

Oracle® Fusion Middleware

Developing Oracle Coherence Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server



14c (14.1.2.0.0)

F44682-02

January 2025

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Oracle Fusion Middleware Developing Oracle Coherence Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server, 14c (14.1.2.0.0)

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Preface

This document describes how to create, package, and deploy Coherence applications for WebLogic Server. The content is specific to using managed Coherence servers.

- [Audience](#)
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Audience

This document is a resource for:

- Application developers and architects who want to develop and configure Coherence applications for WebLogic Server.
- Administrators who want to deploy Coherence applications to WebLogic Server.

This book does not detail the Coherence API. See *Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence* for details on using the Coherence API.

Documentation Accessibility

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Related Documents

For additional information, see the following Oracle Coherence and Oracle WebLogic Server documents:

Oracle Coherence

- *Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence*
- *Developing Remote Clients for Oracle Coherence*
- *Administering HTTP Session Management with Oracle Coherence*Web*
- *Oracle Coherence Integration Guide*
- *Managing Oracle Coherence*
- *Securing Oracle Coherence*

Oracle WebLogic Server

- *Developing Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server*
- *Developing Web Applications, Servlets, and JSPs for Oracle WebLogic Server*
- *Administering Clusters for Oracle WebLogic Server*
- *Oracle WebLogic Remote Console Online Help*

New and Changed WebLogic Server Features

For a comprehensive listing of new Oracle WebLogic Server features introduced in this release, see *What's New in Oracle WebLogic Server*.

Conventions

The following text conventions are used in this document:

Convention	Meaning
boldface	Boldface type indicates graphical user interface elements associated with an action, or terms defined in text or the glossary.
<i>italic</i>	Italic type indicates book titles, emphasis, or placeholder variables for which you supply particular values.
monospace	Monospace type indicates commands within a paragraph, URLs, code in examples, text that appears on the screen, or text that you enter.

1

Getting Started

This chapter introduces Coherence applications for WebLogic Server and provides an overview of creating and packaging Coherence Applications.

This chapter includes the following sections:

- [Introduction to Coherence Applications](#)
Coherence is a distributed caching and in-memory data grid computing solution. Applications typically use Coherence to improve scalability, availability, and performance.
- [Typical Uses for Coherence](#)
Coherence is used to provide solutions such as application data caching, data grid computing, session state persistence and management and access Java Persistence API (JPA) entities in the data cache.
- [Understanding Coherence Application Configuration Files](#)
Coherence applications contain the Cache Configuration, POF Configuration, and Coherence Application Deployment Descriptor files used to configure caches, data types and so on.
- [Packaging and Deployment Overview](#)
Coherence applications use a specific directory structure for deployment. You can deploy a Coherence application either in an exploded directory format, or as an archived file.
- [Main Tasks for Creating Coherence Applications](#)
A Coherence application can be created both as a standalone GAR module and packaged as part of an enterprise application.

Introduction to Coherence Applications

Coherence is a distributed caching and in-memory data grid computing solution. Applications typically use Coherence to improve scalability, availability, and performance.

Coherence is tightly integrated with WebLogic Server. The integration aligns the lifecycle of a Coherence cluster member with the lifecycle of a managed server: starting or stopping a managed server JVM starts and stops a Coherence cluster member. Managed servers that are cluster members are referred to as managed Coherence servers. Some common use cases for Coherence include data caching, grid computing, and HTTP session replication.

Like other Java EE modules, Coherence supports its own application module, which is called a Grid ARchive (GAR). The GAR contains the artifacts of a Coherence application and includes a deployment descriptor. A GAR is deployed and undeployed in the same way as Java EE modules and the application lifecycle is decoupled from the cluster service lifetime. Coherence applications and managed Coherence servers are not mandated by the JavaEE specification and are specific to WebLogic Server.

Typical Uses for Coherence

Coherence is used to provide solutions such as application data caching, data grid computing, session state persistence and management and access Java Persistence API (JPA) entities in the data cache.

This section describes typical uses for Coherence in WebLogic Server. The WebLogic Server Coherence integration allows applications to easily use Coherence data caches and incorporate Coherence*Web for session management.

Providing Application Data Caching and Data Grid Computing

Applications use Coherence for replicated and distributed caching. Applications access data caches either through resource injection or component-based JNDI lookup. The WebLogic Remote Console and Oracle WebLogic Scripting Tool are used to manage and configure Coherence clusters. Using the Coherence integration enables you to create a data tier dedicated to caching application data and storing replicated session state. This is separate from the application tier—the WebLogic Server instances dedicated to running applications.

See [Creating Coherence Applications for WebLogic Server](#).

Providing Session State Persistence and Management

Using Coherence*Web enables you to provide Coherence-based HTTP session state persistence to applications running on WebLogic Server. Coherence*Web enables HTTP session sharing and management across different Web applications, domains, and heterogeneous application servers. Session data can be stored in data caches outside of the application server, thus freeing application server heap space and enabling server restarts without losing session data.

See Introduction to Coherence*Web.

Understanding Coherence Application Configuration Files

Coherence applications contain the Cache Configuration, POF Configuration, and Coherence Application Deployment Descriptor files used to configure caches, data types and so on.

A typical Coherence application that is deployed to WebLogic Server contains the following configuration files. See [Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence](#).

- **Cache Configuration File** – This file is used to specify the various types of caches which can be used within a Coherence cluster and is most often named `coherence-cache-config.xml`. This file is commonly referred to as the cache configuration deployment descriptor. The schema for this file is the `coherence-cache-config.xsd` file. See [Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence](#) for a complete reference of the elements in this file.
- **POF Configuration File** – This file is used to specify custom data types when using Portable Object Format (POF) to serialize objects and is typically named `pof-config.xml`. This file is commonly referred to as the POF configuration deployment descriptor. The schema for this file is the `coherence-pof-config.xsd` file. See [Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence](#) for a complete reference of the elements in this file.
- **Coherence Application Deployment Descriptor** – This file is used to configure a Coherence application module that is deployed to a managed Coherence server. See [coherence-application.xml Deployment Descriptor Elements](#), for a complete reference of the elements in the descriptor.

Packaging and Deployment Overview

Coherence applications use a specific directory structure for deployment. You can deploy a Coherence application either in an exploded directory format, or as an archived file.

A Coherence application deployed as a collection of files within a specific directory structure is known as exploded directory format. A Coherence application deployed as an archived file is called a Grid ARchive (GAR) with a `.gar` extension. See [Packaging Coherence Applications](#). The directory structure is as follows:

```
MyCohApp/  
  lib/  
  META-INF/  
    coherence-application.xml
```

A standalone GAR is deployed to all managed Coherence servers in a Coherence data tier. A GAR must also be packaged within a EAR and deployed to all managed Coherence servers that reside in an application tier. See [Deploying Coherence Applications in WebLogic Server](#).

Main Tasks for Creating Coherence Applications

A Coherence application can be created both as a standalone GAR module and packaged as part of an enterprise application.

The steps are detailed throughout this guide. For a complete Coherence application example, see the WebLogic Server Code Examples that are available with the WebLogic Server installation.

- [Task One: Create a Coherence Application Directory Structure](#)
- [Task Two: Include the Coherence Application's Artifacts](#)
- [Task Three: Package the Coherence Application for Deployment](#)

Task One: Create a Coherence Application Directory Structure

Create a staging directory that includes two subdirectories: `META-INF/` and `lib/`:

```
MyCohApp/  
  lib/  
  META-INF/
```

Task Two: Include the Coherence Application's Artifacts

Include the Coherence application artifacts in the staging directory. For details on creating Coherence applications, see [Creating Coherence Applications for WebLogic Server](#).

1. Place the Coherence application class files in the root of the staging directory in the appropriate package structure. For example:

```
MyCohApp/  
  com/  
    myco/  
      MyClass.class  
      MySerializer.class  
  lib/  
  META-INF/
```

2. Place application dependency libraries in the `lib/` directory.

```
MyCohApp/  
  com/  
    myco/  
      MyClass.class  
      MySerializer.class
```

```
lib/
  dependency.jar
META-INF/
```

3. Include the `coherence-cache-config.xml` and the `pof-config.xml` file in the `META-INF/` directory:

```
MyCohApp/
  com/
    myco/
      MyClass.class
  lib/
    dependency.jar
  META-INF/
    coherence-cache-config.xml
    pof-config.xml
```

4. Create a `coherence-application.xml` file in the `META-INF` directory.

```
MyCohApp/
  com/
    myco/
      MyClass.class
  lib/
    dependency.jar
  META-INF/
    coherence-application.xml
    coherence-cache-config.xml
    pof-config.xml
```

5. Edit the `coherence-application.xml` file and include the location of the configuration files using the `<cache-configuration-ref>` and `<pof-configuration-ref>` elements, respectively:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<coherence-application>
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-application">
  <cache-configuration-ref>META-INF/coherence-cache-config.xml
  </cache-configuration-ref>
  <pof-configuration-ref>META-INF/pof-config.xml</pof-configuration-ref>
</coherence-application>
```

Task Three: Package the Coherence Application for Deployment

Package the Coherence application as a GAR file for deployment to a Coherence data tier. Then, package the GAR file within an EAR for deployment to a Coherence application tier. See [Deploying Coherence Applications in WebLogic Server](#).

1. From the command line, change directories to the root of the staging directory.
2. Use the Java `jar` command to compress the archive with a `.gar` extension. For example:

```
jar cvf MyCohApp.gar *
```

3. Copy the GAR and package it within an enterprise application directory structure. See *Developing Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server* for details on developing EAR. For example:

```
MyEAR/
  META-INF/
    application.xml
    weblogic-application.xml
  MyWAR.war
```

```
MyEJB.jar  
MyCohApp.gar
```

The `weblogic-application.xml` file must contain a module reference for the GAR. For example:

```
<weblogic-application>  
  <module>  
    <name>MyCohApp</name>  
    <type>GAR</type>  
    <path>MyCohApp.gar</path>  
  </module>  
</weblogic-application>
```

2

Creating Coherence Applications for WebLogic Server

Coherence caches can be accessed using dependency injection and JNDI. Coherence applications can be packaged as a Grid ARchive (GAR).

This chapter includes the following sections:

- [Packaging Coherence Applications](#)
Coherence applications use a specific directory structure. You can deploy a Coherence application as a collection of files within this directory structure, known as exploded directory format, or as an archived file called a Grid ARchive (GAR) with a `.gar` extension.
- [Creating a Coherence Application Deployment Descriptor](#)
The presence of the deployment descriptor indicates a valid GAR. A GAR file must contain a Coherence application deployment descriptor (`coherence-application.xml`) located in the `META-INF` directory.
- [Using JNDI to Override Configuration](#)
Coherence provides the ability to override any XML element value in a configuration file using JNDI properties.
- [Defining a Data Cache](#)
- [Accessing a Data Cache](#)
- [Using the Coherence API](#)
- [Using a Coherence Application Lifecycle Listener](#)
The Coherence Application Lifecycle listener allows custom processing to occur before and after the creation and destruction of Coherence caches and clustered services.
- [Using Coherence for Session Management](#)
- [Creating Extend Clients in WebLogic Server](#)
- [Using a JCache Cache in WebLogic Server](#)

Packaging Coherence Applications

Coherence applications use a specific directory structure. You can deploy a Coherence application as a collection of files within this directory structure, known as exploded directory format, or as an archived file called a Grid ARchive (GAR) with a `.gar` extension.

A GAR module includes the artifacts that comprise a Coherence application. The `/META-INF` directory contains the deployment descriptor for the Coherence application (`coherence-application.xml`). The presence of the deployment descriptor indicates a valid GAR. An additional subdirectory, the `/lib` directory, is used for storing dependency JAR files. Compiled Java classes that make up a Coherence application (entry processors, aggregators, filters, and so on) are placed in the root directory in the appropriate Java package structure.

A GAR module can also contain a cache configuration file (`coherence-cache-config.xml`) and a Portable Object Format (POF) serialization configuration file (`pof-config.xml`). The location of these files is defined within the Coherence application deployment descriptor. Typically, the

files are placed in the `/META-INF` directory; however, they can be located anywhere in the GAR relative to the root or even at a URL-accessible network location.

 **Note:**

- If the configuration files are not found at runtime, then the default configuration files that are included in the `coherence.jar`, which is located in the system classpath, are used.
- If the configuration files are located in the root directory of the GAR, then they must not use the default file names; otherwise, the configuration files that are included in the `coherence.jar` file are found first and the configuration files in the GAR are never loaded.

The entire directory, once staged, is bundled into a GAR file using the `jar` command. GAR files are deployed as standalone archives to managed Coherence servers that are configured to store cached data.

Client applications that rely on the caches and resources in a GAR module must be packaged within an EAR that includes the dependent GAR. An EAR cannot contain multiple GAR modules. Multiple GAR modules must be merged into a single GAR. That is, a GAR must contain one application deployment descriptor, one cache configuration file, and one POF configuration file.

- [Directory Structure Example](#)
- [Packaging a Grid Archive In an Enterprise Application](#)
- [Creating a Coherence Project from a Maven Archetype](#)
You can create a new Coherence project using the Coherence Maven archetype.

Directory Structure Example

The following is an example of a Coherence application directory structure, in which `myCohApp/` is the staging directory:

Example 2-1 Coherence Application Directory Structure

```
MyCohApp/  
  lib/  
  META-INF/  
    coherence-application.xml  
    coherence-cache-config.xml  
    pof-config.xml  
  com/myco/  
    MyClass.class
```

Packaging a Grid Archive In an Enterprise Application

A GAR must be packaged in an EAR to be referenced by other JavaEE modules. See *Developing Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server* for details on creating an EAR. The following is an example of a Coherence application that is packaged within an EAR:

Example 2-2 Coherence Application Packaged in an EAR

```
MyEAR/
  META-INF/
    application.xml
    weblogic-application.xml
  MyWAR.war
  MyEJB.jar
  MyGAR.gar
```

Edit the `META-INF/weblogic-application.xml` descriptor and include a reference to the GAR using the `<module>` element. The reference is required so that the GAR is deployed when the EAR is deployed. For example:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<weblogic-application xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://xmlns.oracle.com/weblogic/weblogic-application
  http://xmlns.oracle.com/weblogic/weblogic-application/1.6/
  weblogic-application.xsd"
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/weblogic/weblogic-application">
  <module>
    <name>MyGAR</name>
    <type>GAR</type>
    <path>MyGAR.gar</path>
  </module>
</weblogic-application>
```

Creating a Coherence Project from a Maven Archetype

You can create a new Coherence project using the Coherence Maven archetype.

1. To create a new Coherence project using the Coherence Maven archetype, run a command similar to the following:

```
mvn archetype:generate
  -DarchetypeGroupId=com.oracle.coherence.archetype
  -DarchetypeArtifactId=gar-maven-archetype
  -DarchetypeVersion=14.1.2-0-0
  -DgroupId=org.mycompany
  -DartifactId=my-gar-project
  -Dversion=1.0-SNAPSHOT
```

This command runs Maven's `archetype:generate` goal which lets you create a new project from an archetype. [Table 2-1](#) describes the parameters.

Table 2-1 Parameters for the Coherence Projects

Parameter	Purpose
<code>archetypeGroupId</code>	The group ID of the archetype that you want to use to create the new project. This must be <code>com.oracle.coherence.archetype</code> .
<code>archetypeArtifactId</code>	The artifact ID of the archetype that you want to use to create the new project. This must be <code>gar-maven-archetype</code> .
<code>archetypeVersion</code>	The version of the archetype that you want to use to create the new project. This must be <code>14.1.2-0-0</code> .
<code>groupId</code>	The group ID for your new project. This usually starts with your organization's domain name in reverse format.

Table 2-1 (Cont.) Parameters for the Coherence Projects

Parameter	Purpose
artifactId	The artifact ID for your new project. This is usually an identifier for this project.
version	The version for your new project. This is usually 1.0-SNAPSHOT for a new project.

You can also run the command without any arguments, as shown in the following example. In this case, Maven displays a list of available archetypes and prompts you to enter the required information.

```
mvn archetype:generate
```

After you create the project, the following files get included in it:

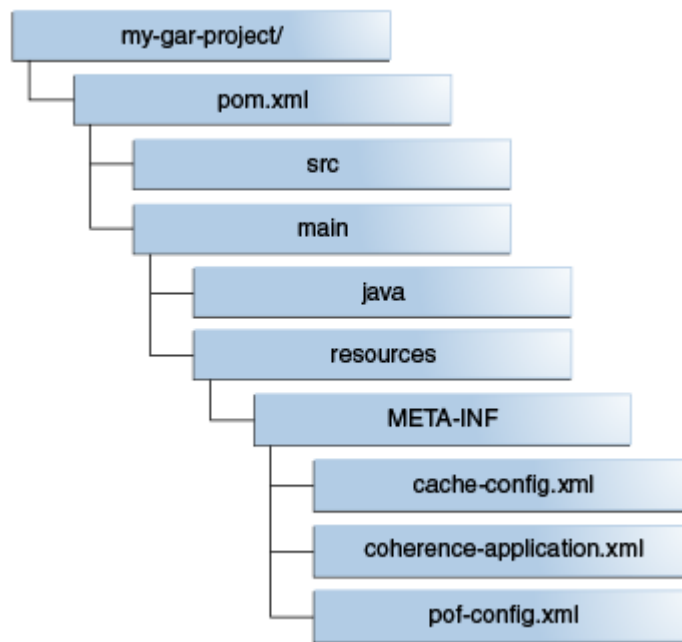
Figure 2-1 Maven Project Files

Table 2-2 describes the files included in the project.

Table 2-2 Files Created for the Coherence Project

File	Purpose
pom.xml	The Maven Project Object Model (POM) file that describes your new project. It includes the Maven coordinates that you specified for your project and the appropriate plug-in definitions to use the Coherence Maven plug-in to build your project into a gar file.
coherence-application.xml	A starter Coherence GAR deployment descriptor for your GAR file.

Table 2-2 (Cont.) Files Created for the Coherence Project

File	Purpose
pof-config.xml	A starter Coherence Portable Object Format (POF) configuration file. The POF configuration file is processed and inserted into the final GAR file if the plug-in option <code>generatePof</code> is set to <code>true</code> . By default, POF configuration metadata will not be generated.

Here are the samples of the generated files listed in the above table:

pom.xml

```
<project xmlns="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0" xmlns:xsi="http://
www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0 http://
maven.apache.org/xsd/maven-4.0.0.xsd">
  <modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>
  <groupId>org.mycompany</groupId>
  <artifactId>my-gar-project2</artifactId>
  <version>1.0-SNAPSHOT</version>
  <packaging>gar</packaging>
  <dependencies>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>com.oracle.coherence</groupId>
      <artifactId>coherence</artifactId>
      <version>[14.1.2-0,14.1.2-1)</version>
      <scope>provided</scope>
    </dependency>
  </dependencies>
  <build>
    <plugins>
      <plugin>
        <groupId>com.oracle.coherence</groupId>
        <artifactId>gar-maven-plugin</artifactId>
        <version>12.2.1-3-23</version>
        <extensions>>true</extensions>
      </plugin>
      <plugin>
        <groupId>org.apache.maven.plugins</groupId>
        <artifactId>maven-jar-plugin</artifactId>
        <version>2.6</version>
        <configuration>
          <forceCreation>>true</forceCreation>
        </configuration>
      </plugin>
    </plugins>
  </build>
</project>
```

coherence-application.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<coherence-application xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/weblogic/coherence-
application">
  <cache-configuration-ref>META-INF/cache-config.xml</cache-configuration-
```



```
ref>
  <pof-configuration-ref>META-INF/pof-config.xml</pof-configuration-ref>
</coherence-application>
```

pof-config.xml

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<!-- Note: To add custom types, create a new 'pof-config.xml' file
      containing your custom user-type elements, and place it at the
      beginning of the class path. -->

<pof-config xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
      xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-pof-
      config"
      xsi:schemaLocation="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/
      coherence-pof-config coherence-pof-config.xsd">
  <user-type-list>
    <!-- by default just include coherence POF user types -->
    <include>coherence-pof-config.xml</include>
  </user-type-list>
</pof-config>
```

2. If you are using POF in your project, you must add the following parameter into your project's POM file:

Parameter	Purpose
generatePof	The POF configuration file is generated and inserted into the final GAR file if this plug-in option is <code>true</code> . The configuration file is generated by scanning all classes in the GAR's classpath annotated with the class <code>com.tangosol.io.pof.annotation.Portable</code> . By default, POF configuration metadata is not generated.

3. To generate a GAR with correctly generated `pof-config.xml`, add the following to your GAR plug-in configuration in the POM:

```
<build>
<plugins>
...
  <plugin>
    <groupId>com.oracle.coherence</groupId>
    <artifactId>gar-maven-plugin</artifactId>
    <version>14.1.2-0-0</version>
    <extensions>true</extensions>
    <configuration>
      <generatePof>true</generatePof>
    </configuration>
  </plugin>
...
</plugins>
</build>
```

Creating a Coherence Application Deployment Descriptor

The presence of the deployment descriptor indicates a valid GAR. A GAR file must contain a Coherence application deployment descriptor (`coherence-application.xml`) located in the `META-INF` directory.

For a detailed reference of all the available elements in the descriptor, see [coherence-application.xml Deployment Descriptor Elements](#). The following is an example of a Coherence deployment descriptor that declares a cache configuration file and a POF configuration file that is located in the META-INF directory of the GAR.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<coherence-application
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-application">
  <cache-configuration-ref>META-INF/coherence-cache-config.xml
</cache-configuration-ref>
  <pof-configuration-ref>META-INF/pof-config.xml</pof-configuration-ref>
</coherence-application>
```

Using JNDI to Override Configuration

Coherence provides the ability to override any XML element value in a configuration file using JNDI properties.

The use of JNDI properties allows a single version of a configuration file to be used for deployment and then altered as required at runtime.

To define a JNDI property, add an `override-property` attribute to an XML element with a value set to a JNDI context. The following example defines a JNDI property with a `cache-config/MyGar` context for the `<cache-configuration-ref>` element in a `coherence-application.xml` deployment descriptor. The JNDI property is used at runtime to override the cache configuration reference and specify a different cache configuration file. The JNDI context of `cache-config` is a well known context used and registered by a managed Coherence server.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<coherence-application
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-application">
  <cache-configuration-ref override-property="cache-config/MyGar"
    META-INF/coherence-cache-config.xml</cache-configuration-ref>
  <pof-configuration-ref>META-INF/pof-config.xml</pof-configuration-ref>
</coherence-application>
```

Defining a Data Cache

Data caches are defined in a `coherence-cache-config.xml` file that is packaged in a GAR file. See [Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence](#) for details on Coherence caches and their configuration.

The following example creates a distributed cache named `myCache`. As an alternative, a cache mapping may be defined with the asterisk (*) wildcard, which allows an application to use the distributed cache by specifying any name.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="windows-1252"?>
<cache-config xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-cache-config"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-cache-config
  coherence-cache-config.xsd">

  <caching-scheme-mapping>
    <cache-mapping>
      <cache-name>myCache</cache-name>
      <scheme-name>distributed</scheme-name>
    </cache-mapping>
  </caching-scheme-mapping>
```

```
<キャッシング-schemes>
  <distributed-scheme>
    <scheme-name>distributed</scheme-name>
    <service-name>DistributedService</service-name>
    <backing-map-scheme>
      <local-scheme/>
    </backing-map-scheme>
    <autostart>true</autostart>
  </distributed-scheme>
</キャッシング-schemes>
</cache-config>
```

Coherence does not support the use of a replicated cache scheme if a GAR module is used in multiple EAR modules (packaged either individually or as a shared GAR) on a managed Coherence server. Additionally, the replicated cache type is deprecated. View, Near, or Distributed/Partitioned Cache types should be used instead. The read and write performance and memory usage characteristics described in Table 12-1 Summary of Cache Types and Characteristics can be used to determine which cache type to use.

Accessing a Data Cache

Applications use the Coherence `NamedCache` API to interact with a Coherence cache. The Coherence cache holds resources that are shared among members of a Coherence cluster. An application can obtain a `NamedCache` object either by dependency injection or by using a JNDI lookup.

To Obtain a Cache by Dependency Injection

An `@Resource` annotation can be used in a servlet or an EJB to dynamically inject the `NamedCache`. This annotation cannot be used in a JSP. The name of the cache used in the annotation must be defined in the application's `coherence-cache-config.xml` file.

[Example 2-3](#) illustrates using dependency injection to get a cache named `myCache`. See *Developing Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server* for details on JavaEE annotations and dependency injection.

Example 2-3 Obtaining a Cache Resource by Dependency Injection

```
...
@Resource(mappedName="MyCache")
com.tangosol.net.NamedCache nc;
...
```

To Obtain the NamedCache by JNDI Lookup

A component-scoped JNDI tree can be used in EJBs, servlets, or JSPs to get a `NamedCache` reference.

To use a JNDI lookup, define a `resource-ref` of type `com.tangosol.net.NamedCache` in either the `web.xml` or `ejb-jar.xml` file. [Example 2-4](#) illustrates a `<resource-ref>` element that identifies `myCache` as the `NamedCache`. See *Developing JNDI Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server* for details on using JNDI in Oracle WebLogic Server.

 **Note:**

The `<res-auth>` and `<res-sharing-scope>` elements do not appear in the example. The `<res-auth>` element is ignored because currently no resource sign-on is performed to access data caches. The `<res-sharing-scope>` element is ignored because data caches are sharable by default and this behavior cannot be overridden.

Example 2-4 Defining a NamedCache as resource-ref for JNDI Lookup

```
...
<resource-ref>
  <res-ref-name>coherence/myCache</res-ref-name>
  <res-type>com.tangosol.net.NamedCache</res-type>
  <mapped-name>MyCache</mapped-name>
</resource-ref>
...
```

The following example performs a JNDI lookup to get a `NamedCache` reference that is defined in [Example 2-4](#):

```
try {
    Context ctx = new InitialContext();
    cache = (NamedCache) ctx.lookup("java:comp/env/coherence/myCache");
    cache.put(key, value);
}
catch (NamingException ne)
```

Using the Coherence API

Coherence provides a full-featured API for interacting with a cache and for performing data grid operations.

Some of the features of the Coherence API include:

- basic `get`, `put`, and `putAll` operations
- querying a cache
- processing data in a cache using entry processors and aggregators
- event notifications

See *Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence* for details on using the API to develop applications. See [Java API Reference for Oracle Coherence](#) for a reference of the Coherence API.

Using POF for Serialization

Objects that are placed in a cache must be serializable. The Portable Object Format (also referred to as POF) is a language agnostic binary format. POF is designed to be efficient in both space and time and is the recommended serialization option in Coherence. See *Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence* for details on using POF in your applications.

Using a Coherence Application Lifecycle Listener

The Coherence Application Lifecycle listener allows custom processing to occur before and after the creation and destruction of Coherence caches and clustered services.

Coherence applications support the use of an application lifecycle listener. The listener class must implement the `com.tangosol.application.LifecycleListener` interface. See the [Java API Reference for Oracle Coherence](#) for details on the interface.

Override the following methods provided in the `LifecycleListener` interface and add any required functionality:

- `preStart(Context)` – called before the application is activated
- `postStart(Context)` – called after the application is started
- `preStop(Context)` – called before the application stops its services
- `postStop(Context)` – called after the application is stopped

To use an application lifecycle listener class, declare the fully qualified name of the class within the `<application-lifecycle-listener>` element in the `coherence-application.xml` deployment descriptor and include the class in the `/lib` directory of the GAR. The following is an example of declaring an application lifecycle listener class that is named `MyAppLifecycleListener`.

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<coherence-application
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-application">
  <cache-configuration-ref>META-INF/coherence-cache-config.xml
</cache-configuration-ref>
  <pof-configuration-ref>META-INF/pof-config.xml</pof-configuration-ref>
  <application-lifecycle-listener>
    <class-name>package.MyAppLifecycleListener</class-name>
  </application-lifecycle-listener>
</coherence-application>
```

Using Coherence for Session Management

Web applications can choose to use Coherence for storing and replicating session state. The session management features of Coherence are implemented by the `Coherence*Web` component. See *Administering HTTP Session Management with Oracle Coherence*Web* for details on setting up, configuring, and using `Coherence*Web` in WebLogic Server.

Creating Extend Clients in WebLogic Server

Client applications can choose to use `Coherence*Extend` to interact with Coherence caches without becoming members of a Coherence cluster.

Client applications connect to managed Coherence proxy servers and are unaware that cache and invocation service requests are being executed remotely. Remote clients may be deployed within a WebLogic Server domain or may be external to WebLogic Server. See *Administering Clusters for Oracle WebLogic Server* for details on setting up a Coherence proxy server tier in WebLogic Server to allow remote connections. See *Developing Remote Clients for Oracle Coherence* for details on creating `Coherence*Extend` client applications.

Using a JCache Cache in WebLogic Server

Applications that are deployed to a managed Coherence container can use the JCache API and JCache provider that is implemented by Coherence.

See *Developing Applications with Oracle Coherence* for details on using JCache with Coherence.

1. Add the `COHERENCE_HOME/lib/cache-api.jar` and `COHERENCE_HOME/lib/coherence-jcache.jar` libraries to the `/lib` directory in a GAR file.
2. Edit the cache configuration file that is referenced in the `coherence-application.xml` file to include either the JCache namespace or JCacheExtend namespace. For example:

```
<cache-config xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-cache-config"
  xmlns:jcache="class://com.tangosol.coherence.jcache.JCacheNamespace"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-cache-
  config
  coherence-cache-config.xsd">
  ...
```

3. Use the JCache API to create and use a JCache cache. For example within a servlet:

```
static private Cache<ContactId, Contact> getCache(String cacheName)
{
    CachingProvider provider = Caching.getCachingProvider();
    CacheManager mgr = Caching.getCachingProvider().getCacheManager();

    Cache<ContactId, Contact> cache = null;

    try {
        cache = mgr.getCache(cacheName, ContactId.class, Contact.class);
    }

    catch (IllegalStateException e) {

        if (cache == null) {
            PartitionedCacheConfiguration config = new
                PartitionedCacheConfiguration<ContactId, Contact>();
            config.setTypes(ContactId.class, Contact.class);
            config.setStatisticsEnabled(true); config.setManagementEnabled(true);
            cache = mgr.createCache(cacheName, config);
        }
        return cache;
    }
}
```

3

Deploying Coherence Applications in WebLogic Server

To manage Coherence servers in a WebLogic Server domain, you must deploy Coherence applications packaged as a Grid ARchive (GAR).

See [Packaging Coherence Applications](#) for details on creating a GAR.

This chapter includes the following sections:

- [Understanding Coherence Deployment Tiers](#)
- [Deploying Applications to Managed Coherence Servers](#)
- [Deploying Coherence Applications as Shared Libraries](#)
- [Referencing Shared Libraries from a Coherence Application](#)
- [Performing a Rolling Redeploy](#)
- [Securing Coherence Applications in WebLogic Server](#)

Understanding Coherence Deployment Tiers

Coherence is setup in tiers within a WebLogic Server domain. The tiers often include: a data tier for storing data; an application tier for consuming cached data; and a proxy tier for allowing remote clients (non cluster members) to use a cluster.

The use of a dedicated storage tier that is separate from the application tier and proxy tier is a best practice that ensures optimal performance of a Coherence cluster.

The deployment tiers contain managed servers that are part of a Coherence cluster. Managed servers that are part of a Coherence cluster are referred to as managed Coherence servers. Coherence tiers are typically associated with respective WebLogic Server clusters. The use of WebLogic Server clusters simplifies the deployment of an application and the management of the deployment topology, especially in large clusters. However, managed Coherence servers in each tier can be individually managed as required.

During development and simple testing, setting up Coherence deployment tiers may be impractical. In this case, a Coherence application can be deployed to a single managed server and a single-server cluster is automatically created using default cluster settings.

See *Administering Clusters for Oracle WebLogic Server*.

Deploying Applications to Managed Coherence Servers

Coherence application GAR contains the artifacts of a Coherence application and includes a deployment descriptor. A GAR can be deployed as a standalone module or as a part of an EAR using any WebLogic Server deployment tool.

Coherence application GAR modules get deployed the same way as JavaEE modules and can be deployed using any WebLogic Server deployment tool: the WebLogic Remote Console, the Oracle WebLogic Scripting Tool (WLST), the WebLogic Server `Deployer` class, and the WebLogic Server `<wldeploy>` ANT target.

See *Oracle WebLogic Remote Console Online Help*.

See *Understanding the WebLogic Scripting Tool*.

See *Deploying Applications to Oracle WebLogic Server*.

 **Note:**

Production redeployment of an EAR containing a GAR is only supported for storage-disabled cluster clients. In addition, any changes to the code in the GAR must be backward compatible with the existing deployment. For example, entity classes that are changing must implement the `EvoLvable` interface. See *Deploying Applications to Oracle WebLogic Server*.

GAR modules should be deployed as standalone modules and also as part of an EAR. The following list describes how GAR modules are deployed in a WebLogic Server domain that uses Coherence tiers. See *Administering Clusters for Oracle WebLogic Server*.

- **Data Tier** – Deploy a standalone GAR to each managed Coherence server of the data tier. If the data tier is setup as a WebLogic Server cluster, deploy the GAR to the cluster and have the module copied to each managed Coherence server.
- **Application Tier** – Deploy the EAR that contains both the client implementation (Web Application, EJB, and so on) and the GAR to each managed Coherence server in the cluster. If the application tier is setup as a WebLogic Server cluster, deploy the EAR to the cluster and have the module copied to each managed Coherence server.
- **Proxy Tier** – Deploy the standalone GAR to each managed Coherence server of the proxy tier. The cache configuration file packaged in the GAR must include a proxy service definition. If the application tier is setup as a WebLogic Server cluster, deploy the GAR to the cluster and have the module copied to each managed Coherence server.
- **Extend Client Tier** – Deploy the EAR that contains the extend client implementation (Web Application, EJB, and so on) as well as the GAR to each managed server that hosts the extend client. The client's cache configuration file must include a remote cache service definition that defines the address of a proxy server. If the extend client tier is setup as a WebLogic Server cluster, deploy the EAR to the cluster and the WebLogic deployment infrastructure copies the module to each managed Coherence server.

Deploying Coherence Applications as Shared Libraries

Coherence applications are packaged as Grid ARchive (GAR) and deployed as shared libraries in a single-tier or multi-tier domain.

A standalone GAR can be deployed as a shared library and referenced by multiple EAR files. For general information about shared libraries and their deployment, see *Creating Shared Java EE Libraries and Optional Packages in Developing Applications for Oracle WebLogic Server*.

To use the GAR at runtime, the `weblogic-application.xml` deployment descriptor in an EAR must contain a reference to the GAR. For example:

```
<weblogic-application>
  <library-ref>
    <library-name>ExampleGAR</library-name>
  </library-ref>
</weblogic-application>
```


The above configuration works in single-tier domain where both the application tier and data tier are on a single managed Coherence server. However, in a multi-tiered domain, additional configuration is required to ensure that a GAR that is deployed as a shared library results in storage-enabled members starting as expected.

To deploy a GAR as shared library in multi-tiered domain:

1. Edit the cache configuration file in the GAR and explicitly set the `<scope-name>` element to the GAR name. For details about configuring the scope name, see [Administering Oracle Coherence](#).

For example, if the GAR is named `ExampleGAR.gar`, the `<scope-name>` element is defined as follows:

```
<cache-config>
  <defaults>
    <scope-name>ExampleGAR</scope-name>
  </defaults>
  ...
```

2. Deploy the GAR to the application (storage-disabled) tier as a shared library and specify the GAR name as the application name. For example, if the GAR is named `ExampleGAR.gar`, then the GAR name is specified as `ExampleGAR`.
3. Edit the `weblogic-application.xml` deployment descriptor in the EAR and include a reference for the GAR. For example:

```
<weblogic-application>
  <library-ref>
    <library-name>ExampleGAR</library-name>
  </library-ref>
</weblogic-application>
```

4. Deploy the EAR to the application tier.
5. Deploy the same GAR to the data (storage-enabled) tier and modify the name. For example, `ExampleGAR-DataTier`. If a name is not specified, a `-1` is appended to the deployment name because the GAR already exists as a shared library.
6. After the deployment completes, the GARs that are deployed to both tiers (for example, `ExampleGAR` and `ExampleGAR-DataTier`) join the same services and client request processing and data storage are separated as expected.

Referencing Shared Libraries from a Coherence Application

A GAR module can use shared libraries that are deployed to WebLogic Server.

To use a shared library, reference the shared library within a `<library-ref>` node in the `weblogic-coh-app.xml` deployment descriptor and package the deployment descriptor in the `/META-INF` directory of the GAR module.

For a detailed reference of the available elements in the descriptor, see [weblogic-coh-app.xml Deployment Descriptor Elements](#). For example:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<weblogic-coh-app
  xmlns:wls="http://xmlns.oracle.com/weblogic/weblogic-coh-app">
  <library-ref>
    <library-name>mySharedLibrary</library-name>
    <specification-version>2.0</specification-version>
    <implementation-version>8.1beta</implementation-version>
    <exact-match>>false</exact-match>
```

```
</library-ref>  
</weblogic-coh-app>
```

Performing a Rolling Redeploy

GAR modules that are targeted to a WebLogic Server cluster are simultaneously redeployed to all managed Coherence servers.

There are no provisions that guard against in-memory cache data loss when utilizing simultaneous redeployment across all managed Coherence servers.

Note:

To ensure there is no persistence or write-through cache data loss during a simultaneous redeployment of GAR modules to all managed Coherence servers, you can leverage the service suspend feature. A service is considered suspended only after all the data is fully written, including active persistence mode, asynchronous persistence tasks, entries in the write-behind queue of a read-write backing map, and other asynchronous operations. Outstanding operations are completed and no new operations are allowed against the suspended services. Thus, for a controlled complete redeploy of GAR modules to all managed Coherence servers, Oracle recommends executing the Coherence `ClusterMBean` operation `suspendService("impactedService")` which suspends each service with potential asynchronous operations gracefully before undeploying GAR modules from all managed Coherence servers.

A rolling redeploy is a technique for updating a GAR across a WebLogic Server cluster by individually redeploying the GAR on each managed Coherence server and cycling through all servers. A rolling redeploy allows cached data to be redistributed while the GAR is redeployed. Only in-memory cache data is otherwise lost if a GAR is redeployed to all cache servers simultaneously.

Note:

Always check the `StatusHA` metric on the partitioned service between server-targeted deployments to ensure `MACHINE_SAFE` status. See [Managing Oracle Coherence](#) for details on this metric.

To perform a rolling redeploy, a GAR must be deployed using the `specifiedtargetsonly` option, which ensures that subsequent updates to the GAR results in a deployment on the current target and not on all targets that contain the GAR. The `specifiedtargetsonly` option is not available through the WebLogic Remote Console and must be specified using either WLST, `weblogic.Deployer`, or the `<wldeploy>` ANT target.

The full path and name to the GAR file must match exactly the path and name that was used to originally deploy the GAR. If a different path or name is used, then a `-1`, `-2`, or `-1` and `-2` is appended to the GAR name and the rolling redeploy will not work correctly. In addition, if the GAR was originally deployed using the `upload=true` option, then you must redeploy using the `upload=true` option; otherwise, the rolling redeploy will not work correctly.

For a complete example (including a WLST script) of redeploying Coherence applications (including ensuring `MACHINE_SAFE` status), see the Coherence examples that are part of the WebLogic Server examples. The examples are available by performing a custom WebLogic Server installation and selecting to install the Server Examples. See *Understanding Oracle WebLogic Server*.

WLST

```
deploy('MyCohApp', '/myapps/MyCohApp.gar', 'server1', specifiedTargetsOnly='true')
```

<wldeploy> ANT Target

```
<wldeploy
  user="${admin.username}"
  password="${admin.password}"
  adminurl="t3://${admin.host}:${admin.port}"
  debug="false"
  action="deploy"
  name="Coherence GAR"
  source="${gar.filename}"
  targets="ms3"
  specifiedtargetsonly="true"
  failonerror="true"/>
```

weblogic.Deployer

```
java weblogic.Deployer -adminurl t3://localhost:7001 -username username -password
password -targets ms3 -deploy -name MyCohApp /myapps/MyCohApp.gar -specifiedtargetsonly
```

Securing Coherence Applications in WebLogic Server

Coherence applications that are deployed to managed Coherence servers can be secured. See *Securing Oracle Coherence* for details on securing the Coherence applications.

A

coherence-application.xml Deployment Descriptor Elements

This appendix provides a complete reference for the elements in the Coherence application deployment descriptor `coherence-application.xml`.

This appendix includes the following sections:

- [coherence-application.xml Namespace Declaration and Schema Location](#)
- [application-lifecycle-listener](#)
The `application-lifecycle-listener` elements specify the fully qualified name of a class or the initialization parameter that is required by the implementation.
- [cache-configuration-ref](#)
- [coherence-application](#)
The `coherence-application` element is the root element of the Coherence application deployment descriptor.
- [configurable-cache-factory-config](#)
The `configurable-cache-factory-config` element specifies the fully qualified name of a class that implements the `com.tangosol.net.ConfigurableCacheFactory` interface. The default implementation is the `com.tangosol.net.ExtensibleConfigurableCacheFactory` class.
- [init-params](#)
The `init-params` element specifies an initialization parameter. Any number of `init-params` elements may be defined.
- [pof-configuration-ref](#)

coherence-application.xml Namespace Declaration and Schema Location

The Coherence application deployment descriptor schema is defined in the `coherence-application.xsd` file, which is located in the root of the `coherence.jar` library. The web URL is <http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-application/1.0/coherence-application.xsd>. The `<coherence-application>` element is the root element of the descriptor and includes the XSD reference, the namespace reference, and the location of the `coherence-application.xsd` file. For example:

```
<?xml version='1.0'?>
<coherence-application xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xmlns="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-application"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://xmlns.oracle.com/coherence/coherence-application
  coherence-application.xsd">
```

application-lifecycle-listener

The `application-lifecycle-listener` elements specify the fully qualified name of a class or the initialization parameter that is required by the implementation.

The `application-lifecycle-listener` element specifies the fully qualified name of a class that implements the `com.tangosol.application.LifeCycleListener` interface. The class allows custom processing before and after the creation and destruction of Coherence cache and clustered services.

The following table describes the elements you can define within an `application-lifecycle-listener` element.

Table A-1 application-lifecycle-listener Elements

Element	Required/Optional	Description
<code>class-name</code>	Required	Specifies the fully qualified name of a class that implements the <code>com.tangosol.application.LifeCycleListener</code> interface.
<code>init-params</code>	Optional	Specifies an initialization parameter that is required by the implementation. Any number of <code>init-params</code> elements may be defined.

cache-configuration-ref

The `cache-configuration-ref` element specifies the name and location of a Coherence cache configuration file. The location of the file is relative to the root directory within a Coherence Grid Archive (GAR). A URL may also be specified. If the file is not found, or if this element is not specified, then the predefined cache configuration file (`coherence-cache-config.xml`) that is located in the `coherence.jar` library on the system classpath is used by default.

Note:

If the configuration file is located in the root directory of the GAR, then it must not use the default file name (`coherence-cache-config.xml`); otherwise, the configuration file that is included in the `coherence.jar` file which is located in the system classpath is found first and the configuration file in the GAR is never loaded. An alternative to renaming the file is to place the configuration file in the `META-INF` directory of the GAR.

coherence-application

The `coherence-application` element is the root element of the Coherence application deployment descriptor.

The following table describes the elements you can define within a `coherence-application` element.

Table A-2 coherence-application Elements

Element	Required/ Optional	Description
cache-configuration-ref	Optional	Specifies the name and location of the Coherence cache configuration file.
pof-configuration-ref	Optional	Specifies the name and location of the Coherence Portable Object Format (POF) configuration file.
application-lifecycle-listener	Optional	Specifies the fully qualified name of a class that implements the <code>com.tangosol.application.LifeCycleListener</code> interface.
configurable-cache-factory-config	Optional	Specifies the fully qualified name of a class that implements the <code>com.tangosol.net.ConfigurableCacheFactory</code> interface.

configurable-cache-factory-config

The `configurable-cache-factory-config` element specifies the fully qualified name of a class that implements the `com.tangosol.net.ConfigurableCacheFactory` interface. The default implementation is the `com.tangosol.net.ExtensibleConfigurableCacheFactory` class.

Using a custom `ConfigurableCacheFactory` implementation is an advanced use case and is typically used to allow applications that are scoped by different class loaders to use separate cache configuration files.

The following table describes the elements you can define within a `configurable-cache-factory-config` element.

Table A-3 configurable-cache-factory-config Elements

Element	Required/ Optional	Description
<code>class-name</code>	Required	Specifies the fully qualified name of a class that implements the <code>com.tangosol.net.ConfigurableCacheFactory</code> interface.
init-params	Optional	Specifies an initialization parameter that is required by the implementation. Any number of <code>init-params</code> elements may be defined.

init-params

The `init-params` element specifies an initialization parameter. Any number of `init-params` elements may be defined.

The following table describes the elements you can define within an `init-params` element.

Table A-4 init-params Elements

Element	Required/ Optional	Description
param-type	Optional	<p>Specifies the Java type of the initialization parameter. The following standard types are supported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • java.lang.String (string) • java.lang.Boolean (boolean) • java.lang.Integer (int) • java.lang.Long (long) • java.lang.Double (double) • java.math.BigDecimal • java.io.File • java.sql.Date • java.sql.Time • java.sql.Timestamp
param-value	Optional	<p>Specifies the value of the initialization parameter. The value is in the format specific to the Java type of the parameter.</p> <p>For example:</p> <pre><init-params> <param-type>java.lang.String</param-type> <param-value>EmployeeTable</param-value> </init-params></pre>

pof-configuration-ref

The `pof-configuration-ref` element specifies the name and location of a Coherence POF configuration file. The location of the file is relative to the root directory within a Coherence Grid Archive (GAR). A URL may also be specified. If the file is not found, or if this element is not specified, then the predefined POF configuration file (`pof-config.xml`) that is located in the `coherence.jar` library on the system classpath is used by default.

Note:

If the configuration file is located in the root directory of the GAR, then it must not use the default file name (`pof-config.xml`); otherwise, the configuration file that is included in the `coherence.jar` file which is located in the system classpath is found first and the configuration file in the GAR is never loaded. An alternative to renaming the file is to place the configuration file in the `META-INF` directory of the GAR.

B

weblogic-coh-app.xml Deployment Descriptor Elements

This appendix provides a complete reference for the elements in the WebLogic Coherence application deployment descriptor `weblogic-coh-app.xml`.

This appendix includes the following sections:

- [weblogic-coh-app.xml Namespace Declaration and Schema Location](#)
Learn the correct text for the namespace declaration and schema location for the `weblogic-coh-app.xml` deployment descriptor file.
- [weblogic-coh-app](#)
The `weblogic-coh-app` element is the root element of the WebLogic Coherence application deployment descriptor.
- [library-ref](#)
The `library-ref` element specifies a shared library module that is intended to be used as a library in a Coherence application.

weblogic-coh-app.xml Namespace Declaration and Schema Location

Learn the correct text for the namespace declaration and schema location for the `weblogic-coh-app.xml` deployment descriptor file.

The correct text is as follows.

```
<weblogic-coh-app  
  xmlns:wls="http://xmlns.oracle.com/weblogic/weblogic-coh-app">
```

weblogic-coh-app

The `weblogic-coh-app` element is the root element of the WebLogic Coherence application deployment descriptor.

Table B-1 `weblogic-coh-app` Elements

Element	Required/ Optional	Description
<code>description</code>	Optional	Specifies a description.
library-ref	Optional	Specifies a shared library module that is intended to be used as a library in a Coherence application.

library-ref

The `library-ref` element specifies a shared library module that is intended to be used as a library in a Coherence application.

The following table describes the elements you can define within a `library-ref` element.

Table B-2 library-ref Elements

Element	Required/ Optional	Description
<code>library-name</code>	Required	Specifies the name of the referenced shared library.
<code>specification</code>	Optional	Specifies the minimum specification-version required.
<code>implementation-version</code>	Optional	Specifies the minimum implementation-version required.
<code>exact-match</code>	Optional	Specifies whether there must be an exact match between the specification and implementation version that is specified and that of the referenced library. Default value is <code>false</code> .