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# How to Create a Simple App, “Croshare,” using Ruby on Rails



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## Table of Contents

1. Introduction .....	2
2. Getting started .....	2
3. Generating a scaffold .....	3
4. Viewing your app in a web browser .....	4
5. Changing the look of your app .....	7
6. Using CSS .....	8
7. Conclusion .....	12

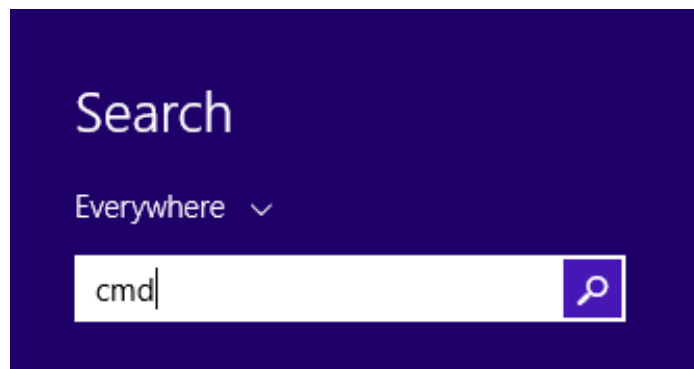
## 1. Introduction

This manual explains the steps to creating an app called “Croshare,” a simple social media platform where you can share crochet and knitting patterns with your friends.

Before you can begin, you must have **Ruby on Rails** and a **Text Editor** installed on your computer. Visit <http://rubyonrails.org/download> for more information.

## 2. Getting started

To create a new Ruby on Rails application, you need to open the **Command Line Interface**. You can do this by going to your **Program Start Menu**, and typing “cmd.”



Once the **Command Line Interface** opens, you can type **Command Line Prompts** to interact with your computer.

```

C:\Users\DELL\Desktop\programs>_

```

Type the command **rails new** and the name of the application you want to create. In this case, type **rails new croshare** and hit enter. Rails creates a list of new resources to use, including a new file directory. To navigate to the new directory, type **cd croshare** and hit enter. “Cd” stands for “change directory.”

```

C:\Users\DELL\Desktop\programs>cd croshare_

```

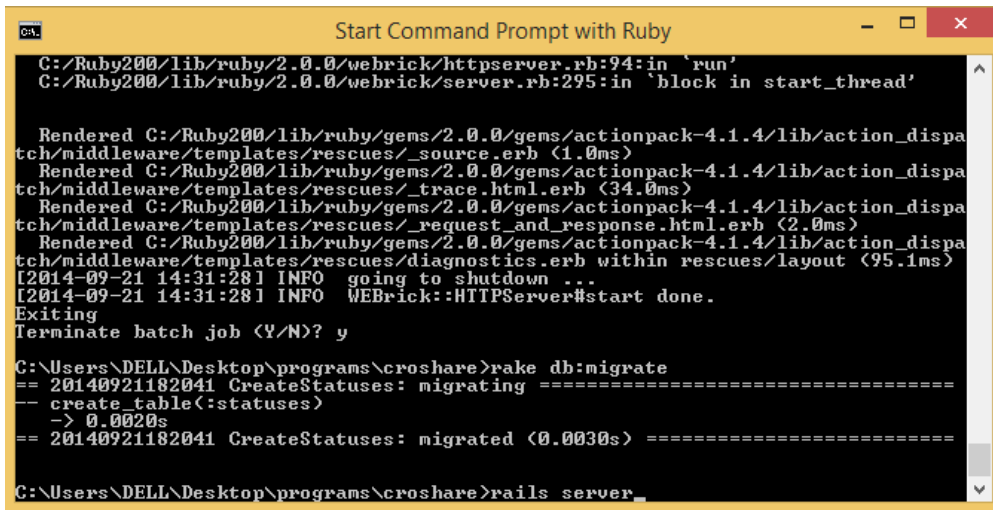
### 3. Generating a scaffold

Type the command **rails generate scaffold status name:string content:text** and hit enter.

A **scaffold** is a full set of tools used to create behaviors in an app. “**Status**” is the name of your scaffold. It generates string field, or small text field, labeled “name”. It also generates a larger text field labeled “content.”

Type **rake db:migrate** and hit enter. This will create migrations, additional tools you need for the app.

After rails finishes generating the tools you need, type the command **rails server**. This starts the rails server, which lets you view your app in a web browser.



```

C:\Ruby200\lib\ruby\2.0.0\webrick\httpserver.rb:94:in `run'
C:\Ruby200\lib\ruby\2.0.0\webrick\server.rb:295:in `block in start_thread'

  Rendered C:/Ruby200/lib/ruby/gems/2.0.0/gems/actionpack-4.1.4/lib/action_dispatcher/middleware/templates/rescues/_source.erb (1.0ms)
  Rendered C:/Ruby200/lib/ruby/gems/2.0.0/gems/actionpack-4.1.4/lib/action_dispatcher/middleware/templates/rescues/_trace.html.erb (34.0ms)
  Rendered C:/Ruby200/lib/ruby/gems/2.0.0/gems/actionpack-4.1.4/lib/action_dispatcher/middleware/templates/rescues/_request_and_response.html.erb (2.0ms)
  Rendered C:/Ruby200/lib/ruby/gems/2.0.0/gems/actionpack-4.1.4/lib/action_dispatcher/middleware/templates/rescues/diagnostics.erb within rescues/layout (95.1ms)
[2014-09-21 14:31:28] INFO going to shutdown ..
[2014-09-21 14:31:28] INFO WEBrick::HTTPServer#start done.
Exiting
Terminate batch job (Y/N)? y

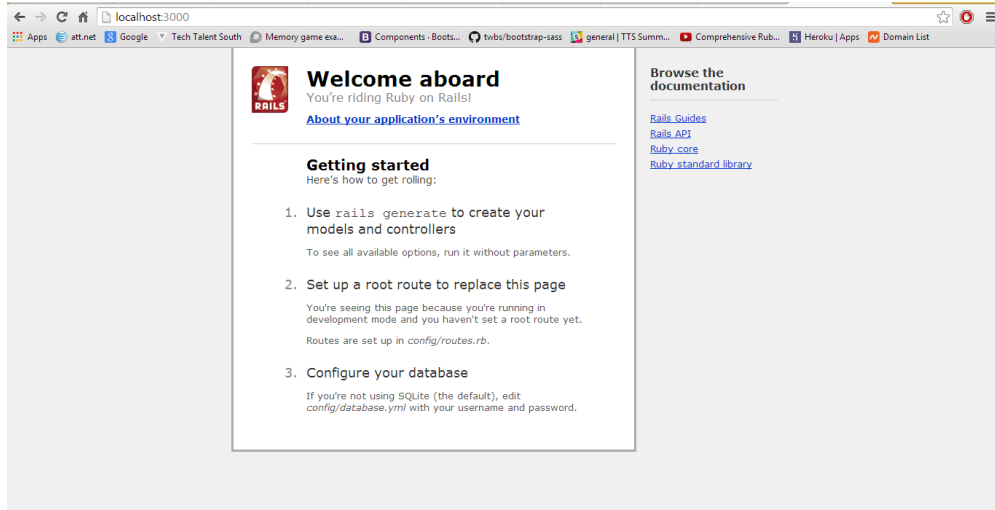
C:\Users\DELL\Desktop\programs\croshare>rake db:migrate
== 20140921182041 CreateStatuses: migrating =====
-- create_table(:statuses)
   -> 0.0020s
== 20140921182041 CreateStatuses: migrated (0.0030s) =====

C:\Users\DELL\Desktop\programs\croshare>rails server_

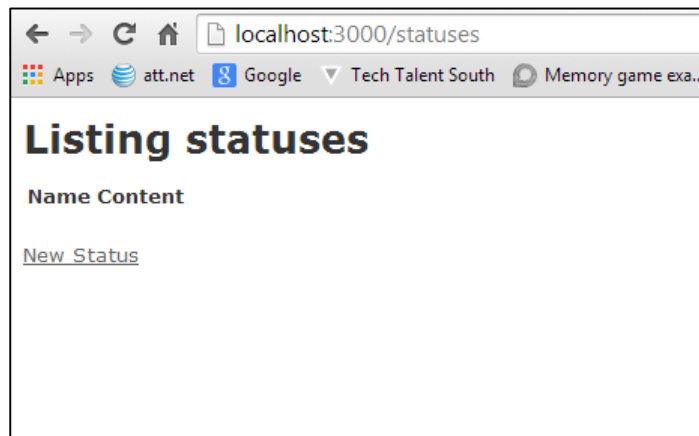
```

## 4. Viewing your app in a web browser

Open a web browser and type **localhost:3000** in the address bar. This opens the rails server in your browser.



Since you named the scaffold “**status**,” a site for models called “**statuses**” was created. Type **localhost:3000/statuses** to view this site.



Click “**New Status**” to create a new status. Type your name, and the content you wish to share with your friends.

localhost:3000/statuses/new

## New status

Name

Content

[Back](#)

Click the “Create Status” button to view your status update. Then hit the “**Back**” button, and you can see that your list of statuses has been updated on the main site.

localhost:3000/statuses

## Listing statuses

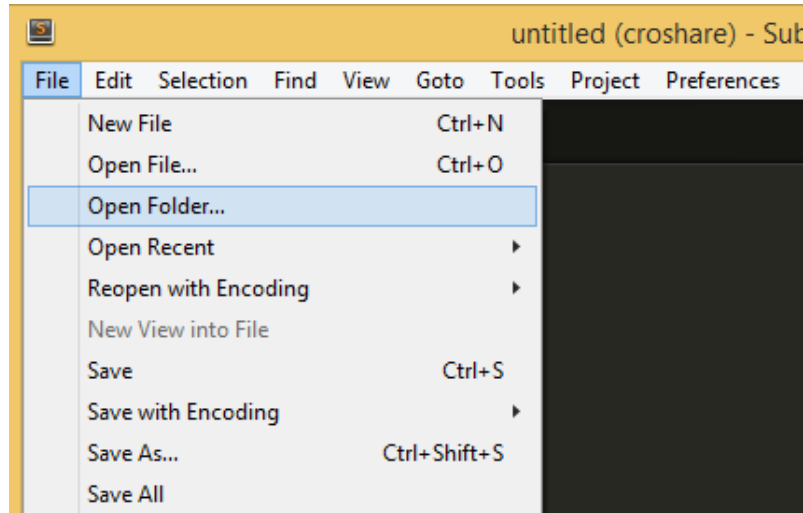
Name	Content
Kristine	Check out this great shawl! http://www.beatriceryandesigns.com/2014/07/15/midnight-breeze-shawl/ <a href="#">Show</a> <a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Destroy</a>

[New Status](#)

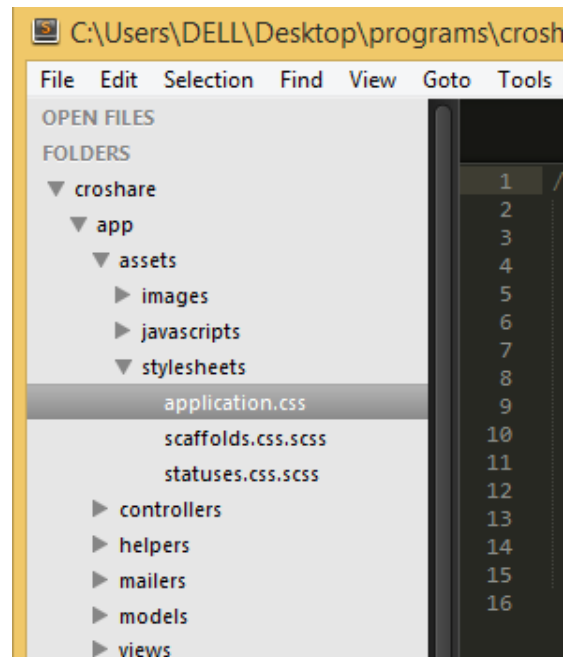
The app works successfully, but it’s not very nice to look at. Next, use your text editor to improve the look of your app.

## 5. Changing the look of your app

Open your text editor. Click “File,” “Open Folder,” and select the “croshare” folder.



Open the file `croshare/app/assets/stylesheets/application.css`

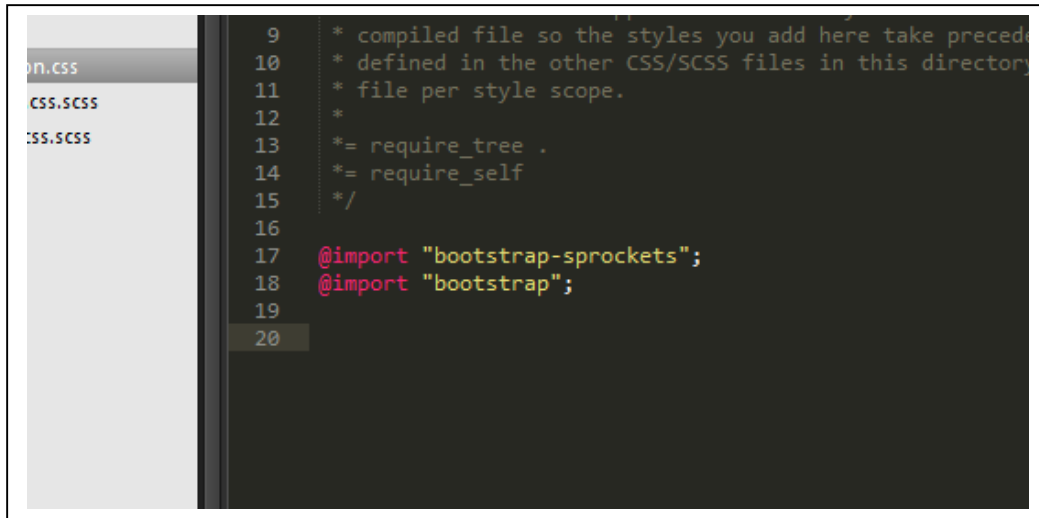




At this point, it's helpful to use a tool called Bootstrap. Go to [getbootstrap.com](http://getbootstrap.com) to download it. Once you've downloaded Bootstrap, go back to your **application.css** file and type the following:

```
@import "bootstrap-sprockets";
```

```
@import "bootstrap";
```



```

9      * compiled file so the styles you add here take precedence
10     * defined in the other CSS/SCSS files in this directory
11     * file per style scope.
12     *
13     *= require_tree .
14     *= require_self
15     */
16
17     @import "bootstrap-sprockets";
18     @import "bootstrap";
19
20

```

Go back to your **Command Line Interface** and hit **Ctrl+C** to end your rails server session.

Type **bundle install** and hit enter to install the new features into your app.

## 6. Using CSS

You can view the documentation at [getbootstrap.com](http://getbootstrap.com) to see libraries of code that can be used to change the look and behavior of your app.

Go to the file **croshare/views/layouts/application.html.erb**. You will see a piece of code that looks like this:

```
<%= yield %>
```

This is a piece of ruby code that represents the content you see on each page. To style the site, we can add the following code to it:

```

<div class="bg-primary">
  <span class="big-title">Croshare</span>
  <p><span class="description">Post great crochet and knitting patterns! Share
  immediately with your friends!</span></p>
</div>

```

```

<br />
<br />
<br />

```

```

<div class="container">
  <%= yield %>
</div>

```

```

C:\Users\DELL\Desktop\programs\croshare\app\views\l
Goto Tools Project Preferences Help
application.css x application.html.erb x
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4 <title>Croshare</title>
5 <%= stylesheet_link_tag 'application', media:
6 <%= javascript_include_tag 'application', 'data:
7 <%= csrf_meta_tags %>
8 </head>
9 <body>
10
11 <div class="container">
12 <%= yield %>
13 </div>
14
15 </body>
16 </html>
17 |

```

Go to the file `croshare/app/statuses/index.html.erb`. Delete all the code you see and replace it with the following code:

```

<%= link_to "Post a New Pattern", new_status_path, class: "btn" %>
<br />
<br />
<br />
<% @statuses.each do |status| %>
  <div class="status">
    <strong><%= status.name %></strong>
    <p><%= status.content %></p>
    <div class="meta">
      <%= link_to time_ago_in_words(status.created_at) + " ago", status %> |
      <span class="admin">
        <%= link_to "Edit", edit_status_path(status) %> |
        <%= link_to "Delete", status, method: :delete, data: {confirm: "Are you sure you
want to delete?"} %>
      </span>
    </div>
  </div>
</div>
<hr>
<% end %>

```

The screenshot shows a Sublime Text editor window with the following code in the `index.html.erb` file:

```

1 <%= link_to "Post a New Pattern", new_status_path, class: "btn" %>
2 <br />
3 <br />
4 <br />
5
6 <% @statuses.each do |status| %>
7   <div class="status">
8     <strong><%= status.name %></strong>
9     <p><%= status.content %></p>
10    <div class="meta">
11      <%= link_to time_ago_in_words(status.created_at) + " ago", status %> |
12      <span class="admin">
13        <%= link_to "Edit", edit_status_path(status) %> |
14        <%= link_to "Delete", status, method: :delete, data: {confirm: "Are you sure you want to delete?"} %>
15      </span>
16    </div>
17  </div>
18 </div>
19 <hr>
20 <% end %>

```

This code creates an output that shows how long ago the status was posted, and gives us more flexibility with how we style the page.

Go back to file `croshare/views/layouts/application.html.erb`. Add the following CSS code:

```
.bg-primary {  
  height: 80px;  
  padding-top: 30px;  
  background-color: #335CD6;  
}  
  
.big-title {  
  font-size: 60px;  
  font-family: "Arial Rounded MT Bold", "Helvetica Rounded", Arial, sans-serif;  
  color: white;  
  padding-left: 100px;  
}  
  
.description {  
  font-size: 20px;  
  font-family: "Arial Rounded MT Bold", "Helvetica Rounded", Arial, sans-serif;  
  padding-left: 100px;  
  color: white;  
}  
  
.container {  
  padding-left: 100px;  
}  
  
.btn {  
  font-family: "Arial Rounded MT Bold", "Helvetica Rounded", Arial, sans-serif;  
  font-size: 20px;  
}
```

## 7. Conclusion

You now have a simple social media site where your friends can share content with each other. It should look something like this:

