

# twitter-bootstrap-step-by-step

November 26, 2013

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Milestone 1: Build an initial Rails application</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Milestone 2: Set up Twitter Bootstrap with the bootstrap-sass gem</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Milestone 3: Use Twitter Bootstrap fixed width layout in our Rails application</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Reference Section</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1	Twitter Bootstrap GitHub . . . . .	5
5.2	The most popular Rails Bootstrap Gems (November 2013) . .	6
5.3	starter-template November 26, 2013 . . . . .	6

## 1 Introduction

This is a step by step tutorial for new Rails learners to learn how Twitter Bootstrap works and to how to use Twitter Bootstrap to provide your application with modern layout and styling. This tutorial was last tested on November 26, 2013 by Troy Will. We will build a working Rails application to match the starter-template template from example layouts.

Note for Emacs users: This tutorial was written in Emacs Org Mode. If you are an Emacs Org Mode user you can carry out the steps in this tutorial from the twitter-bootstrap-step-by-step.org file.

## 2 Milestone 1: Build an initial Rails application

Let's build our example Rails application with a 'home' controller and 'home/index', "home/about", "home/contact" pages since those pages are in the starter-template.html template.

1. ☐ Initialize a new Rails application

```
rails new example
```

2. ☐ Change into the newly created Rails application directory

```
cd example
```

3. ☐ Examine your Rails installation

```
rake about
```

4. ☐ Enable a JavaScript runtime in Gemfile You probably got a 'Could not find a JavaScript runtime.' message from the 'rake about' command. Open Gemfile with your text editor and enable 'therubyracer.'

```
# See https://github.com/sstephenson/execjs#readme for more supported runtimes
gem 'therubyracer', platforms: :ruby
```

You might open Gemfile with Emacs, Vi, TextMate, etc. this way:

```
textmate Gemfile
```

5. ☐ Examine your Rails installation again

```
rake about
```

6. ☐ Create a "home" controller and "home/index", "home/about", "home/contact" pages

```
set -o verbose
rails generate controller home index about contact --skip-stylesheets
```

Note the use of '--skip-stylesheets' since we will use Twitter Bootstrap's stylesheets

7. ☐ Set the default route to home/index in config/routes.rb

Open config/routes.rb with your text editor. You will see the following commented line near the top of the file:

```
# root 'welcome#index'
```

Let's uncomment and change the application root view:

```
root "home#index"
```

Now, Rails will direct visitors to the application to home/index. We are ready to start the Rails application and incorporate Twitter Bootstrap's stylesheets and JavaScript scripts.

8. ☐ Start the rails server

```
rails server --port 3000
```

Now, let's incorporate Bootstrap into our application.

### 3 Milestone 2: Set up Twitter Bootstrap with the bootstrap-sass gem

1. ☐ Enable bootstrap-sass in Gemfile

```
# See http://rubygems.org/gems/bootstrap-sass (November 2013)
gem "bootstrap-sass", "~> 3.0.2.1"
```

2. ☐ Install the bootstrap-sass (if necessary) with 'bundle install.'
3. ☐ Create a new app/assets/stylesheets/application.css.scss file

```
@import "bootstrap";
body { padding-top: 50px; }
```

4. ☐ Remove the app/assets/stylesheets/application.css file
5. ☐ Import bootstrap javascript in app/assets/javascripts/application.js

```
//= require jquery
//= require jquery_ujs
//= require turbolinks
//= require_tree .
//
// The following line Loads all Bootstrap javascripts
// = require bootstrap
```

## 4 Milestone 3: Use Twitter Bootstrap fixed width layout in our Rails application

Now that Bootstrap is installed let's proceed to use Bootstrap's CSS in our application.

1. ☐ Adapt app/views/layouts/application.html.erb with starter-template.html.erb as follows:

```
<html>
<head>
  <title>Bootstrap</title>
  <%= stylesheet_link_tag    "application", media: "all", "data-turbolinks-track"
  <%= javascript_include_tag "application", "data-turbolinks-track" => true %>
  <%= csrf_meta_tags %>
</head>
<body>
  <div class="navbar navbar-inverse navbar-fixed-top" role="navigation">
    <div class="container">
      <div class="navbar-header">
<button type="button" class="navbar-toggle" data-toggle="collapse" data-target=".n
  <span class="sr-only">Toggle navigation</span>
  <span class="icon-bar"></span>
  <span class="icon-bar"></span>
  <span class="icon-bar"></span>
</button>
<a class="navbar-brand" href="#">Project name</a>
      </div>
      <div class="collapse navbar-collapse">
<ul class="nav navbar-nav">
  <li class="active"><a href="#">Home</a></li>
```

```

    <li><a href="#about">About</a></li>
    <li><a href="#contact">Contact</a></li>
  </ul>
  </div><!--/.nav-collapse -->
</div>
</div>

<div class="container">

  <div class="starter-template">
    <h1>Bootstrap starter template</h1>
    <p class="lead">Use this document as a way to quickly start any new project.
  </div>

</div><!-- /.container -->
</body>
</html>

```

The starter example layout uses a fixed width layout, which is introduced at `scaffolding.html#layouts`.

2. ☐ Compare our application at `http://localhost:3000` with `http://twitter.github.io/bootstrap/examples/starter-template.html`.

Our newly created Rails application running on port 3000 should have essentially the same appearance as the example running on Twitter's github.io site. If it doesn't something went wrong.

## 5 Reference Section

### 5.1 Twitter Bootstrap GitHub

Link	Description
<a href="https://github.com/twbs/bootstrap">https://github.com/twbs/bootstrap</a>	The Twitter Bootstrap GitHub repository

## 5.2 The most popular Rails Bootstrap Gems (November 2013)

Gem	Version	Downloads	This version	Author
bootstrap-sass	3.0.2.1	2,400,000	8,200	Thomas McDonald
twitter-bootstrap-rails	2.2.8	960,000	99,000	Seyhun Akyurek
less-rails-bootstrap	3.0.5	170,000	1,000	Ken Collins
sass-twitter-bootstrap	2.3.0	3,900	720	Wade Tandy

## 5.3 starter-template November 26, 2013

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
  <head>
    <meta charset="utf-8">
    <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
    <meta name="description" content="">
    <meta name="author" content="">
    <link rel="shortcut icon" href="../../docs-assets/ico/favicon.png">

    <title>Starter Template for Bootstrap</title>

    <!-- Bootstrap core CSS -->
    <link href="../../dist/css/bootstrap.css" rel="stylesheet">

    <!-- Custom styles for this template -->
    <link href="starter-template.css" rel="stylesheet">

    <!-- Just for debugging purposes. Don't actually copy this line! -->
    <!--[if lt IE 9]><script src="../../docs-assets/js/ie8-responsive-file-warning.js">

    <!-- HTML5 shim and Respond.js IE8 support of HTML5 elements and media queries -->
    <!--[if lt IE 9]>
      <script src="https://oss.maxcdn.com/libs/html5shiv/3.7.0/html5shiv.js"></script>
      <script src="https://oss.maxcdn.com/libs/respond.js/1.3.0/respond.min.js"></script>
    <![endif]-->
  </head>

  <body>
```

```

        <div class="navbar navbar-inverse navbar-fixed-top" role="navigation">
            <div class="container">
<div class="navbar-header">
    <button type="button" class="navbar-toggle" data-toggle="collapse" data-target=".navb
        <span class="sr-only">Toggle navigation</span>
        <span class="icon-bar"></span>
        <span class="icon-bar"></span>
        <span class="icon-bar"></span>
    </button>
    <a class="navbar-brand" href="#">Project name</a>
</div>
<div class="collapse navbar-collapse">
    <ul class="nav navbar-nav">
        <li class="active"><a href="#">Home</a></li>
        <li><a href="#about">About</a></li>
        <li><a href="#contact">Contact</a></li>
    </ul>
</div><!-- /.nav-collapse -->
        </div>
        </div>

        <div class="container">

            <div class="starter-template">
<h1>Bootstrap starter template</h1>
<p class="lead">Use this document as a way to quickly start any new project.<br> All y
            </div>

</div><!-- /.container -->

<!-- Bootstrap core JavaScript
===== -->
<!-- Placed at the end of the document so the pages load faster -->
<script src="https://code.jquery.com/jquery-1.10.2.min.js"></script>
<script src="../../dist/js/bootstrap.min.js"></script>
</body>
</html>

```