

# **EXT JS**



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#### **About the Tutorial**

ExtJS stands for Extended JavaScript. It is a JavaScript framework and a product of Sencha, based on YUI (Yahoo User Interface). It is basically a desktop application development platform with modern UI. This tutorial gives a complete understanding of Ext JS. This reference will take you through simple and practical approaches while learning Ext JS.

#### **Audience**

This tutorial has been prepared for beginners to help them understand the concepts of ExtJS to build dynamic web UI.

#### **Prerequisites**

For this tutorial, the reader should have prior knowledge of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript coding. It would be helpful if the reader knows the concepts of object-oriented programming and has a general idea on creating web applications.

#### **Execute ExtJS Online**

For most of the examples given in this tutorial you will find a **Try it** option. Make use of this option to execute your ExtJS programs on the spot and enjoy your learning.

Try the following example using the  $\mathbf{Try}$  it option available at the top right corner of the following sample code box -



```
width: 200,
    title: 'Hello world',
    html: 'First Ext JS Hello World Program'
    });
    });
    </script>
    </head>
    <body>
        <div id="helloWorldPanel"></div>
        </body>
    </body>
    </html>
```

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### 1. EXT.JS – OVERVIEW

Ext JS is a popular JavaScript framework which provides rich UI for building web applications with cross-browser functionality. Ext JS is basically used for creating desktop applications. It supports all the modern browsers such as IE6+, FF, Chrome, Safari 6+, Opera 12+, etc. Whereas another product of Sencha, Sencha Touch is used for mobile applications.

Ext JS is based on MVC/MVVM architecture. The latest version of Ext JS 6 is a single platform, which can be used for both desktop and mobile application without having different code for different platform.

#### **History**

#### **Ext JS 1.1**

The first version of Ext JS was developed by Jack Slocum in 2006. It was a set of utility classes, which is an extension of YUI. He named the library as YUI-ext.

#### **Ext JS 2.0**

Ext JS version 2.0 was released in 2007. This version had a new API documentation for desktop application with limited features. This version doesn't have backward compatibility with previous version of Ext JS.

#### **Ext JS 3.0**

Ext JS version 3.0 was released in 2009. This version added new features as chart and list view but at the cost of speed. It had backward compatibility with version 2.0.

#### **Ext JS 4.0**

After the release of Ext JS 3, the developers of Ext JS had the major challenge of ramping up the speed. Ext JS version 4.0 was released in 2011. It had the complete revised structure, which was followed by MVC architecture and a speedy application.

#### **Ext JS 5.0**

Ext JS version 5.0 was released in 2014. The major change in this release was to change the MVC architecture to MVVM architecture. It includes the ability to build desktop apps on touchenabled devices, two-way data binding, responsive layouts, and many more features.

#### **Ext JS 6.0**

Ext JS 6 merges the Ext JS (for desktop application) and Sencha Touch (for mobile application) framework.



#### **Features**

Following are the highlighted features of Ext JS.

- Customizable UI widgets with collection of rich UI such as grids, pivot grids, forms, charts, trees.
- Code compatibility of new versions with the older one.
- A flexible layout manager helps to organize the display of data and content across multiple browsers, devices, and screen sizes.
- Advance data package decouples the UI widgets from the data layer. The data package allows client-side collection of data using highly functional models that enable features such as sorting and filtering.
- It is protocol agnostic, and can access data from any back-end source.
- Customizable Themes Ext JS widgets are available in multiple out-of-the-box themes that are consistent across platforms.

#### **Benefits**

Sencha Ext JS is the leading standard for business-grade web application development. Ext JS provides the tools necessary to build robust applications for desktop and tablets.

- Streamlines cross-platform development across desktops, tablets, and smartphones for both modern and legacy browsers.
- Increases the productivity of development teams by integrating into enterprise development environments via IDE plugins.
- Reduces the cost of web application development.
- Empowers the teams to create apps with a compelling user experience.
- Offers a set of widgets to easily make a powerful UI.
- Follows MVC architecture, hence the code is highly readable.

#### Limitations

- The size of the library is large, around 500 KB, which makes initial loading time more and makes application slow.
- HTML is full of tags that makes it complex and difficult to debug.
- According to general public license policy, it is free for open source applications but paid for commercial applications.



- Sometimes for loading even simple things require few lines of coding, which is simpler in plain html or JQuery.
- Need quite experienced developer for developing Ext JS applications.

#### **Tools**

Following are the tools provided by Sencha used for Ext JS application development mainly at the production level.

#### Sencha CMD

Sencha CMD is a tool which provides the features of Ext JS code minification, scaffolding, and production build generation.

#### **Sencha IDE Plugins**

Sencha IDE plugins integrates Sencha frameworks into IntelliJ, WebStorm IDEs, which helps in improving the developer's productivity by providing features such as code completion, code inspection, code navigation, code generation, code refactoring, template creation, spell-checking, etc.

#### **Sencha Inspector**

Sencha Inspector is a debugging tool which helps the debugger to debug any issue while development.



## 2. EXT.JS — ENVIRONMENT SETUP

#### **Try it Option Online**

We have set up ExtJS Programming environment online, so that you can compile and execute all the available examples online. It gives you confidence in what you are reading and enables you to verify the programs with different options. Feel free to modify any example and execute it online.

Try the following example using **Try it** option available at the top right corner of the following sample code box.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
   <head>
      k
href="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/extjs/6.0.0/classic/theme-
classic/resources/theme-classic-all.css" rel="stylesheet" />
      <script type="text/javascript"</pre>
src="https://cdnjs.cloudflare.com/ajax/libs/extjs/6.0.0/ext-all.js"></script>
      <script type="text/javascript">
         Ext.onReady(function() {
         Ext.create('Ext.Panel', {
            renderTo: 'helloWorldPanel',
            height: 100,
            width: 200,
            title: 'Hello world',
            html: 'First Ext JS Hello World Program'
            });
         });
      </script>
   </head>
   <body>
      <div id="helloWorldPanel"></div>
   </body>
</html>
```



For most of the examples given in this tutorial, you will find a Try It option in our website code sections at the top right corner that will take you to the online compiler. Make use of it and enjoy your learning.

#### **Local Environment Setup**

This section guides you on how to download and set up Ext JS on your machine. Please follow the steps to set up the environment.

#### **Downloading Library Files**

Download the trial version of Ext JS library files from Sencha <a href="https://www.sencha.com">https://www.sencha.com</a>. You will get the trial version from the site on your registered mail id, which will be a zipped folder named ext-6.0.1-trial.

Unzip the folder and you will find various JavaScript and CSS files, which you will include in our application. We will mostly include the following files:

**JavaScript Files:** JS file which you can find under the folder \ext-6.0.1-trial\ext-6.0.1\build are:

File	Description
ext.js	This is the core file which contains all the functionalities to run the application.
ext-all.js	This file contains all the code minified with no comments in the file.
ext-all-debug.js	This is the unminified version of ext-all.js for debugging purpose.
ext-all-dev.js	This file is also unminified and is used for development purpose as it contains all the comments and console logs to check any errors/issue.
ext-all.js	This file is used for production purpose mostly as it is much smaller than any other.

You can add these files to your projects JS folder or you can provide a direct path where the file resides in your system.

 $\textbf{CSS Files:} \ \ \ \, \text{There are number of theme-based files, which you can find under folder $$ 6.0.1-trial\ext-6.0.1\build\classic\theme-classic\resources\theme-classic-all.css }$ 

• If you are going to use desktop application, then you can use classic themes under folder \ext-6.0.1-trial\ext-6.0.1\build\classic



• If we are going to use mobile application, then you can use modern themes which can be found under folder \ext-6.0.1-trial\ext-6.0.1\build\modern

The following library files will be added in an Ext JS application.

You will keep ExtJS application code in app.js file.

#### **CDN Setup**

CDN is content delivery network with which you do not need to download the Ext JS library files, instead you can directly add CDN link for ExtJS to your program as follows:

#### **Popular Editors**

As it is a JavaScript framework, which is used for developing web applications, in our project we will have HTML, JS files. To write our Ext JS programs, we will need a text editor. There are even multiple IDEs available in the market. But for now, we can consider one of the following:

• **Notepad:** On Windows machine, you can use any simple text editor such as Notepad (Recommended for this tutorial), Notepad++, sublime.



• **Eclipse:** It is an IDE developed by the eclipse open-source community and can be downloaded from <a href="http://www.eclipse.org/">http://www.eclipse.org/</a>

#### **Browser**

Ext JS supports cross-browser compatibility, it supports all major browsers such as:

- IE 6 and above
- Firefox 3.6 and above
- Chrome10 and above
- Safari 4 and above
- Opera 11 and above

You can use any browser for running Ext JS application.



## 3. EXT.JS - NAMING CONVENTION

Naming convention is a set of rule to be followed for identifiers. It makes the code more readable and understandable to other programmers as well.

Naming convention in Ext JS follows the standard JavaScript convention, which is not mandatory but a good practice to follow. It should follow the camel case syntax for naming the class, method, variable and properties.

If the name is combined with two words, the second word will start with an uppercase letter always. For example, doLayout(), StudentForm, firstName, etc.

Name	Convention
Class Name	It should start with an uppercase letter, followed by camel case. For example, StudentClass
Method Name	It should start with a lowercase letter, followed by camel case. For example, doLayout()
Variable Name	It should start with a lowercase letter, followed by camel case. For example, firstName
Constant Name	It should be in uppercase only. For example, COUNT, MAX_VALUE
Property Name	It should start with a lowercase letter, followed by camel case. For example, enableColumnResize = true



## 4. EXT.JS - ARCHITECTURE

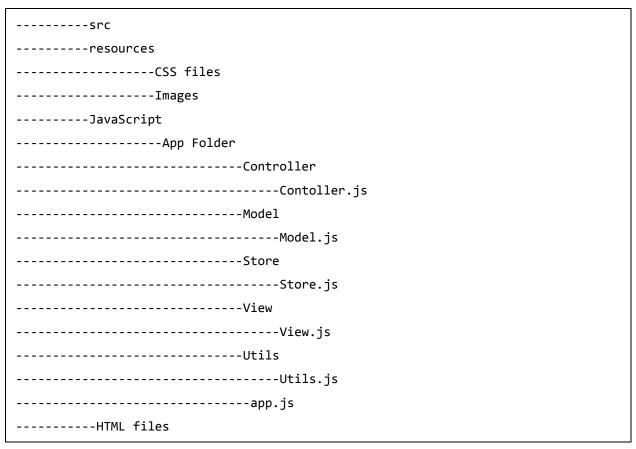
Ext JS follows MVC/ MVVM architecture.

**MVC** - Model View Controller architecture (version 4)

**MVVM** - Model View Viewmodel (version 5)

This architecture is not mandatory for the program, however, it is a best practice to follow this structure to make your code highly maintainable and organized.

#### **Project Structure with Ext JS App**



Ext JS app folder will reside in JavaScript folder of your project.

The App will contain controller, view, model, store, and utility files with app.js.

**app.js:** The main file from where the flow of program will start, which should be included in the main HTML file using <script> tag. App calls the controller of application for the rest of the functionality.



**Controller.js:** It is the controller file of Ext JS MVC architecture. This contains all the control of the application, the events listeners, and most of the functionality of the code. It has the path defined for all the other files used in that application such as store, view, model, require, mixins.



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