

Django Apps

Adding views inside our main project folder is not a clean way of adding functionality, instead we are going to create a separate app for it.

Note

What we generally call as "App" or "Application" is referred as "Project" and "Components" is referred as "App" in Django.

Using Apps

With an app we can contain all the functionality in a single place. Its important as the project grows, we would want to add a lot of functionality and that could get messy pretty soon.

Creating an app is very simple, navigate to your main folder and type

```
$ python manage.py startapp pages
```

Django will create a new app by the name of 'pages' and include a bunch of files in it for our convenience.

Registering our app

After creating the app we need to register it in our project 'settings.py' file

Add our app as shown below -

```
# Application definition

INSTALLED_APPS = [
    'pages', # new
    'django.contrib.admin',
    'django.contrib.auth',
    'django.contrib.contenttypes',
    'django.contrib.sessions',
    'django.contrib.messages',
    'django.contrib.staticfiles',
]
```

Connecting Views & URL's

Now, since we created a new app, we need to write the views and also update the urls.

URL's have to be updated inside our app and also in our main project folder.

1. Update views in our pages app.

```
pages/views.py
```

```
from django.http import HttpResponse

def home_page(request):
    return HttpResponse('<h1>Hello World</h1>')
```

2. Create a new file 'urls.py' inside 'pages' folder

```
pages/urls.py
```

```
from django.urls import path

from .views import home_page

urlpatterns = [
    path('', home_page, name='home')
]
```

3. Update the urls in our main project folder

```
hello_world/urls.py
```

```
from django.contrib import admin
from django.urls import path, include # new

urlpatterns = [
    path('admin/', admin.site.urls),
    # Add urls from our pages app
    path('', include('pages.urls')) # new
]
```