

Apache Ruper (of Depot)

1. Resource Updater

Apache-Ruper is a resource updater, meaning it **automatically** keeps local resources up-to-date with versions of the resource found in repositories.

Say you have a build script that uses releases of certain jars, e.g. junit.jar or commons-logging.jar, you could ask Ruper to get the latest **release** of these, and store it in your `./lib` directory. Alternatively, you could create a shared `$HOME/jars` directory (say) so all your build scripts share the latest release.

2. Why Ruper was created...

Apache-Ruper was developed as a middle ground between [Ant <get>](#) (to download a certain 'stale' version of a jar) and the relative chaos of [Gump](#) (which gets/build the absolute latest ever time).

An example of a 'potentially stale' update (version is hard coded.)

```
<get src="http://www.ibiblio.org/maven/commons-logging/jars/commons-logging-1.0.jar"
      dest="{lib}/commons-logging.jar"
      useimestamp="true"
      verbose="true"/>
```

Ruper performs as a 'negotiation' between the (remote) repository populators and the (local) builder. For example, a new 'release candiate' of a JAR could be published. Typically Ruper would download it, but it could be asked to not do so, and only download 'release' level code.

Ruper **trusts the repository manager, but answers to the builder** so allows a blend.

Ruper helps reduce [JAR HELL](#) by reducing stagnant code compiling/testing. The more projects that work of "out of date" code, the more chance that combining those projects in a single runtime environment will suffer irreparable jar-hell through incompatibilities.

Note:

Depot Ruper is an effort undergoing incubation at the Apache Software Foundation (ASF), sponsored by the Incubator PMC. Incubation is required of all newly accepted projects until a further review indicates that the infrastructure, communications, and decision making process have stabilized in a manner consistent with other successful ASF projects. While incubation status is not necessarily a reflection of the completeness or stability of the code, it does indicate that the project has yet to be fully endorsed by the ASF.