

Chapter 2 - A toy app

What we'll learn this chapter:

- **Scaffolding** automatically (and quickly) creates large chunks of app code.
 - Scaffolding is good for getting started quickly but is bad for understanding.
 - Rails uses the Model-View-Controller (**MVC**) pattern for web applications.
 - Rails' **REST architecture** includes a standard set of URLs and controller actions for interacting with data models.
 - Rails supports **data validations** to constrain values of data model attributes.
 - Use the **Rails console** to interact with your Rails app via command line.
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2.1 Planning the application

Fire up Rails for a new app:

```
rails _5.0.1_ new toy_app # new Rails app
bundle install --without production # install gems, w/out production
bundle update # bundle install failed again
```

Setup git:

```
git init
git add -A
git commit -m "Initialize repository"
```

Push repo to BitBucket

```
# create toy_app repo at BitBucket
git remote add origin git@bitbucket.org:<username>/toy_app.git
git push -u origin --all
```

“It’s never too early to deploy”

```
# make hello, world edit
git commit -am "Add hello" # commit changes
heroku create # create app at Heroku
git push heroku master # push to deploy
```

2.2 The Users resource

Users data model; resource means auto CRUD

Generate with scaffold, then migrate changes to db

```
rails generate scaffold User name:string email:string
rails db:migrate
```

“rake is ruby make”; incorporated as a “rails” command in Rails 5

users	
id	integer
name	string
email	string

Test locally: *rails server -b \$IP -p \$PORT*

See Figure 2.11: A detailed diagram of MVC in Rails

For resource, add to routes.rb:

```
resources :users
root 'users#index'
```

Resource means means default URL's for Users pages

URL	Action	Purpose
/users	index	page to list all users
/users/1	show	page to show user with id 1
/users/new	new	page to make a new user
/users/1/edit	edit	page to edit user with id 1

Resource means default controller created: *app/controllers/users_controller.rb*

Resource means default REST-ful routes:

HTTP req	URL	Action	Purpose
GET	/users	index	page to list all users
GET	/users/1	show	page to show user with id 1
GET	/users/new	new	page to make a new user
POST	/users	create	create a new user
GET	/users/1/edit	edit	page to edit user with id 1
PATCH	/users/1	update	update user with id 1
DELETE	/users/1	destroy	delete user with id 1

“REST”, which is an acronym for REpresentational State Transfer; means most app components modeled using CRUD paradigm

microposts	
id	integer
content	text
user_id	integer

2.3 The Microposts resource

Very similar to the Users stuff.

```
rails generate scaffold Micropost content:text user_id:integer
rails db:migrate
```

Add **validation** to data model: *app/models/micropost.rb*; 140 char limit to microposts

```
validates :content, length: { maximum: 140 }
```

Relationships between data models: A user has_many microposts

```
has_many :microposts // in User data model, user.rb
belongs_to :user // in Micropost data model, micropost.rb
```

Control Rails from the command-line: *rails console*

Push to Bitbucket: *git add -A; git commit -m "Finish toy app"; git push*

Deploy to Heroku: *git push heroku; heroku run rails db:migrate*

Done. App is at:

profbill-toyapp.herokuapp.com