



FREE eBook

LEARNING xpages

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#xpages

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About

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Chapter 1: Getting started with xpages

Remarks

XPages is a web Framework for IBM Notes platform. It was introduced in Lotus Domino 8.5 (*has to be verified*).

It is based on JSF (JavaServer Faces) with a lot of useful extensions to represent and manipulate IBM Notes data.

IBM offers a tutorial for XPages: <https://www-10.lotus.com/ldd/ddwiki.nsf/dx/Tutorial-intro-to-XPages.htm>

Behind the Scenes In backend XPages are XML files which is similar to HTML. The Domino Server finally makes real HTML and send these pages to the Client. The Business logic is implemented in *native* JavaScript ("clientside JavaScript - CSJS") and *pseudo* JavaScript ("serverside JavaScript - SSJS").

Examples

Installation or Setup

In short: XPages is part of IBM Domino Designer. Extra setup or installation isn't required for XPages.

First XPage / Hello-World-Example

To create your first XPage you have to create a new NSF first. Open the IBM Domino Designer, and open the menu **"File" -> "New" -> "Application"**.

In the popup Dialog make these settings:

1. Select the server where the NSF will be created (can also be "local").
2. Then enter a title, for example "Hello World NSF".
3. Then enter a file name of your new NSF, for example "hello-world.nsf".
4. Ignore the "Encription ..." button to keep the default settings.
5. Check the option **"full index"**.
6. Then click "OK".

The new NSF is created.

Now right-click on section "[XPages]" in the application navigator and select **"new XPage ..."**.

1. Enter a title of your new XPage, for example "HelloWorld". This will create a file named "HelloWorld.xsp".

2. The comment field can be left empty for this simple example.
3. Click "OK", and the page is created.

Double-click at your new HelloWorld XPage, which you can find under the "[XPages]" section.

Select the tab "Source" (which is located at the bottom of the editor), and add a simple textfield component to your page. This should be the result:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xp:view xmlns:xp="http://www.ibm.com/xsp/core" pageTitle="Hello My World">

  <xp:text id="simpleTextField" value="Hello World!!!!" />

</xp:view>
```

Save the page and build the project (right-click at your application "Hello World NSF" and select menu entry "build").

Now, open a browser like Internet Explorer, and navigate to the new XPage of your application's NSF. For example <http://mydominoserver.com/hello-world.nsf/HelloWorld.xsp> and you will see your Hello World text.

Use external texts with message.properties in XPages

Prepare

First create a "message.properties" file in Resources/Files/. Example:

```
#####
# Test message.properties
#####
label.age=Enter your age:
validate.error.required.age=Sorry, but you have to give away the secret of your age ...
```

Next, connect the resource with your XPage or Custom Control:

```
<xp:this.resources>
  <xp:bundle src="/messages.properties" var="appMsg" />
  ....
</xp:this.resources>
```

Note: The "var" defines the name you want to use in your XPages or Custom Controls to reference the message map.

Usage

Now you can use the message map with server-side JavaScript (`#{javascript:appMsg.getString('...')}`) or with EL (`#{appMsg['...']}`).

Example usage:

```
...
<!-- to show the error message: -->
<xp:messages />

<!-- use with ssjs: -->
<xp:text value="#{javascript:appMsg.getString('label.age')}" escape="false" />

<!-- use with EL: -->
<xe:djNumberSpinner value="#{myDoc.age}" maxLength="2" javaType="int">
  <xp:this.validators>
    <xp:validateRequired message="#{appMsg['validate.error.required.age']}" />
  </xp:this.validators>
</xe:djNumberSpinner>
...
```

Read **Getting started with xpages** online: <https://riptutorial.com/xpages/topic/1092/getting-started-with-xpages>

Chapter 2: Usage of "Extension Library"

Introduction

Here you find some tips and use case examples for the "Extension Library" of OpenNTF (<http://extlib.openntf.org/>).

Remarks

This works at least for IE 11. I didn't test this for other browsers.

Examples

Use a "Font Awesome Icon" for the DatePicker (xe:djDateTextBox)

The default icon of the Date-Picker in the Extension Library from OpenNTF is nice but not sexy. You can change it to one of the cool "Font Awesome Icons".

First, add a DatePicker component to your page:

```
<xe:djDateTextBox id="datePickerComp" value="{myDoc.myDateField}" />
```

Then add these lines to your custom CSS file:

```
/*
-----
Improve xe:djDateTextBox Elements with another icon.
-----
*/

.dijitSelect .dijitArrowButton{
    padding:0px;
}

/* hide default arrow icon: */
.dijitDateTextBox .dijitArrowButtonInner{
    display: none;
}

.dijitDateTextBox .dijitArrowButtonContainer:after{
    font: 12px/normal FontAwesome;
    content: "\f073"; /* <--- unicode of the icon */
    font-size-adjust: none;
    font-stretch: normal;
}
/* ----- */
```

The value of attribute **content** is the "Icon-Code" (in this example "\f073" is the simple "fa-calendar" icon).

If you want another icon, visit <http://fontawesome.io/icons/>, search for your favorite icon, click to open its detail, and there copy the Unicode. Paste the Unicode into your custom CSS file as value of attribute content.

Read Usage of "Extension Library" online: <https://riptutorial.com/xpages/topic/10024/usage-of--extension-library->

Credits

S. No	Chapters	Contributors
1	Getting started with xpages	Community , Eric McCormick , Reeny
2	Usage of "Extension Library"	Reeny