

Extracted from:

Developing Facebook Platform

Applications with Rails

This PDF file contains pages extracted from Developing Facebook Platform, published by the Pragmatic Bookshelf. For more information or to purchase a paperback or PDF copy, please visit <http://www.pragprog.com>.

Note: This extract contains some colored text (particularly in code listing). This is available only in online versions of the books. The printed versions are black and white. Pagination might vary between the online and printer versions; the content is otherwise identical.

Copyright © 2008 The Pragmatic Programmers, LLC.

All rights reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior consent of the publisher.



The book you're reading is still under development. As part of our Beta book program, we're releasing this copy well before we normally would. That way you'll be able to get this content a couple of months before it's available in finished form, and we'll get feedback to make the book even better. The idea is that everyone wins!

Be warned. The book has not had a full technical edit, so it will contain errors. It has not been copyedited, so it will be full of typos and other weirdness. And there's been no effort spent doing layout, so you'll find bad page breaks, over-long lines with little black rectangles, incorrect hyphenations, and all the other ugly things that you wouldn't expect to see in a finished book. We can't be held liable if you use this book to try to create a spiffy application and you somehow end up with a strangely shaped farm implement instead. Despite all this, we think you'll enjoy it!

Throughout this process you'll be able to download updated PDFs from your account on <http://pragprog.com>. When the book is finally ready, you'll get the final version (and subsequent updates) from the same address. In the meantime, we'd appreciate you sending us your feedback on this book at <http://books.pragprog.com/titles/mmfacer/errata>, or by using the links at the bottom of each page.

Thank you for being part of the Pragmatic community!

► **Andy Hunt**

Contents

1	Introducing the Facebook Platform	10
1.1	Build Something Cool	10
1.2	Harnessing the Social Network	13
1.3	Take Advantage of the Facebook Platform	14
1.4	Start an Outbreak	15
1.5	Developing With Rails	16
1.6	Summary	17
2	Getting Started with the Facebook Platform	18
2.1	Adding the Karate Poke Application	19
2.2	The Parts of a Facebook Application	20
2.3	Getting Inside the App	22
2.4	Setting up and Running the App	24
2.5	Summary	31
3	Creating Your First Application	32
3.1	Creating a Facebook Rails Application	32
3.2	Sending an Invitation	35
3.3	Giving the sender some feedback	39
3.4	Making our Invitation Interactive	40
3.5	Updating the Profile	41
3.6	Refactoring to use Helpers	43
3.7	Summary	45
4	Building the Karate Poke Object Model	46
4.1	Building the User Model	46
4.2	Accessing Facebook from Models	51
4.3	Creating the Move Model	52
4.4	Attack!	53
4.5	Creating the Belt Model	56
4.6	Encouraging Invitations	60
4.7	Refactoring and Performance	61

4.8	Summary	64
5	Getting Into the Facebook Canvas	66
5.1	Getting Interactive with Forms	66
5.2	Building the battles page	72
5.3	Adding Navigation	74
5.4	Hiding Content From Users	78
5.5	Adding Pagination	81
5.6	Adding Some Style	83
5.7	Summary	84
6	Making it More Social	85
6.1	Sending Notifications	85
6.2	Publishing to News Feeds	91
6.3	Comments and Discussion Boards	99
6.4	Spreading by Invitation	104
6.5	Summary	106
7	Profiles and the Facebook REST API	107
7.1	Using the REST API	107
7.2	The Facebook Query Language	110
7.3	The Facebook Profile In Depth	113
7.4	Summary	124
8	Integrating Facebook and Existing Websites	125
9	Scripting with FBJS	126
9.1	FBJS overview	126
9.2	AJAX in FBJS	134
9.3	Summary	139
10	Testing with Facebook	140
11	Scaling and Performance	141
11.1	Getting Faster with Memcached	141
11.2	Caching our Views	144
11.3	Caching with refs	148
11.4	API performance	150
11.5	Summary	154

The Pragmatic Bookshelf

The Pragmatic Bookshelf features books written by developers for developers. The titles continue the well-known Pragmatic Programmer style, and continue to garner awards and rave reviews. As development gets more and more difficult, the Pragmatic Programmers will be there with more titles and products to help you stay on top of your game.

Visit Us Online

Developing Facebook Platform Applications With Rails' Home Page

<http://pragprog.com/titles/mmfacer>

Source code from this book, errata, and other resources. Come give us feedback, too!

Register for Updates

<http://pragprog.com/updates>

Be notified when updates and new books become available.

Join the Community

<http://pragprog.com/community>

Read our weblogs, join our online discussions, participate in our mailing list, interact with our wiki, and benefit from the experience of other Pragmatic Programmers.

New and Noteworthy

<http://pragprog.com/news>

Check out the latest pragmatic developments in the news.

Buy the Book

If you liked this PDF, perhaps you'd like to have a paper copy of the book. It's available for purchase at our store: pragprog.com/titles/mmfacer.

Contact Us

Phone Orders:	1-800-699-PROG (+1 919 847 3884)
Online Orders:	www.pragprog.com/catalog
Customer Service:	orders@pragprog.com
Non-English Versions:	translations@pragprog.com
Pragmatic Teaching:	academic@pragprog.com
Author Proposals:	proposals@pragprog.com