Maven Plugin Documentation

Introduction

How Did the Plugin Documentation Standard Form?

The plugin documentation standard was created to address the frequent complain of lack of documentation, specifically on Maven's plugins. The standard was based on the suggestion made on the maven-dev mailing list with some refinements. It is a community consensus of what basic documentation a Maven plugin should have.

Why Do We Need a Plugin Documentation Standard?

The standard was developed not as set of rules, but rather as a set of guidelines to help plugin developers better document their plugins, in order to the benefit of the users of the plugin. The standard reminds plugin developers of the important, default details that should always be documented when developing a plugin, in order to speed plugin adoption for new users.

Plugin Documentation Key

Status:
✅ Completed ⚠️ In Progress ❌ Not Started or Unassigned (may be taken by someone else)

Docck:
Result when running maven-docck-plugin. The number indicated is the number of errors reported by docck. ✅ is used when it passes (0 errors) docck.

Nav:
The Navigation links complies with the plugin documentation standards. ✅ Pass ❌ Fail

Home:
The Plugin's home page complies with the documentation standards. ✅ Pass ❌ Fail

JIRA Issues:
Documentation-related open issues. Mostly from questions posted in the mailing lists.

Published:
Whether the plugin site has been published. ✅ Published ❌ Not published ❓ Unknown

Maven Distributed Plugins

Plugin	Status	Docck	Nav	Home	Assigned To	JIRA Issues	Published
Maven Ant Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Vincent Siveton	~~MANT-15~~	✅
Maven AntRun plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Allan Ramirez	~~MANTRUN-55~~	✅

Maven Archetype Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Franz See	~~ARCHETYPE-45~~	❓
Maven Assembly Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Edwin Punzalan	~~MASSEMBLY-122~~	✅
Maven Clean Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Edwin Punzalan	~~MCLEAN-13~~ ~~MCLEAN-14~~	✅
Maven Compiler Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Edwin Punzalan	~~MCOMPILER-38~~	✅
Maven Dependency Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Allan Ramirez	~~MDEP-30~~	✅
Maven Deploy Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Allan Ramirez	~~MDEPLOY-35~~	✅
Maven DOCCK Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Dennis Lundberg		✅
Maven EAR Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Edwin Punzalan	~~MEAR-32~~	✅
Maven Eclipse Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Edwin Punzalan	~~MECLIPSE-125~~	✅
Maven EJB Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Pete Marvin King	~~MEJB-17~~	✅
Maven Enforcer Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Brian Fox		✅
Maven Help Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MPH-17~~	✅
Maven IDEA Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Edwin Punzalan	~~MIDEA-59~~	✅

Maven Install Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Allan Ramirez	~~MINSTALL-27~~	✅
Maven Jar Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Dennis Lundberg	~~MJAR-48~~	✅
Maven One Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Dennis Lundberg	~~MONE-4~~	✅
Maven Plugin Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MPLUGIN-23~~	✅
Maven RAR Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Allan Ramirez	~~MRAR-12~~	✅
Maven Release Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	John Tolentino	~~MRELEASE-141~~	✅
Maven Resources Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Franz See	~~MRESOURCES-23~~	✅
Maven SCM Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Pete Marvin King	~~MSCM-218~~	✅
Maven Site Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MSITE-158~~	✅
Maven Source plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MSOURCES-9~~	✅
Maven Surefire Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Allan Ramirez	~~MSUREFIRE-147~~	✅
Maven WAR Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Pete Marvin King	~~MWAR-48~~	✅
Maven Verifier plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Denis Cabasson	~~MVERIFIER-2~~	✅

Maven Distributed Reports/Plugins

Plugin	Status	Docck	Nav	Home	Assigned To	JIRA Issues	Published
Maven Changelog Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MCHANGELOG-40~~	✅
Maven Changes Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Dennis Lundberg		✅
Maven Checkstyle Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MCHECKSTYLE-49~~	✅
Maven Clover Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Vincent Massol	~~MCLOVER-47~~	✅
Maven Javadoc Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MJAVADOC-79~~	✅
Maven JXR Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Maria Odea Ching	~~MJXR-14~~	✅
Maven PMD Plug-in	✅	✅	✅	✅	Mike Perham	~~MPMD-34~~	✅
Maven Project Info Reports	✅	✅	✅	✅	Pete Marvin King	~~MPIR-50~~	✅
Maven Surefire Report Plugin	✅	✅	✅	✅	Allan Ramirez	~~MSUREFIREREP-24~~	✅

References

Navigation Standard

Use the following template for your site.xml:

Template for site.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<!--
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(ASF) under one
or more contributor license agreements.  See
the NOTICE file
distributed with this work for additional
information
regarding copyright ownership.  The ASF
licenses this file
to you under the Apache License, Version 2.0
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"License"); you may not use this file except
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with the License.  You may obtain a copy of
the License at

  http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0

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distributed on an
"AS IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR
CONDITIONS OF ANY
KIND, either express or implied.  See the
License for the
specific language governing permissions and
limitations
under the License.
```

```
-->

<project>
  <body>
    <menu name="Overview">
      <item name="Introduction"
href="index.html"/>
      <item name="Goals"
href="plugin-info.html"/>
      <item name="Usage" href="usage.html"/>
      <item name="FAQ" href="faq.html"/>
      <item name="Release Notes"
href="jira-report.html"/>
    </menu>

    <menu name="Examples">
      <item name="description1"
href="examples/example1.html"/>
      <item name="description2"
href="examples/example2.html"/>
```

```
    </menu>
  </body>
</project>
```

Home Page Standard

Template for index.apt

```
------
Introduction
------
Author
------
YYYY-MM-DD
------

~~ Licensed to the Apache Software
Foundation (ASF) under one
~~ or more contributor license agreements.
See the NOTICE file
~~ distributed with this work for additional
information
~~ regarding copyright ownership.  The ASF
licenses this file
~~ to you under the Apache License, Version
2.0 (the
~~ "License"); you may not use this file
except in compliance
~~ with the License.  You may obtain a copy
of the License at
~~
```

```
~~
http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0
~~
~~ Unless required by applicable law or
agreed to in writing,
~~ software distributed under the License is
distributed on an
~~ "AS IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR
CONDITIONS OF ANY
~~ KIND, either express or implied.  See the
License for the
~~ specific language governing permissions
and limitations
~~ under the License.

~~ NOTE: For help with the syntax of this
file, see:
~~
http://maven.apache.org/doxia/references/apt
-format.html


Maven Plugin Name

  Plugin introduction, description, and
other relevant information.

* Goals Overview

  General Information about the goals.
```

* {{{goal.html}prefix:goal}} short description for this plugin goal.

* Usage

General instructions on how to use the Plugin Name can be found on the {{{usage.html}usage page}}. Some more specific use cases are described in the examples given below. Last but not least, users occasionally contribute additional examples, tips or errata to the

{{{http://docs.codehaus.org/display/MAVENUSER/Plugin+Name}plugin's wiki page}}.

In case you still have questions regarding the plugin's usage, please have a look at the {{{faq.html}FAQ}} and feel free to contact the {{{mail-lists.html}user mailing list}}. The posts to the mailing list are archived and could already contain the answer to your question as part of an older thread. Hence, it is also worth browsing/searching the {{{mail-lists.html}mail archive}}.

If you feel like the plugin is missing a feature or has a defect, you can fill a feature request or bug report in our

{{{issue-tracking.html}issue tracker}}. When creating a new issue, please provide a comprehensive description of your concern. Especially for fixing bugs it is crucial that the developers can reproduce your problem. For this reason, entire debug logs, POMs or most preferably little demo projects attached to the issue are very much appreciated. Of course, patches are welcome, too. Contributors can check out the project from our {{{source-repository.html}source repository}} and will find supplementary information in the

{{{http://maven.apache.org/guides/development/guide-helping.html}guide to helping with Maven}}.

* Examples

To provide you with better understanding on some usages of the Plugin Name, you can take a look into the following examples:

* {{{examples/short-description1.html}Example Description One}}

```
  *
{{{examples/short-description2.html}Example
Description Two}}
```

FAQ Page Standard

Template for faq.fml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<!--
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or more contributor license agreements.  See
the NOTICE file
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information
regarding copyright ownership.  The ASF
licenses this file
to you under the Apache License, Version 2.0
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"License"); you may not use this file except
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with the License.  You may obtain a copy of
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  http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0

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```

```
distributed on an
"AS IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR
CONDITIONS OF ANY
KIND, either express or implied.  See the
License for the
specific language governing permissions and
limitations
under the License.
-->

<faqs id="FAQ" title="Frequently Asked
Questions">
  <part id="General">
    <faq id="question">
      <question>Question?</question>
      <answer>
        <p>
          Answer
        </p>
      </answer>
```

```
    </faq>
  </part>
</faqs>
```

Font Styles

Make the text font styles standard for:

- goals - monospaced
  i.e. (<<<install:install>>>)
- parameter - monospaced
  i.e. (<<<-DparameterName>>>)

Maven Docck Plugin currently checks if a plugin has the following:

Project Descriptor Requirements

Documentation Item	Implemented	Comment
modelVersion	✅	implemented by maven
groupId	✅	implemented by maven
artifactId	✅	implemented by maven
version	✅	implemented by maven
name	✅	
description	✅	
url	✅	
issueManagement	✅	
prerequisites >> maven	✅	
inceptionYear	✅	
mailingList	✅	WARN only
scm	✅	WARN only
organization	✅	
plugin report	✅	

licenses	✅	
verify URLS	✅	

Project Site Pages

Documentation Item	Implemented	Comment
site(html/apt/xdoc)	✅	
index(html/apt/xdoc)	✅	
usage(html/apt/xdoc)	✅	
examples	✅	
FAQ	✅	

Project Site Descriptor

Documentation Item	Implemented	Comment
index.html link	✅	
plugin-info.html link	✅	
usage.html link	✅	
faq.html link	✅	

Plugin Javadoc Annotation Requirement

Documentation Item	Implemented	Comment
parameter description	✅	
mojo description	✅	