

Spring Framework vs Spring Boot

| Feature | Spring Framework | Spring Boot |
|------------------|---|---|
| What it is | A powerful IoC/DI + modular framework for Java | A tool to bootstrap Spring apps with zero-config |
| Setup | Manual XML or Java config, many decisions | Auto-configuration — just run |
| Configuration | You write <bean>, web.xml, dispatchers, etc. | Almost none — sensible defaults |
| Dependencies | You add each Spring module (Core, MVC, Data, etc.) | spring-boot-starter-* bundles everything |
| Embedded Server | Need external Tomcat/Jetty + WAR | Built-in Tomcat/Jetty — run as JAR |
| Production Ready | You add metrics, health checks | Actuator gives /health, /metrics out-of-box |
| Use Case | Full control, legacy, custom setup | 90% of new apps — fast start |

