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## Creating an extension for Railo 3.1

For this exercise in building a Railo Extension, we're going to be building one for [MangoBlog](#). Mango Blog is a cool open source blog application written by [Laura Arguello](#). This tutorial is a series of several entries since it covers a lot of ground.

### **To prepare for this exercise, you will need the following:**

- Railo 3.1 installed. You can use the express version if you wish.
- Mango Blog downloaded
- A CFC named ExtensionProvider.cfc
- A Database Server like MySQL or SQL Server

Since Railo 3.3 (June 2011), you can use the Railo Extension Store for delivering your Extension. This saves you the trouble of creating the ExtensionProvider.cfc, and gives your Extension more exposure.

Go to the [Railo Extension Store](#)

## Background information

If you want to write an application extension for Railo you need to do the following things:

1. Create a local ExtensionProvider.cfc that lists the metadata of all available applications and offers the corresponding installation archive.
2. Return a query in the ExtensionProvider.cfc:listApplications() method with your application and the necessary metadata (like blog location, forum location, support, image, video etc.)
3. Create a zip file containing the complete application files in it.

4. Create a config.xml file containing the forms that collect the data one needs to fill out upon installation.
5. Create a cfc called install.cfc containing the three methods install, uninstall and update.
6. Extend one of the available helper cfc's in order to have some additional methods for common procedures available like createMapping, createDatasource etc.
7. Write your install procedure so that the application get's installed according to its requirements.

## Tutorial Sections

- [Extension Provider Tutorial - Part 1](#)
- [Extension Provider Tutorial - Part 2](#)
- [Extension Provider Tutorial - Part 3](#)
- [Extension Provider Tutorial - Part 4](#)
- [Extension Provider Tutorial - Part 5 - Tips & Tricks](#)

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