

# Readers in Cocoon (2.1 legacy document)

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**Warning:**

This document was copied as is from the Cocoon 2.1 documentation, but has not yet been fully reviewed or moved to its new home.

## 1. Goal

This document lists all of the available readers of Apache Cocoon and describes their purpose.

## 2. Overview

A reader is the starting, and end point of an xml pipeline. It collapses the features of a generator, transformer, and serializer. Readers are useful for delivering binary content like images; more general readers deliver content as-is.

In the sitemap file, each reader has a unique name which is mapped to a java class. One reader name must be declared as the default reader. Each reader may have additional configuration information specified in child elements.

For conceptual information on readers see the user's guide document [The Sitemap](#).

## 3. The Readers in Apache Cocoon

- [AxisRPC Reader](#) (Optional: Axis block)
- [Database Reader](#) (Optional: Database block)
- [Directory ZIP Archiver](#) (Scratchpad)
- [Image Reader](#)
- [JSP Reader](#) (Optional: JSP block)
- [Resource Reader](#) (The default reader)

## 1. Comments

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