

UMBRACO I/S

# Package actions

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## Documentation

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**Version 1.1**, Rewritten documentation, added description of undoing, and added some much needed formatting

**Version 1.0**: Initial documentation of package actions for codegarden 2008

This document describes the package actions for umbraco 4's package installer. Package actions are small independent methods that consume small piece of XML and perform tasks based on this xml.

# Package actions

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## Introduction

### What is package actions?

Package actions is a simple way to perform common tasks while installing packages / nitros.

Currently we have 8 actions available. If you need to perform more advanced installation routines, you will have to build a custom installer (.ascx based) or write your own package action using the IPackageAction Interface, which will then automatically be picked up by umbraco. At the time of this writing, it is still possible to submit new actions to be included in the core collection of actions.

### Adding actions to a package script

With the build-in packager, it is possible to added the actions you need directly from the UI. (only added <Action> nodes to the textarea. Alternatively the actions can be manually added to the package manifest by adding a <Actions> node containing the package actions xml.

### Standard fields on all actions

- **Undo**, *optional*, is true by default.
- **Alias**, *mandatory*, The alias of the package action to be executed
- **Runat**, *mandatory*, can either be install or uninstall

### Standard elements on all actions

All actions are a <Action> node element (notice the uppercase A)

### Installing, Uninstalling and Undo

In the first version of the package actions, about 10 actions were included, the high number of actions was caused by the fact that every action needed a corresponding uninstall action. So "Insert string into template" action would need a "Remove string from template" action to be uninstallable.

This led to a lot of confusion and also opened up the possibility that the actions could be used for evil, (like removing the string "<umbraco:macro" from all templates, would cause quite a bit of havoc.

So in this revised version, an undo attribute has been put on all actions. An action will always contain an undo action which is turned on by default, but can be turned off.

At the same time, all actions that was actually only there to perform uninstall actions has been removed. Depending on community feedback, some of these might be included again.

## Available actions:

### Add Application

Creates a new application, and adds it to the db.

**Alias:** addApplication

```
<Action runat="install" [undo="false"] alias="addApplication" appName="Application Name"
appAlias="myApplication" appIcon="application.gif"/>
```

### Add Application Tree

Creates a new application tree, and adds it to the db.

**Alias:** addApplicationTree

```
<Action runat="install" [undo="false"] alias="addApplicationTree" silent="[true/false]"
initialize="[true/false]" sortOrder="1" applicationAlias="appAlias" treeAlias="myTree" treeTitle="My
Tree" iconOpened="folder_o.gif" iconClosed="folder.gif" assemblyName="umbraco"
treeHandlerType="treeClass" action="alert('you clicked')"/>
```

### Add dashboard section

Creates a new dashboard section. Uses the standard dashboard xml as a child node of the action itself.

**Alias:** addDashboardSection

```
<Action runat="install" [undo="false"] alias="addDashboardSection" dashboardAlias="MyDashboardSection">
  <section>
    <areas>
      <area>default</area>
      <area>content</area>
    </areas>
    <tab caption="Last Edits">
      <control>/usercontrols/dashboard/latestEdits.ascx</control>
      <control>/usercontrols/umbracoBlog/dashboardBlogPostCreate.ascx</control>
    </tab>
    <tab caption="Create blog post">
      <control>/usercontrols/umbracoBlog/dashboardBlogPostCreate.ascx</control>
    </tab>
  </section>
</Action>
```

## All document type

Allows a document type to be created below another document type. Ex: allow TextPage to be allowed under HomePage.

**Alias: allowDoctype**

```
<Action runat="install" alias="allowDocumenttype" documentTypeAlias="MyNewDocumentType"
parentDocumentTypeAlias="HomePage"/>
```

## Move root document

Moves a document located in the root of the website, into a child of another root node. This action is needed to move things around, as everything by default is placed in the root of the website

**Alias: moveRootDocument**

```
<Action runat="install" alias="moveRootDocument" documentName="News" parentDocumentType="Home" />
```

## Publish root document

Publishes a document located in the root of the website

**Alias: publishRootDocument**

```
<Action runat="install" alias="publishRootDocument" documentName="News" />
```

## Add string to html element

Inserts a string into a specific html element in a specific template. The undo option makes sure that the string can be removed again at uninstall.

**Alias: addStringToHtmlElement**

- templateAlias: name of the target template.
- htmlElementId: the target html element in the target template
- {nodevalue}: the string to be copied to the target element.
- Position: where to place the string in the element: (can only be end/ beginning)

```
<Action runat="install" alias="addStringToHtmlElement" templateAlias="news"
htmlElementId="newsSection" position="[beginning/end"><![CDATA[hello world!]]></action>
```

## Publish root document

Publishes a document located in the root of the website

**Alias:** `publishRootDocument`

```
<Action runat="install" alias="publishRootDocument" documentName="News" />
```