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# A chart comparing Mach-II and Fusebox 4.1 frameworks for ColdFusion MX

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## Comparison chart

Fusebox 4.1	Mach-II
The <a href="#">Fusebox</a> framework has been around for over six years.	<a href="#">Mach-II</a> is a relative newcomer to the list of ColdFusion frameworks
Fusebox is the most popular standard framework.	Mach-II is gaining in popularity, especially with Java programmers.
Fusebox developers write <a href="#">XML</a> to tell the framework how to respond to different <a href="#">fuseactions</a> .	Mach-II developers write XML to determine how a given event is handled. However, unlike Fusebox, the flow of a Mach-II request is not procedural.
Fusebox developers write XML to tell the framework how to respond to different fuseactions. They also use XML to define application-level settings such as character encoding, error handling templates, and "circuit" aliases.	Developers can use CFCs or XML to announce additional events, or dynamically specify which event handlers should respond to an event.
Fusebox is a procedural framework. That means that the core files themselves are written in a procedural fashion. On the same note, the fuseaction handlers that Fusebox uses occur in a procedural way.	Mach-II is an object-oriented ColdFusion framework and effective development with Mach-II requires that one have a firm grasp of object-oriented programming principles.
The core files "compile" the actions defined in the XML into a single file that handles each fuseaction. This results in very fast performance, because once the "compilation" step happens, all future requests skip that step and execute the "compiled" fuseaction file directly.	Such a step is not possible in Mach-II due to its more dynamic nature. Mach-II forces a degree of encapsulation upon the business objects, as they need to have little or no knowledge of the framework.
The Fusebox framework allows for the use of plugins.	Mach-II allows for plugins that can execute at specific points during the handling of a request.
Fusebox 4.1 offers new support for <a href="#">ColdFusion Components</a> (CFCs).	The entire Mach-II framework code is implemented in CFCs. Mach-II also requires developers to write CFCs to handle the business logic within an application.
However, while CFCs can be used within a Fusebox application in small ways or as an entirely object-oriented model layer, they are not required.	The use of CFCs is required in Mach-II.
Fusebox will run on ColdFusion 5.	Mach-II requires the use of ColdFusion MX 6.1.
Because it is procedural, Fusebox does not enforce the Model-View-Controller (MVC) pattern.	Mach-II enforces the use of the Model-View-Controller (MVC) pattern.

## **Description**

Use this chart to examine and compare the features of ColdFusion MX frameworks Mach-II and Fusebox 4.1 side-by-side. By examining the benefits of each framework you will be able to determine which one is best for your style of application development.

## **Version history**

- **1.0**
  - **Bug fixes**
  - **Feature changes**

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