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I Like Kill Nerds

The blog of Australian Front End / Aurelia Javascript Developer & brewing aficionado Dwayne Charrington.

July 20, 2014 by Dwayne | Front End Development

Copying Files From One Folder To Another In Gulp.js

Last updated: November 12, 2014

I absolutely love Gulp.js, I've all but used it as a replacement for Grunt as it feels a lot cleaner and requires significantly less configuration to get things happening.

Recently whilst installing Bootstrap and Font Awesome using Bower, I needed to copy the font files from the Bower package into the actual directory (because the bower_components won't be on the live site and thus referencing the module files makes no sense).

Inside of my gulpfile.js I simply add in the following and it copies my fonts. Best of all, this method does not require any Gulp plugin or additional install. This is basic straight-up globbing and copying using streams.
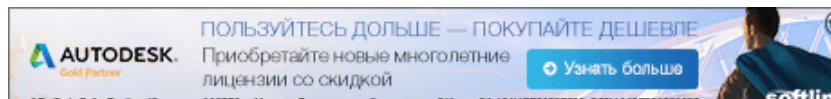
```
gulp.task('copyfonts', function() {
    gulp.src('./bower_components/font-awesome/fonts/**/*.
{ttf,woff,eof,svg}')
    .pipe(gulp.dest('./fonts'));
});
```

What the above code will do is copy the Font Awesome font files to my local fonts directory so they can be referenced. This function can be used to copy any kind of files, I'm just using it for fonts.

Want to copy an index file from a source directory and do with it what you want? Perhaps minify it, strip out placeholder variables.
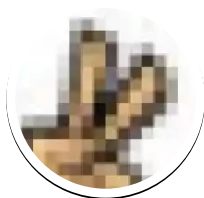
```
gulp.task('copy-index-html', function() {
    gulp.src('./index.html')
    // Perform minification tasks, etc here
    .pipe(gulp.dest('./public'));
});
```

The possibilities are endless. Because of Gulp's approach to using streams, you can pipe files and folders, modify them and copy them to wherever you want within your web application.

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Dwayne

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10 thoughts on "Copying Files From One Folder To Another In Gulp.js"

Jolan Green says:

October 2, 2014 at 4:58 am

This is amazing, I can't believe how simple this was.

Damon says:

October 30, 2014 at 4:30 am

Using gulp.src('…', {read:false}) will speed things up a ton

Diogo Nechtan says:

November 12, 2014 at 5:16 am

You can also use with gulp-flatten, to join all files in the same
folder. (https://www.npmjs.org/package/gulp-flatten)

var flatten = require('gulp-flatten');

gulp.task('copy-index-html', function() {

gulp.src('./index.html', { read: false })

.pipe(flatten())

// Perform minification tasks, etc here

.pipe(gulp.dest('./public'));

});

Pingback: WebNinjaTaylor » Node.js and Gulp.js Basics

Mike Graham says:

August 26, 2015 at 6:00 am

Soon Aurelia will be able to load css and other resource files
just like it loads javascript modules (via systemjs loader). So
you just jspm install bootstrap and then you just require it in
your html template. not sure that addresses your production
scenario, but it is going to be very cool 🙂 🙂

Ashley Grant says:

August 26, 2015 at 6:04 am

To expand on what @cmichaelgraham said, this is what the app.html file will look like in the next release of the Aurelia Skeleton:

Ashley Grant says:
August 26, 2015 at 6:06 am

Hmmm.. let's try that again (thanks HTML stripper 🙂)

```
<template>
<require from='nav-bar.html'></require>
<require from="bootstrap/css/bootstrap.css"></require>

<nav-bar router.bind="router"></nav-bar>

<div class="page-host">
<router-view></router-view>
</div>
</template>
```

mateu oliver says:
December 30, 2015 at 3:31 am

Thank you for sharing. It has been very useful.

geremyAB says:
February 18, 2016 at 7:20 am

Thanks a lot for your post! helps me to build a task to implement fonts to my project with zurb foundation (https://github.com/zurb/foundation-icon-fonts/issues). Love Gulp!

vivek soni says:

March 24, 2016 at 7:04 pm

Your copy font task copies the directory structure as well , is there any way to put all fonts directly inside build/fonts directory,

(currently it is putting fonts like build/fonts/font_awesome/fonts/fonts.ttf)

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