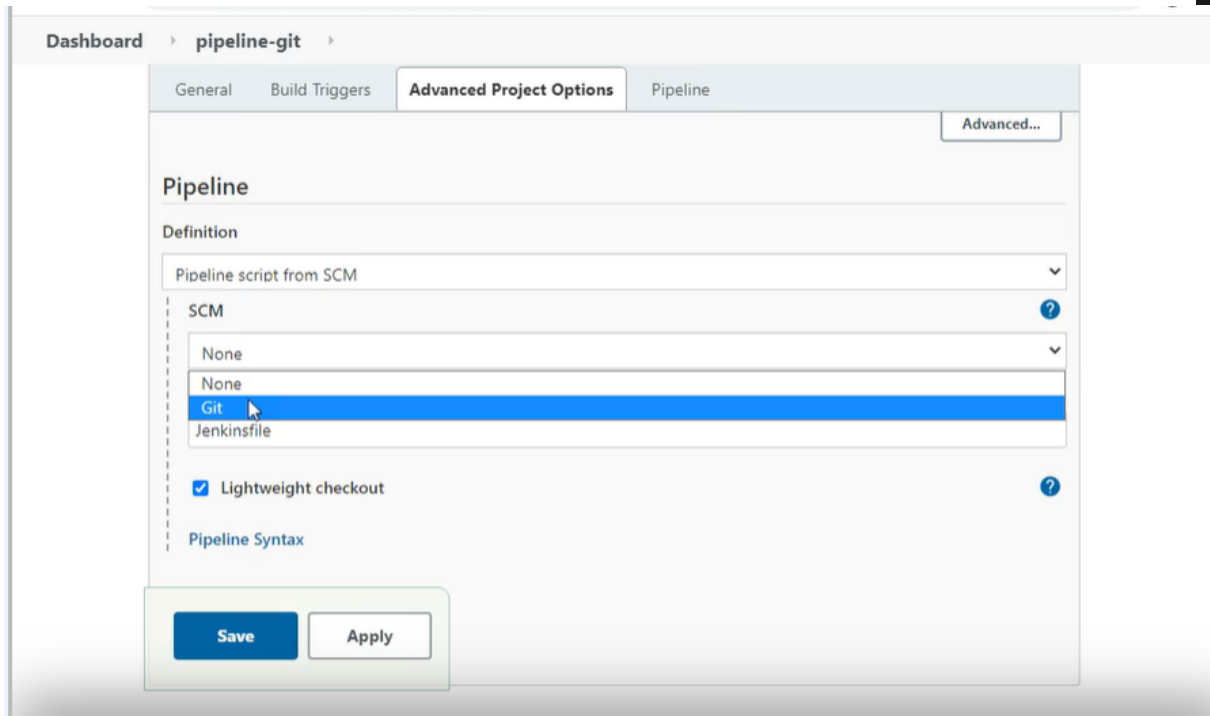
So, firstly we gonna create a new item:



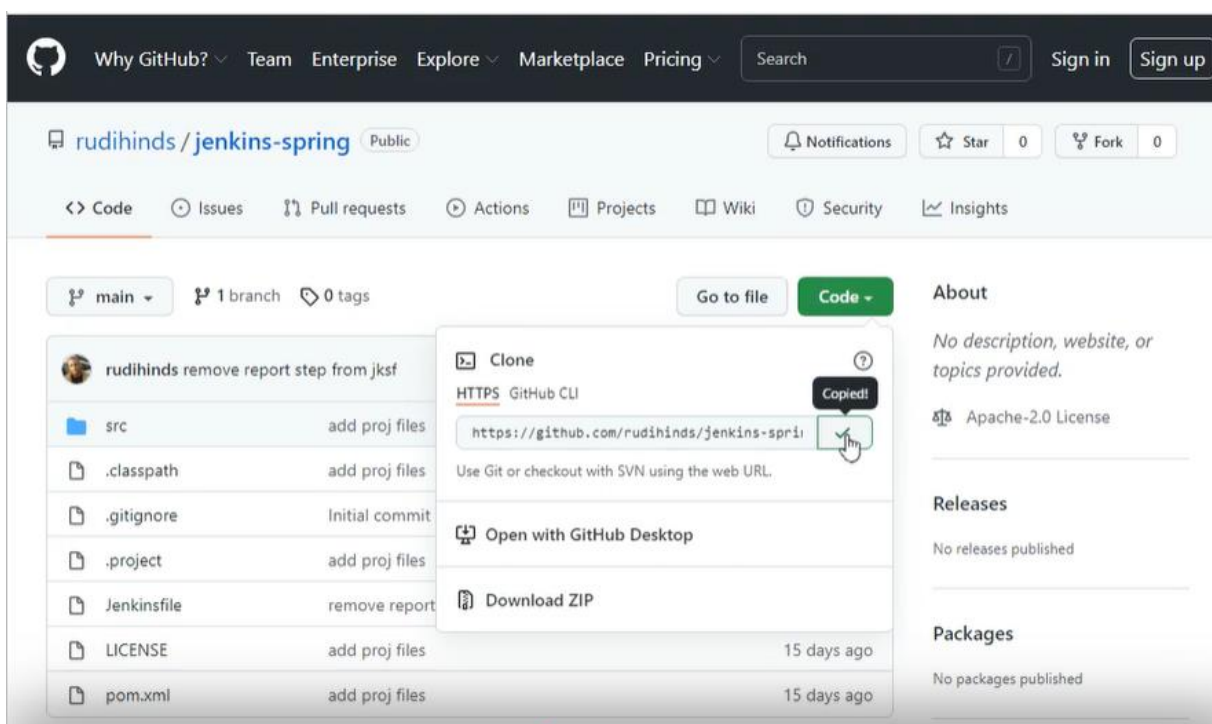
And we gonna choose the second option the pipeline script:



And we select Git here:



And, let's copy the link from git:



And, we simply paste the URL:





Dashboard > pipeline-git >

General Build Triggers **Advanced Project Options** Pipeline

Advanced...

### Pipeline

Definition

Pipeline script from SCM

SCM

Git

Repositories

Repository URL

Please enter Git repository.

Credentials

- none - Add

Advanced...

Add Repository

Save Apply

And, we change the name of the branch like we have in Git, here we have the branch called 'main':

Dashboard > pipeline-git >

General Build Triggers **Advanced Project Options** Pipeline

Advanced...

Add Repository

Branches to build

Branch Specifier (blank for 'any')

Add Branch

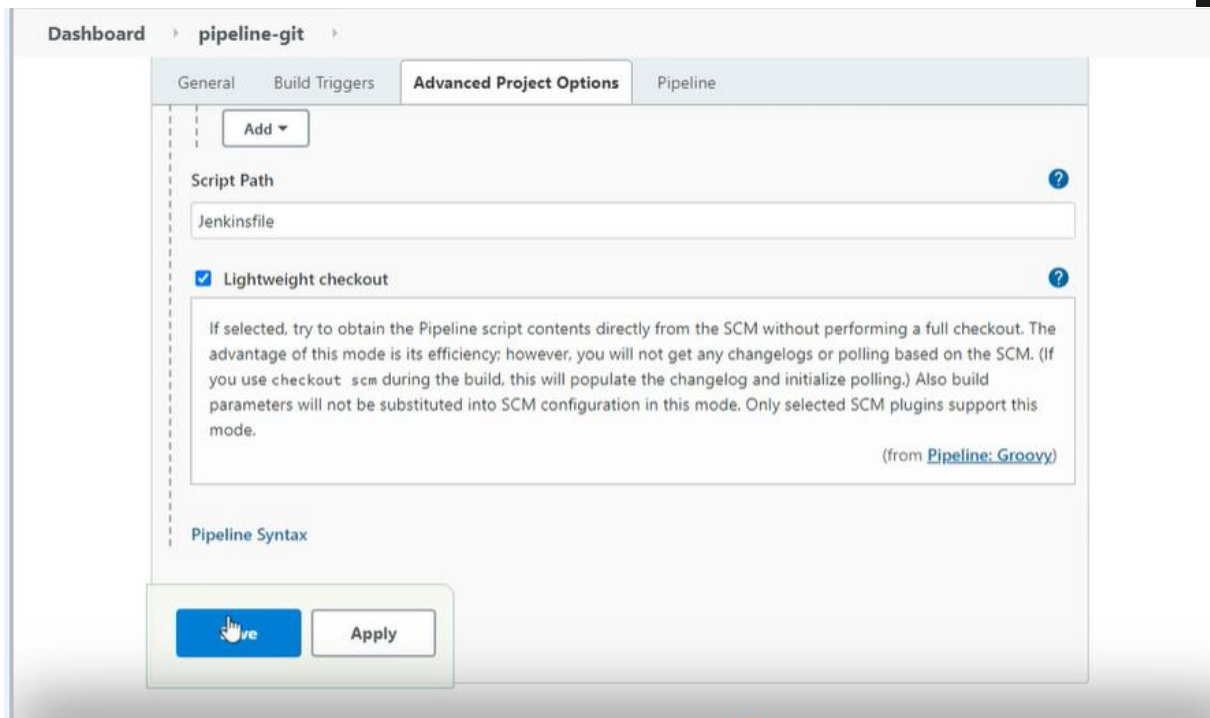
Repository browser

(Auto)

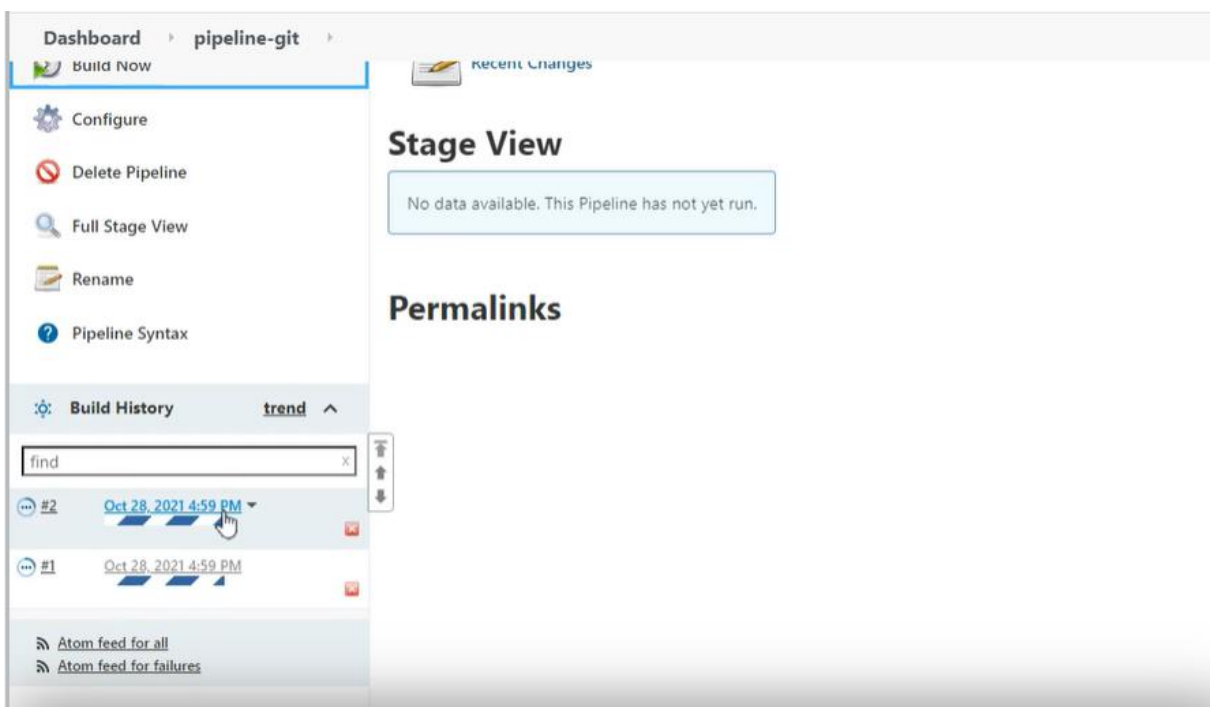
Additional Behaviours

Add

We gonna simply click on 'save', because all the configuration is actually inside of the script.



And now, we gonna click on 'Build Now' for accomplishing the process:



And, we can click on Logs for seeing the results of each stage:



Dashboard > pipeline-git >

**Build Now**

- Configure
- Delete Pipeline
- Full Stage View
- Rename
- Pipeline Syntax

**Recent Changes**

### Stage View

Average stage times:  
(Average full run time: ~38s)

	Declarative: Checkout SCM	Build	Test	Deploy
#2	1s	4s	13s	13s
#1				

Oct 28 16:59 No Changes

Oct 28 16:59 No Changes

**Permalinks**

- Atom feed for all
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and we be able to see clone the repository

### Stage Logs (Declarative: Checkout SCM)

Check out from version control (self time 1s)

```
Selected Git installation does not exist. Using Default
The recommended git tool is: NONE
No credentials specified
Cloning the remote Git repository
Cloning repository https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git
> git.exe init C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\pipeline-git # timeout=10
Fetching upstream changes from https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git
> git.exe --version # timeout=10
> git --version # 'git version 2.26.0.windows.1'
> git.exe fetch --tags --force --progress -- https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/origin/* #
timeout=10
> git.exe config remote.origin.url https://github.com/rudihinds/jenkins-spring.git # timeout=10
> git.exe config --add remote.origin.fetch +refs/heads/*:refs/remotes/origin/* # timeout=10
Avoid second fetch
> git.exe rev-parse "refs/remotes/origin/main^{commit}" # timeout=10
Checking out Revision e052c9353acecc0780a88890d9bd7795e427cef6 (refs/remotes/origin/main)
> git.exe config core.sparsecheckout # timeout=10
> git.exe checkout -f e052c9353acecc0780a88890d9bd7795e427cef6 # timeout=10
Commit message: "remove report step from jksf"
```

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Same thing for the build stage:



**Stage Logs (Build)**

Windows Batch Script -- mvn clean (self time 4s)

```
C:\Users\Administrator\.jenkins\workspace\pipeline-git>mvn clean
[INFO] Scanning for projects...
[INFO]
[INFO] -----< com.ravi.common:SpringExample >-----
[INFO] Building SpringExample 1.0-SNAPSHOT
[INFO] -----[ jar ]-----
[INFO]
[INFO] --- maven-clean-plugin:2.5:clean (default-clean) @ SpringExample ---
[INFO]
[INFO] BUILD SUCCESS
[INFO]
[INFO] -----
[INFO] Total time:  0.649 s
[INFO] Finished at: 2021-10-28T16:59:23Z
[INFO] -----
```

Oct 28, 2021 4:59 PM  
Oct 28, 2021 4:59 PM

Atom feed for all  
Atom feed for failures

Oct 28 16:59 No Changes

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This is the type of automation that we're going to be waiting in our life projects.