

How to use ©JForum Application with WebSphere Portal 6.0 configured on Oracle RAC

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What is ©JForum?

This is what ©JForum Team says about the software (ref: <http://www.jforum.net/>)

JForum is a powerful and robust discussion board system implemented in Java[™]. It provides an attractive interface, an efficient forum engine, an easy to use administrative panel, an advanced permission control system and much more.

Built from the ground up around a MVC framework, it can be deployed on any servlet container or Application Server, such as Tomcat, Resin and JBoss. Its clean design and implementation make JForum easy to customize and extend.

Best of all, JForum is freely available under the BSD Open Source license.

SSO implementation between JForum and IBM WebSphere Portal Server

JForum 2.1.7 provides a provision to provide your own code for authentication and authorization for this purpose download the latest code from <http://www.jforum.net/> into your development environment like RAD, WSAD, eclipse, NetBeans, et cetera where WebSphere Application Server 6.0 Test Environment is installed or configured and follow the article provided [here](#) to customize the authorization and authentication code. You can use different cookies generated when user logs into the Portal for example JSESSIONID available on WPS 6.0 on path /wps and LTPA_TOKEN available on WPS 6.0 only. You can also track session with these cookies. Use PumaHome interface to extract user id, group memberships, email address. After implementing sso interface in the jforum application you can create a simple portlet that holds the jforum application in an iframe and provides it with the necessary info required to log in to the jforum application.

Portlet to JForum Communication

If you are using cookies to identify yourself on the jforum use portlet's client side script like javascript to generate cookies because portlet objects does not contain any methods to set headers.

JForum Configuration for Oracle RAC

Oracle Steps (database preparation for jforum)

1. Create Database (DBA be told that application will open minimum 10 and maximum 50 connections to the Database and use UTF-8 char set for database)
2. Create user
3. Grant privileges to user Connect,Resource (give user all the access on the tables/sequences/can execute script/ can open 50 connections)
4. Connect to database with newly created user.
5. Execute script file /WEB-INF/config/database/oracle/**oracle_db_struct.sql**
6. Execute script file /WEB-INF/config/database/oracle/**oracle_data_dump.sql**

7. Exit

Change following properties in file /WEB-INF/config/database/oracle/oracle.properties
As per your configuration.

database.connection.driver=oracle.jdbc.driver.OracleDriver

**database.connection.string_thin=jdbc\:oracle\:thin\:\${database.connection.username}
/\${database.connection.password}@(DESCRIPTION=(LOAD_BALANCE=off)(ADDRESS=(PROTOCOL=TCP)(HOST=<host_name>)(PORT=<port>))(CONNECT_DATA=(SERVICE_NAME=<service_name>)))**

Change following properties in file /WEB-INF/config/jforum-custom.conf

Properties prefixed with mail, homepage, database needs to be changed according to your configuration.

JForum Deployment over WebSphere Portal 6.0

Export JForum EAR from your IDE for target server WAS 6.0.

Jforum Application Installation Steps

1. Stop WebSphere_Portal WAS Profile if started (<app_server_root>/bin # ./stopServer.sh WebSphere_Portal).
2. Start server1 WAS Profile (<app_server_root>/bin # ./startServer.sh server1).
3. Login (security is disabled on server1 by default otherwise use WAS_ADMIN) <http://yourhost.com:9090/admin>.
4. Click Install new Enterprise application link in left navigation (admin console).
5. Upload jforum.ear.
6. Accept defaults but map jforum module to WebSphere_Portal.
7. Save changes to master repository
8. Logout.
9. Stop server1 WAS Profile (<app_server_root>/bin # ./stopServer.sh server1).
10. Start WebSphere_Portal WAS Profile (<app_server_root>/bin # ./startServer.sh WebSphere_Portal).

To test jforum <http://yourhost.com:9081> | <80 if http server is configured >/jforum

Install your portlet on portal server to start using the jforum.

ForumContainer Portlet Application Installation Steps

1. Login to Portal server with Administrator privileges.
2. Administration > Portlet Management > Web Modules.
3. Click Install > Finish.
4. Create a page and place the newly installed portlet on the Page.
5. Create a Portal user with user id Admin (user id is case sensitive).
6. Give the user Admin access to the Portlet (he is the Forum Administrator).
7. Place just installed portlet at the required page.
8. Logout.

HTTP Server Plugin update

If HTTP server is configured with IBM WebSphere Portal then it wouldn't recognize the jforum context in order it to recognize the newly configured application's context start server1 profile login to administrative console regenerate plugin copy the new plugin from WAS directory to the HTTP server directory then restart HTTP server now the

jforum can be accessed from the HTTP server secondly if you don't want the Search engine crawlers to crawl jforum application place robots.txt into HTTP server or you can also change jforum agents to prohibit the crawlers.



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