

Assignment for Module #3: ActionPack

The overall goal of this assignment is to assess your ability to implement and customize Rails scaffold.

This includes: 1. Creating a Rails scaffold for a Model, View, and Controller (MVC) 2. Modifying the runtime application flow 3. Re-using and customizing partial views 4. Storing state across requests 5. Implementing an end-to-end display of a custom query

The functional goal of this assignment is to implement a web application to manage **Todo Items**.

Try following the **Getting Started** and **Technical Requirements** step by step. Solving one problem at a time is a good way to approach the assignments.

Functional Requirements

1. Create the scaffold for the following model type:
 - TodoItem
2. Create the Database (DB) schema for `TodoItem`
3. Change the default scaffolding to route to the **index** after a Todo Item is created, instead of the default behavior that leads to the **show** page.
4. Remove the **Edit** link from the **index** view.
5. Modify the Todo Item partial view to display the `completed` property when a Todo Item is being *edited*, and not when it is being *created*.
6. Display the number of completed Todo Items.

Getting Started

1. Create a new Rails application called **todolists**
2. Add the following specification to your `Gemfile`

```
group :test do
  gem 'rspec-rails', '~> 3.0'
  gem 'capybara'
end
```
3. From the **todolists** application **root** directory, run the `bundle` command to resolve new gems
4. Initialize the **rspec** tests using the `rails generate rspec:install` command

```
[todolists]$ rails generate rspec:install
create .rspec
create spec
create spec/spec_helper.rb
create spec/rails_helper.rb
```

Add the following line to `.rspec` to add verbose output to test results.

```
--format documentation
```

5. Download and extract the starter set of bootstrap files, that will have the following structure.

```
|-- Gemfile
|-- db
|   |-- seed.rb
|-- spec
|   |-- features
|   |-- module3_action_pack_spec.rb
```

- overwrite your existing `Gemfile` with the `Gemfile` from the bootstrap fileset. They should be nearly identical, but this is done to make sure the gems and versions you use in your solution can be processed by the automated Grader when you submit. Any submission should be tested with this version of the file.
- overwrite your existing `db/seed.rb` file using the `seeds.rb` provided with the bootstrap fileset. The bootstrap `seeds.rb` file contains some test data that will be useful during development and unit tests.
- add the `spec/features/module3_action_pack_spec.rb` file provided with the bootstrap fileset to your **todolists** application.

Within your application **root** directory, you will first need to create a corresponding `spec/features` sub-directory to place the

`module3_action_pack_spec.rb` file. This file contains tests that will help determine whether you have completed the assignment.

6. Run the `rspec` test(s) to receive feedback. `rspec` must be run from the **root** directory of your application. All tests will (obviously) fail until you complete the specified solution.

```
$ rspec
...
19 examples, 1 failure, 17 pending
```

To focus test feedback on a specific step of the requirements, add `-e rq##` to the `rspec` command line to only evaluate that requirement. Pad all step numbers to two digits.

```
$ rspec -e rq01
Run options: include {:full_description=>rq01/}

Module #3
  rq01
    Generate Rails application
      must have top level structure of a rails application

Finished in 0.00465 seconds (files took 1.56 seconds to load)
1 example, 0 failures
```

Technical Requirements

1. Create a new Rails app called **todolists**. Use the `Gemfile` provided in the bootstrap files (as stated in **Step 5** within the **Getting Started** section). Do not change this `Gemfile` from what is provided or your submitted solution may not be able to be processed by the grader (i.e., do not add any additional gems or change gem versions).

```
$ rails new ...
$ rspec -e rq01
```

2. Using the `rails generate scaffold` command, create a Rails MVC artifact for a `TodoItem` that has the following business-related fields:

- `TodoItem`

- `due_date` - date when the specific task is to be complete
- `title` - a string with short name for specific task
- `description` - a text with narrative for specific task
- `completed` - a boolean value (*default=false*), indicating whether item is complete

```
$ rails g scaffold ...
```

It is assumed that it will also contain the `id`, `created_at`, and `updated_at` fields, which are created automatically by Rails when you generate a model. Migrate the database as a part of this requirement to populate the database with the `TodoItem` schema.

```
$ rake db:migrate
$ rspec -e rq02
```

Note that the above `rake db:migrate` command will execute against the `db/development.sqlite3` database instance. The `capybara rspec` tests will use the `db/test.sqlite3` database instance and automatically run `db:migrate` and `db:seed` on its own. The default database for all commands is the development database.

If you want to inspect the test database:

- Use `rake db:seed RAILS_ENV=test` to execute the `db/seed.rb` against the test database.
- Use `rails db -e test` to access the test database.
- Use `rails c test` to use the Rails console to interact with the test database.

Since the grader uses a separate test database instance, you can modify the state of the development database as you wish during your development.

We will have specific interest in the following artifacts:

```
db/migrate/..._create_todo_items.rb
app/models/todo_item.rb
app/controllers/todo_items_controller.rb
app/views/todo_items/index.html.erb
app/views/todo_items/edit.html.erb
app/views/todo_items/show.html.erb
```

```
app/views/todo_items/new.html.erb
app/views/todo_items/_form.html.erb
```

- Seed the database with the `db/seeds.rb` file supplied in the student-start bootstrap files. Do not modify this file. The grader expects test results to be based on this input.

```
$ rake db:seed
$ rspec -e rq03
```

- Start another instance of your terminal/command prompt. In the new terminal tab, navigate to your `todoitems` root directory and start the Rails server.

```
$ rails s
```

Open your browser and navigate to the `todo_items` index page.

http://localhost:3000/todo_items

Go back to the instance of your terminal in which you were working previously and run the requirement `rq04`. You can let the Rails server running, since you are going to be interacting with your application using the browser.

```
$ rspec -e rq04
```

- On your browser, using the **New Todo Item** link, create a new Todo Item (with any data). After a new Todo Item has been successfully created, notice the page that it navigated you to. This is the **show** page.

```
$ rspec -e rq05
```

- Review how the `submit` action in the view invokes a `create` URI when the user presses the **Create Todo Item** button.

`app/views/todo_items/_form.html.erb`

```
<%= form_for(@todo_item) do |f| %>
...
<div class="actions">
  <%= f.submit %>
</div>
<% end %>
```

- Notice that the `create` method in the controller handles the `create` URI call passed by the view and persists the new Todo Item. When the `save` operation is completed, the controller then redirects the flow to the `show` URI for the `@todo_item`.

```
# POST /todo_items
# POST /todo_items.json

def create
  @todo_item = TodoItem.new(todo_item_params)

  respond_to do |format|
    if @todo_item.save
      format.html { redirect_to @todo_item, notice: 'Todo item was successfully created.' }
      format.json { render :show, status: :created, location: @todo_item }
    ...
  end
end
end
```

- Notice that the `show` method in the controller retrieves the persisted `TodoItem` by `:id`. By default the flow continues to the **show** page, where the view displays the details of the newly created `@todo_item`.

`app/controllers/todo_items_controller.rb`

```
class TodoItemsController < ApplicationController
  before_action :set_todo_item, only: [:show, ...]
  ...

  # GET /todo_items/1
  # GET /todo_items/1.json

  def show
  end

  ...

private
```

```
# Use callbacks to share common setup or constraints between actions.

def set_todo_item
  @todo_item = TodoItem.find(params[:id])
end

...
end
```

app/views/todo_items/show.html.erb

```
<p>
<strong>Due date:</strong>
<%= @todo_item.due_date %>
</p>

<p>
<strong>Title:</strong>
<%= @todo_item.title %>
</p>

<p>
<strong>Description:</strong>
<%= @todo_item.description %>
</p>

<p>
<strong>Completed:</strong>
<%= @todo_item.completed %>
</p>
```

- Note the mapping of `helper_method_prefix`, `method/URI`, and `controller#method` mappings shown when you run the `rake routes` command. This shows which action in the controller will be called when a method/URI is invoked.
- The controller method is optional and the flow will continue to the view of the same name as the intended action when that occurs.
- If a controller method does exist and matches the action's name, it has the ability to add an instance variable with state for the views to use (e.g., `set_todo_item` called prior to `show`).
- If the controller method does not change the route (e.g., `show` does not change the route), then the flow will continue to the view of the same name as the action.
- If the controller method changes the route through a redirect `to` (e.g., the `create` action re-directs the flow to the `show` URI), the flow will follow the newly defined path by sending the HTTP client a re-direct.
- If the controller method changes the route using a render (e.g., the `create` action renders a JSON document response when JSON is requested), the specified view is returned directly to the client.

```
$rake routes
```

Prefix	Verb	URI Pattern	Controller#Action
todo_items	GET	/todo_items(.:format)	todo_items#index
	POST	/todo_items(.:format)	todo_items#create
new_todo_item	GET	/todo_items/new(.:format)	todo_items#new
edit_todo_item	GET	/todo_items/:id/edit(.:format)	todo_items#edit
todo_item	GET	/todo_items/:id(.:format)	todo_items#show
	PATCH	/todo_items/:id(.:format)	todo_items#update
	PUT	/todo_items/:id(.:format)	todo_items#update
	DELETE	/todo_items/:id(.:format)	todo_items#destroy

6. Modify the flow so that the user is directed back to the **index** page after creating a Todo Item instead of the **show** page. (Hint: you are changing the URI redirection on the controller's `create` method. Use `rake routes` to help determine the appropriate `helper_method_prefix`, `URI`, and `controller#method` mappings. Append `_url` to the helper method prefix when implementing this redirection.)

```
$ rake routes
$ rspec -e rq06
```

7. Remove the **Edit** link from the **index** page view. (You will still be able to access the **Edit** link from the **show** page view).

```
$ rspec -e rq07
```

8. Add conditional logic to the `_form.html.erb` partial so that it only displays the `completed` property when *editing* and not when *creating*. (A Todo Item cannot possibly be done before it is created). Hint: You can obtain the model object's persisted state using `object.persisted?` or `object.new_record?` to help determine if it is new or being edited.

```
$ rspec -e rq08
```

9. Display the number of completed Todo Items on the **index** page.

1. Implement a class method in the `TodoItem` model that returns the count of completed Todo Items.
2. Update the `index` method in the controller to assign the count of `completed` Todo Items in an member variable (e.g, `@number_of_completed_todos`)
3. Display the count of `completed` Todo Items on the **index** page using a reference on the view to the member variable defined in the controller. The grader is looking for the result to be expressed as:

```
Number of Completed Todos: #
```

anywhere on the page – where `#` is the number of `completed` Todos.
There must be a single space between the `:` (*colon*) and number.

```
$ rspec -e rq09
```

Hint: This should be very similar to how the view gets the list of Todo Items from the controller using the `@todo_items` member variable.

Self Grading/Feedback

Some unit tests have been provided in the bootstrap files and provide examples of tests the grader will be evaluating for when you submit your solution. **They must be run from the project root directory.**

```
$ rspec
...
19 examples, 0 failures
```

You can run as many specific tests you wish be adding `-e rq##` `-e rq##`

```
$ rspec -e rq01 -e rq02
```

Submission

Submit an `.zip` archive (other archive forms not currently supported) with your solution root directory as the top-level (e.g., your `Gemfile` and sibling files **must be in the root** of the archive and not in a sub-folder. The grader will replace the spec files with fresh copies and will perform a test with different query terms.

```
-- app
| |-- assets
| |-- controllers
| |-- helpers
| |-- mailers
| |-- models
| |-- views
-- bin
-- config
-- config.ru
-- db
-- Gemfile
-- Gemfile.lock
-- lib
-- log
-- public
-- Rakefile
-- README.rdoc
-- test
-- vendor
```

Last Updated: 2015-12-30