

Property Files and Resource Bundles

1. Create a form that collects a first name, last name, and email address. Use a property file for the prompts and button label. There is no need to connect the form to any real action controller or have any navigation rules.
 - Note: property files should go under WEB-INF/classes in deployed apps. If you use Eclipse, put property files in src in your Eclipse project. They will be automatically placed in WEB-INF/classes when the project is deployed.
2. Create versions of the properties file in two other languages such as Spanish (_es), French (_fr), Italian (_it), or German (_de). Use Google Language Tools to do the translations. You might have trouble with non-Latin languages (Japanese, Russian, etc.). Java can handle other character sets easily, but your editor is probably using ASCII or ISO-8859-1 to store the .properties file.
3. Internationalize your application by having the Locale automatically selected based on the browser language settings. Remember to provide the locale to f:view:
`<f:view locale="#{facesContext.externalContext.requestLocale}">`
If you want to just see what your browser is sending for the Locale, you can do this:
`<h:outputText value="#{facesContext.externalContext.requestLocale}">`
4. Make a new form that uses the same property files, but this time the locale should be taken from a bean. You can hardcode the value in the bean, or return a Locale at random (much more fun). The Locale class takes a locale name (e.g., “es” or “es_mx”) as a constructor argument. See the online API for java.util.Locale for details.
5. Make a page that lets the user select the preferred language. When the form is submitted, display the first-name/last-name/email-address form with the Locale selected based on the user settings. This is very easy once you have a LocaleBean: just use
`<h:inputText value="#{localeBean.localeName}" />`
and then have your commandButton have an action of “nothing” or a similar non-existent value. When you submit the form, the locale will be stored, then the form will be redisplayed.