



**4D CONCEPT**  
INNOVATIVE CONTENT SOLUTIONS

# A new Gradle plugin to enhance your DITA-OT plugin development

Modern Documentation Build Automation



# About Me



**Jeremy JEANNE**

- Senior Java Developer
- Kotlin, TypeScript & Gradle enthusiast
- DITA-OT Ecosystem Contributor
- Open Source developer
- Focus: Developer Tools & CI/CD optimization

**GitHub:** [github.com/jyjeanne](https://github.com/jyjeanne)

# What We'll Cover Today

**1** The Old Plugin Problem

**2** Old vs New Comparison

**3** Key Features & Benefits

**4** Live Demo

**5** Easy Migration

**6** Q&A

# com.github.eerohele.dita-ot-gradle

The original Gradle plugin for DITA-OT builds

## Plugin Status

- **2016-2020:** Active development
- **v0.7.1:** Last release (Feb 2020)
- **2020-now:** No updates

## Key Limitations:

Uses deprecated IsolatedAntBuilder API (removed in Gradle 8)

```
// Gradle 8+ with old plugin:
```

```
FAILURE: Build failed with exception
```

```
* What went wrong:
```

```
Execution failed for task ':dita'
```

```
> taskdef class
```

```
org.dita.dost.ant.ExtensibleAntInvoker
```

```
cannot be found
```

**Result:** Stuck on Gradle 7.x or revert to ANT scripts

# Old Plugin vs New Plugin

Feature	eerohele (v0.7.1)	jjjeanne (v2.8.3)
Gradle 8+ / 9+ Support	No	Yes
Configuration Cache	No	Yes (77% faster)
Type-safe Kotlin DSL	No	Yes
Provider API (lazy config)	No	Yes
Better Logging Output	Basic	Enhanced
Codebase	Groovy	Modern Kotlin
Active Maintenance	No (since 2020)	Yes
API Compatibility	-	Near-full

# What Makes This Plugin Special

## Configuration Cache Support

77% faster builds

## Custom task type

Reusable build logic

## Provider API Architecture

Modern Gradle patterns

## Cross-Platform

Windows, macOS, Linux

## Type-safe Kotlin DSL

IDE auto-completion

## Multiple Transtypes

PDF, HTML5, EPUB...

## Better Logging

Clear build output

## Modern Kotlin Code

Easy to maintain

# Code Example - Basic Usage

```
// build.gradle.kts

plugins {

    id("io.github.jyjeanne.dita-ot-gradle") version "2.8.3"

}

tasks.named<DitaOtTask>("dita") {

    ditaOt(file("/opt/dita-ot-4.0"))

    input("docs/guide.bookmap")

    transtype("html5")

    filter("docs/release.ditaval")

}
```

```
$ ./gradlew dita --configuration-cache
```

## Features shown:

- Clean, declarative syntax
- DITAVAL filtering
- Type-safe Kotlin DSL

# Common Use Cases

## DITA-OT Plugin Development

Test your custom DITA-OT plugins with Gradle. Fast feedback loop during development.

## CI/CD Integration

GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, Jenkins. Automate doc validation and builds on every commit .

## Multi-Document Publishing

Publish multiple DITA maps in a single build. Generate PDF, HTML5, EPUB outputs simultaneously.

## Continuous Builds

Use --continuous flag. Auto-rebuild on file changes. Perfect for authoring workflow.

## Define your own publishing workflow

Use custom tasks to automate tests before publishing.

## Automated DITA-OT Download

Use Gradle Download Task to fetch DITA-OT. No manual installation needed.

# Live Demo

## What we'll do:



Add plugin



Configure  
DITA-OT



Configure tasks



Run with cache



See the speed!

Gradle 8.5+

DITA-OT 3.6+

Java 17+

# Three Pillars of Improvement

## Performance

**77%**

Faster builds

- 
- Configuration Cache
  - Lazy task configuration
  - Optimized CI/CD pipelines

## Developer Experience

**Type-Safe**

Kotlin DSL with IDE support

- 
- Auto-completion in IDE
  - Compile-time error detection
  - Clear, actionable logging

## Maintenance

**Modern Kotlin**

Clean, readable codebase

- 
- Actively maintained
  - Future Gradle compatibility
  - Open source contributions

# Start Using Today!

1

Add to build.gradle:

```
plugins {  
  
    id("io.github.jyjeanne.dita-ot-gradle") version "2.8.3"  
}
```

2

Configure your DITA source:

```
dita {  
  
    ditaOt(file("/path/to/dita-ot"))  
  
    input("docs/guide.ditamap")  
  
    transtype("html5")  
}
```

3

Run:

```
./gradlew dita --configuration-cache
```

## Resources:

GitHub

[github.com/jyjeanne/dita-ot-gradle](https://github.com/jyjeanne/dita-ot-gradle)

Gradle Plugin Portal

[plugins.gradle.org](https://plugins.gradle.org)

Examples

See [/examples folder](#)

# Key Takeaways

1

Modern DITA builds require **modern tools**

2

**77% faster** builds  
with Configuration Cache

3

**Type-safe DSL** and better logging

4

Easy migration with **near-full API compatibility**

**Recommended: Gradle 9 + Kotlin DSL** for best performance

# Questions?

Let's discuss!

GITHUB

[github.com/jyjeanne](https://github.com/jyjeanne)

PROJECT

[github.com/jyjeanne/dita-ot-gradle](https://github.com/jyjeanne/dita-ot-gradle)

★ Star the project if you find it useful!

## Thank you!