

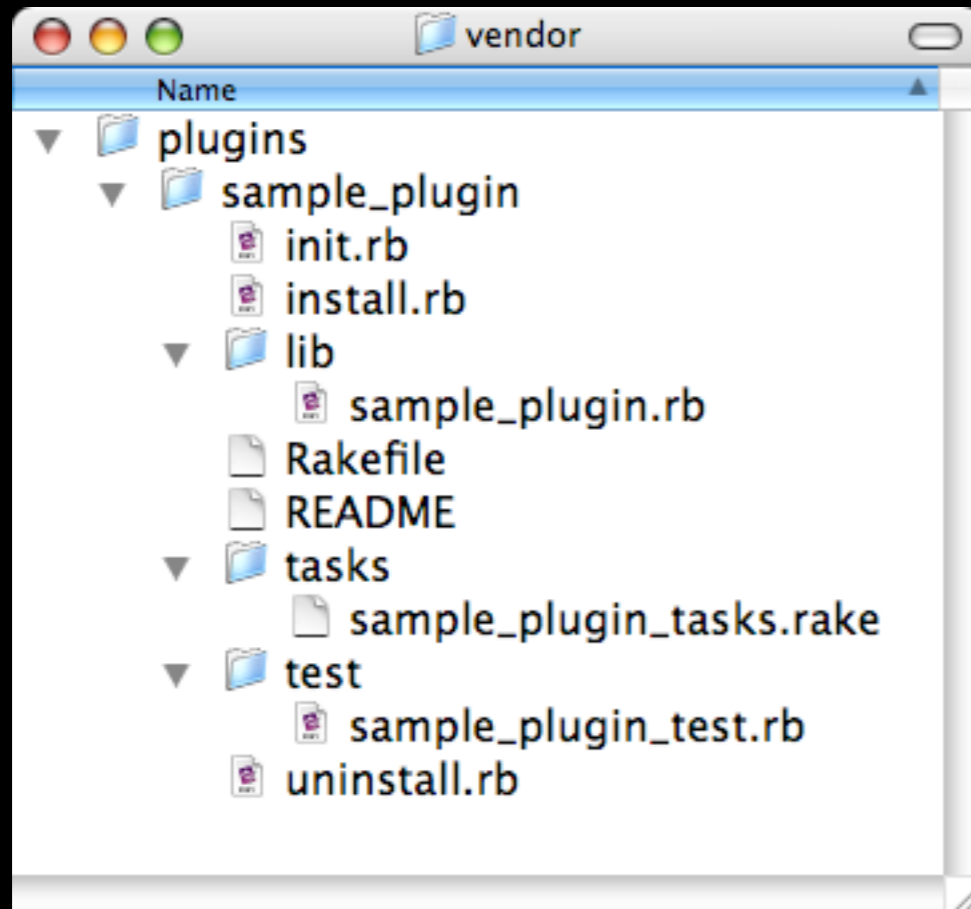


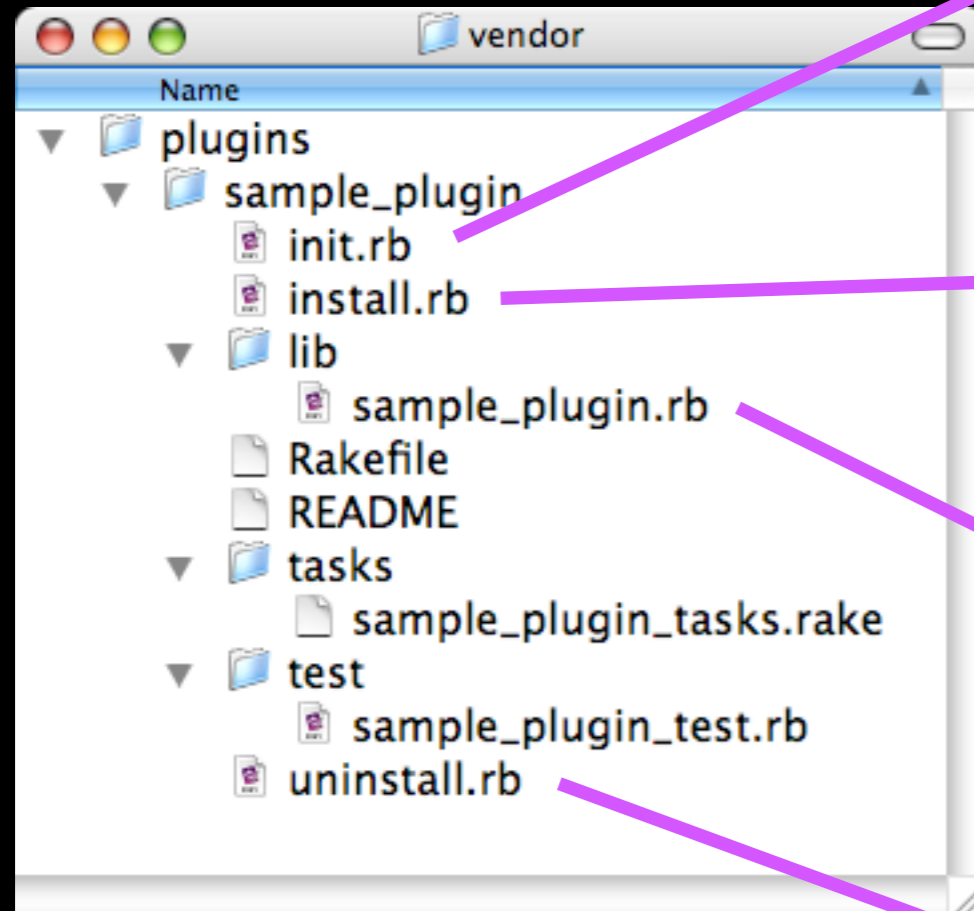
# Rails Plugin Architecture

by Marty Andrews



```
./script/generate plugin sample_plugin
```





*# Include hook code here*

*# Install hook code here*

*# SamplePlugin*

*# Uninstall hook code here*

`install.rb`    run once on installation

`init.rb`    run every time app is started

`uninstall.rb`    run once on uninstallation

lib directory added to  
load path

```
# Include hook code here  
puts "executing init.rb"
```

```
# SamplePlugin  
puts "executing sample_plugin.rb"
```

```
example$ ./script/console  
Loading development  
environment.  
executing init.rb
```

```
# Include hook code here  
puts "executing init.rb"  
require "sample_plugin"
```

```
# SamplePlugin  
puts "executing sample_plugin.rb"
```

```
example$ ./script/console  
Loading development  
environment.  
executing init.rb  
executing sample_plugin.rb
```

so now what?

## make a class available for use

```
# plugin/init.rb
```

```
# plugin/lib/my_class.rb
```

```
class MyClass  
  ...  
end
```

```
# Code somewhere in your application  
@my_object = MyClass.new()
```

# make a module available for use

```
# plugin/init.rb
```

```
# plugin/lib/my_module.rb
```

```
module MyModule
```

```
  ...
```

```
end
```

```
# A class somewhere in your application
```

```
class MyClass
```

```
  include MyModule
```

```
end
```

but that's no different  
to a gem

# register new services with rails

```
# plugin/init.rb
```

```
require 'haml'
```

```
require 'haml/template'
```

```
require 'sass'
```

```
require 'sass/plugin'
```

```
ActionView::Base.register_template_handler('haml', Haml::Template)
```

```
Sass::Plugin.update_stylesheets
```

# mix in a module to extend the rails api

```
# plugin/init.rb
```

```
ActiveRecord::Migration.send(:include,  
RedHillConsulting::TransactionalMigrations::ActiveRecord::Migration)
```

# shameless plug

The next Easy Access Training workshop is on  
Test Driven Development.

Saturday September 15th. BYO laptop.

Seats auctioned off. Bids start at \$100.

<http://www.cogentconsulting.com.au/services/eat.html>