



Praise for the Third Edition of *Spring in Action*

Continues to be the de-facto reference guide to Spring. Offers clear explanations of concepts with very good examples in an easy-to-read format.

—Dan Dobrin, CIBC

An indispensable guide to the large landscape of Spring.

—Mykel Alvis, Automaton Online

The one book you need on your desk when working with Spring.

—Josh Devins, Nokia

Covers both the fundamentals and the breadth of Spring.

—Chad Davis, Blackdog Software, Inc.

Using Spring is not difficult—but with this book it becomes much easier.

—Alberto Lagna, Biznology

One of my favorite technology books. Great content delivered by a great teacher.

—Robert Hanson, Author of Manning's *GWT in Action*

The right dose of humor with a load of technical wisdom is the perfect mix for learning Spring.

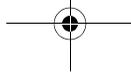
—Valentin Crettaz, Goomzee

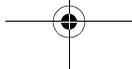
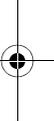
Tremendous focus—and fun to read.

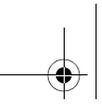
—Doug Warren, Java Web Services

Craig's witty examples make complex concepts easy to understand.

—Dan Alford







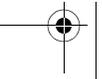
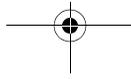
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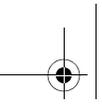
FOURTH EDITION

CRAIG WALLS



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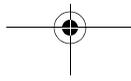
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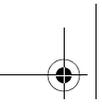
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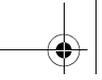




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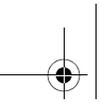




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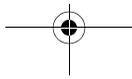
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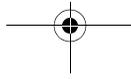
The best keeps getting better. More than a dozen years ago, Spring entered the Java development scene with the ambitious goal of simplifying enterprise Java development. It challenged the heavyweight programming models of the time with a simpler and lighter programming model based on plain old Java objects.

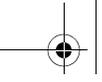
Now, several years and many releases later, we see that Spring has had a tremendous impact on enterprise application development. It has become a de facto standard framework for countless Java projects and has had an impact on the evolution of some of the specifications and frameworks that it originally set out to replace. It'd be hard to deny that the current Enterprise JavaBeans (EJB) specification may have turned out very differently had Spring not challenged earlier versions of the EJB spec.

But Spring itself continues to evolve and improve upon itself, always seeking to make the difficult development tasks simpler and empower Java developers with innovative features. Where Spring had first set out to challenge the status quo, Spring now has leapt ahead and is paving trails in Java application development.

Therefore, it's time for an updated edition of this book to expose the current state of Spring. There's so much that has happened in the past few years since the previous edition of this book; it'd be impossible to cover everything in a single edition. Nevertheless, I still tried to pack this fourth edition of *Spring in Action* with as much as I could. Here are just a few of the exciting new things that have been added in this edition:

- An emphasis on Java-based Spring configuration with Java configuration options available for almost every area of Spring development
- Conditional configuration and profiles that make runtime decisions regarding what Spring configuration should be used or ignored





- Several enhancements and improvements to Spring MVC, especially with regard to creating REST services
- Using Thymeleaf with Spring web applications as an alternative to JSP
- Enabling Spring Security with Java-based configuration
- Using Spring Data to automatically generate repository implementations at runtime for JPA, MongoDB, and Neo4j
- Spring's new declarative caching support
- Asynchronous web messaging with WebSocket and STOMP
- Spring Boot, a game-changing new approach to working with Spring

If you're a seasoned Spring veteran, you'll find that these new elements will become valuable additions to your Spring toolkit. On the other hand, if you're new to Spring, you've picked a good time to learn Spring, and this book will help you get started.

This is, indeed, an exciting time to be working with Spring. It's been a blast to develop with Spring and write about it during the past 12 years. I can't wait to see what Spring does next!





acknowledgments

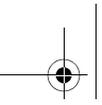
Before this book goes to press, before it is bound, before it is boxed, before it is shipped, and before you get your hands on it, there are many other hands that have touched it along the way. Even if you have an eBook copy that didn't go through that process, there were numerous hands on the bits and bytes that you downloaded—hands that edited it, reviewed it, typeset it, and proofread it. If it weren't for all of those hands, this book wouldn't exist.

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Getting feedback early and often is just as critical when writing a book as it is when developing software. While the pages of this book were still in a very rough form, there were several great reviewers who took the time to read the drafts and provide feedback that helped shape the final product. Thanks to the following: Bob Casazza, Chaoho Hsieh, Christophe Martini, Gregor Zurowski, James Wright, Jeelani Basha, Jens Richter, Jonathan Thoms, Josh Hart, Karen Christenson, Mario Arias, Michael Roberts, Paul Balogh, and Ricardo da Silva Lima. And special thanks to John Ryan for his thorough technical review of the manuscript shortly before it went into production.

Of course, I want to thank my beautiful wife for enduring yet another writing project and for her encouragement along the way. I love you more than you could possibly ever know.





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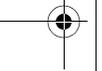
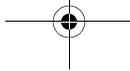


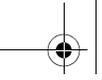
To Maisy and Madi, the most awesome little girls in the world, thank you again for your hugs, laughs, and unusual insights into what should go into the book.

To my colleagues on the Spring team, what can I say? You guys ROCK! I'm humbled and grateful for being a part of the organization that drives Spring forward. I never cease to be amazed at the never-ending awesomeness that you crank out.

And many thanks to everyone I encounter as I travel the country speaking at user groups and No Fluff/Just Stuff conferences.

Finally, thank you to the Phoenicians. You (and Epcot fans) know what you did.





about this book

The Spring Framework was created with a very specific goal in mind—to make developing Java EE applications easier. Along the same lines, *Spring in Action, Fourth Edition* was written to make learning how to use Spring easier. My goal is not to give you a blow-by-blow listing of Spring APIs. Instead, I hope to present the Spring Framework in a way that is most relevant to a Java EE developer by providing practical code examples from real-world experiences. Since Spring is a modular framework, this book was written in the same way. I recognize that not all developers have the same needs. Some may want to learn the Spring Framework from the ground up, while others may want to pick and choose different topics and go at their own pace. That way, the book can act as a tool for learning Spring for the first time as well as a guide and reference for those wanting to dig deeper into specific features.

Spring in Action, Fourth Edition is for all Java developers, but enterprise Java developers will find it particularly useful. While I will guide you along gently through code examples that build in complexity throughout each chapter, the true power of Spring lies in its ability to make enterprise applications easier to develop. Therefore, enterprise developers will most fully appreciate the examples presented in this book. Because a vast portion of Spring is devoted to providing enterprise services, many parallels can be drawn between Spring and EJB.

Roadmap

Spring in Action, Fourth Edition is divided into four parts. The first part introduces you to the essentials of the Spring Framework. Part 2 expands on that by showing how to build web applications with Spring. Part 3 steps behind the front end and shows where

Spring fits in the back end of an application. The final part shows how Spring can be used to integrate with other applications and services.

In part 1, you'll explore the Spring container, dependency injection (DI), and aspect-oriented programming...the essentials of the Spring Framework. This will give you a foundation upon which the rest of the book will build.

- In chapter 1, you'll be given an overview of Spring, including some basic examples of DI and AOP. You'll also get an overview of the greater Spring ecosystem.
- Chapter 2 goes into more detail with DI, showing you various ways that the components in your application (the "beans") can be wired together. This includes wiring with XML, Java, and automatic wiring.
- With the basics of bean wiring down, chapter 3 presents several advanced wiring techniques. You won't need these techniques that often, but when you do need them this chapter will show you how to get the most power out of the Spring container.
- Chapter 4 explores how to use Spring AOP to decouple cross-cutting concerns from the objects that they service. This chapter also sets the stage for later chapters where you'll use AOP to provide declarative services such as transactions, security, and caching.

In part 2 you'll see how to use Spring to build web applications.

- Chapter 5 covers the basics of working with Spring MVC, the foundational web framework in Spring. You'll see how to write controllers to handle web requests and respond with model data.
- Once a controller is finished with its work, the model data must be rendered using a view. Chapter 6 will explore various view technologies that can be used with Spring, including JSP, Apache Tiles, and Thymeleaf.
- Chapter 7 goes beyond the basics of Spring MVC. In this chapter, you'll learn how to customize Spring MVC configuration, handle multipart file uploads, deal with exceptions that may occur in a controller, and pass data between requests with flash attributes.
- Chapter 8 explores Spring Web Flow, an extension to Spring MVC that enables development of conversational web applications. In this chapter, you'll learn how to build web applications that lead the user through a specific, guided flow.
- In chapter 9 you'll learn how to apply security to the web layer of your application using Spring Security.

Part 3 goes behind the front end of an application and looks at how data is processed and persisted.

- Data persistence is first tackled in chapter 10 using Spring's abstraction over JDBC to work with data stored in a relational database.
- Chapter 11 takes on data persistence from another angle, using the Java Persistence API (JPA) to store data in a relational database.

- Chapter 12 looks at how Spring works with non-relational databases, such as MongoDB and Neo4j. Regardless of where the data is stored, caching can help improve performance by not hitting the database any more than necessary.
- Chapter 13 introduces you to Spring's support for declarative caching.
- Chapter 14 revisits Spring Security, showing how to use AOP to apply security at the method level.

The final part looks at ways to integrate your Spring applications with other systems.

- Chapter 15 looks at how to create and consume remote services, including RMI, Hessian, Burlap, and SOAP-based services.
- In chapter 16, Spring MVC is revisited to see how to create RESTful services using the same programming model as described previously in chapter 5.
- Chapter 17 explores Spring support for asynchronous messaging. This chapter includes working with Java Message Service (JMS) as well as the Advanced Message Queuing Protocol (AMQP).
- Asynchronous messaging takes a different twist in chapter 18 where you'll see how to use Spring with WebSocket and STOMP for asynchronous communication between the server and a client.
- Chapter 19 looks at how to send emails with Spring.
- Chapter 20 highlights Spring's management support for Java Management Extensions (JMX), enabling you to monitor and modify runtime settings for a Spring application.
- Finally, in chapter 21 you'll be introduced to a game-changing and very new way to work with Spring called Spring Boot. You'll see how Spring Boot can take away much of the boilerplate configuration required in a Spring application, enabling you to focus on the business functionality.

Code conventions and downloads

There are many code examples throughout this book. These examples will always appear in a fixed-width code font like this. Any class name, method name, or XML fragment within the normal text of the book will appear in code font as well.

Many of Spring's classes and packages have exceptionally long (but expressive) names. Because of this, line-continuation markers (`\>`) may be included when necessary.

Not all code examples in this book will be complete. Often I only show a method or two from a class to focus on a particular topic. Complete source code for the applications found throughout the book can be downloaded from the publisher's website at www.manning.com/SpringinActionFourthEdition.

Author Online

Purchase of *Spring in Action, Fourth Edition* includes free access to a private web forum run by Manning Publications where you can make comments about the book, ask technical questions, and receive help from the author and from other users. To

access the forum and subscribe to it, point your web browser to www.manning.com/SpringinActionFourthEdition. This page provides information on how to get on the forum once you are registered, what kind of help is available, and the rules of conduct on the forum.

Manning's commitment to our readers is to provide a venue where a meaningful dialogue between individual readers and between readers and the author can take place. It is not a commitment to any specific amount of participation on the part of the author, whose contribution to the book's forum remains voluntary (and unpaid). We suggest you try asking the author some challenging questions, lest his interest stray!

The Author Online forum and the archives of previous discussions will be accessible from the publisher's website as long as the book is in print.

About the author

Craig Walls is a senior engineer with Pivotal as the project lead for Spring Social and Spring Sync, and is the author of Manning's *Spring in Action* books, now updated in this Fourth Edition. He's a zealous promoter of the Spring Framework, speaking frequently at local user groups and conferences and writing about Spring. When he's not slinging code, Craig spends as much time as he can with his wife, two daughters, two birds, and two dogs.

About the cover illustration

The figure on the cover of *Spring in Action, Fourth Edition*, is "Le Caraco," or an inhabitant of the province of Karak in southwest Jordan. Its capital is the city of Al-Karak, which boasts an ancient hilltop castle with magnificent views of the Dead Sea and surrounding plains. The illustration is taken from a French travel book, *Encyclopédie des Voyages* by J. G. St. Sauveur, published in 1796. Travel for pleasure was a relatively new phenomenon at the time and travel guides such as this one were popular, introducing both the tourist as well as the armchair traveler to the inhabitants of other regions of France and abroad.

The diversity of the drawings in the *Encyclopédie des Voyages* speaks vividly of the distinctiveness and individuality of the world's towns and provinces just two hundred years ago. This was a time when the dress codes of two regions separated by a few dozen miles identified people uniquely as belonging to one or the other. The travel guide brings to life a sense of isolation and distance of that period, and of every other historic period except our own hyperkinetic present.

Dress codes have changed since then and the diversity by region, so rich at the time, has faded away. It is now often hard to tell the inhabitants of one continent from another. Perhaps, trying to view it optimistically, we have traded a cultural and visual diversity for a more varied personal life—or a more varied and interesting intellectual and technical life.

We at Manning celebrate the inventiveness, the initiative, and the fun of the computer business with book covers based on the rich diversity of regional life two centuries ago brought back to life by the pictures from this travel guide.