



# Enabling custom error pages globally (for all deployments) on EAP 6.3 and later

📌 SOLUTION VERIFIED - Updated October 1 2018 at 1:21 PM - English ▾ ()

## Environment

- Red Hat JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (EAP)
  - 6.3+
  - 7.x

## Issue

- We used to configure custom error pages for all applications on EAP 4/5 in the global `web.xml` which is located in `$JBOSS_HOME/server/$PROFILE/deployer/jbossweb.deployer/web.xml`.
- Now there is no global `web.xml` on EAP 6 or 7. Is there still a way to configure custom error pages for all applications globally without having to define the error pages in each application's `WEB-INF/web.xml` individually?

## Resolution

Although such global `web.xml` isn't provided since EAP 6, similar configuration could be achievable. If you are using EAP 6.3 or later, you can configure `<error-page>` in Servlet 3.0 `web-fragment.xml` and enable it globally by using `deployment-overlay` feature (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/383393>). Note that adding/replacing jar does not work before EAP 6.3 as explained in this article (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/383393>), so you need to upgrade JBoss EAP to use this method.

Attached `web-fragment-error-page-example.tar.gz` is an example of a jar file which contains `web-fragment.xml` and custom error pages. Note this is just example code and so is not supported, but just provided as an example of such a solution you could implement yourself. To use the example:

1. Download and extract the attachment `web-fragment-error-page-example.tar.gz` .  
 (https://access.redhat.com/)



2. Use a `target/web-fragment-error-page-example.jar` which have the following structure:

```

` META-INF
  |-- resources
  |   |-- 404.jsp
  |   |-- general-errorpage.jsp
  `-- web-fragment.xml

```

and contains the following `web-fragment.xml` :

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<web-fragment xmlns="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee
    http://java.sun.com/xml/ns/javaee/web-fragment_3_0.xsd"
  version="3.0">
  <distributable/><!-- add this if you need to enable session replication -->
  <error-page>
    <error-code>404</error-code>
    <location>/404.jsp</location>
  </error-page>
  <error-page>
    <location>/general-errorpage.jsp</location>
  </error-page>
</web-fragment>

```

If you want to configure further custom error page, you can modify the attachment and execute `mvn clean package` to build a new jar file.

3. Run the following CLI command to add the jar as a `deployment-overlay` :

```

deployment-overlay add --name=web-fragment-error-page-example --content=WEB-INF/lib/web-
fragment-error-page-example.jar=/path/to/web-fragment-error-page-example.jar --
deployments=*.war --redeploy-affected

```

then you can see `<deployment-overlays>` setting in your `standalone.xml` or `domain.xml` like the following:



```

deployment-overlays> (https://access.redhat.com/)
<deployment-overlay name="web-fragment-error-page-example">
  <content path="WEB-INF/lib/web-fragment-error-page-example.jar"
content="ab1ed9dbe962e81616ce9ae8f2248b5adebb1819"/>
  <deployment name="*.war"/>
</deployment-overlay>
</deployment-overlays>

```




Now the error-page are enabled in all web application deployment. When you want to update the configuration or the contents of error pages, you need to update it via `deployment-overlay` as explained in [How to update a content of deployment overlay in EAP 6](https://access.redhat.com/solutions/2085603) (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/2085603>).

### Note:

- Make sure that your webapplication's `WEB-INF/web.xml` does NOT have `metadata-complete="true"` setting. If it has, please remove it to use this approach.
- Due to known bug BZ#1235627 ([https://bugzilla.redhat.com/show\\_bug.cgi?id=1235627](https://bugzilla.redhat.com/show_bug.cgi?id=1235627)), when the version of `web.xml` are 2.3 or 2.4, `metadata-complete="true"` is set implicitly. So, if the version of your web application's `web.xml` are 2.3 or 2.4, please modify and set it to the version to 2.5 or 3.0 to use this approach.
- If there is a conflict between `web-fragment.xml` and your application's `WEB-INF/web.xml`, `web.xml` will take precedence.
- This setting becomes effective against specified application only (all war files in this case). This does not become effective for `welcome-content`, so you still see default error page when you access non-existent context. If you want to make this setting available for any context path, please disable `welcome-content` and deploy a root context application (like `ROOT.war`). Please refer to this article (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/106573>) for details.
- If you want to enable session replication for your web application, you need to add the `<distributable/>` in all of your `web-fragment.xml` as per the section 8.2.3 of Servlet 3.0 spec.

**Further note:** Internet Explorer does not display error pages or messages with a content size smaller than 512 bytes per Internet Explorer does not display small custom error pages (</site/solutions/638943>). Use error pages with a resulting response bodies larger than 512 bytes to ensure all browsers display it.

## Root Cause

- EAP 6 no longer provides a global web.xml or any other server level config to define custom error pages for all applications. 



## Attachments

 [web-fragment-error-page-example.tar.gz \(/node/1587503/40/0/12116241\)](#)

### Product(s)

[Red Hat JBoss Enterprise Application Platform \(/taxonomy/products/red-hat-jboss-enterprise-application-platform\)](#)

**Component** [jbossas \(/components/jbossas\)](#)

**Category** [Learn more \(/category/learn-more\)](#)

**Tags** [eap \(/tags/eap\)](#) [jboss \(/tags/jboss\)](#) [jbossweb \(/tags/jbossweb\)](#) [jboss\\_eap \(/tags/jboss\\_eap\)](#)

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## 3 Comments



22 March 2018 9:42 AM (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/1587503#comment-1286541>)

Filip Kryspin (/user/1628773)

(/user/1628773) I need solution exactly for JBoss 6.1, not >=6.3.

NEWBIE

11 Points

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23 March 2018 9:04 PM (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/1587503#comment-1287251>)

Arthur Ferreira (/user/18012391)

(/user/18012391) Filip,

RED HAT

ACTIVE  
CONTRIBUTOR

196 Points

I'm updating this document to EAP 6.3+ instead of 6.x in environment information. But, in the first paragraph of 'Resolution' you have the following statement:

*Note that adding/replacing jar does not work before EAP 6.3 as explained in this article (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/106573>), so you need to upgrade JBoss EAP to use this method.*

That means you can't use this method for EAP 6.1 and it's not possible to define global error pages on that version, 6.0 or 6.2.

Either you update your EAP to 6.3+ or update all your application's web.xml file with the <error-page> tag.

Regards,

Arthur Ferreira

↩ Reply (/Ajax\_comments/Reply/1587503/1287251)



5 April 2018 9:10 AM (<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/1587503#comment-1289851>)

Pragadeeshwaran S (/user/19109811)

(/user/19109811) We are migrating from JBOSS EAP 6.1.0 to EAP 7.0.0 and followed the above mentioned approach, but still 404 issue is not resolved, please advice.

NEWBIE

12 Points



(<https://access.redhat.com/solutions/1587503>)

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