

GWT Exercises: Intro

1. If you haven't already installed GWT and the Google Eclipse plugin on your development computer, do so now. (This is for those using their own PCs. The class PCs should already have all the software installed.)
2. Open your favorite browser and bookmark the main GWT documentation page at <http://code.google.com/webtoolkit/overview.html>
Click on "Reference" on the left, then click on "SDK API Reference (Javadoc)", and bookmark that also. Use this latter link for details on methods to call in the Button class, TextBox class, ClickHandler class, and so forth.
3. Make a new GWT project. Either do File > New > Web Application Project, or click on the blue "g" at the top of Eclipse.
4. Run the project in development mode. (R-click, Run As, Web Application. Then R-click on the displayed URL, Copy, and paste it into your browser. If your browser doesn't already have the Google browser plugin, install it now.)
5. Change the <title> of the HTML page to say "Hello, GWT". Change the main <h1> heading to match it. Reload the page in the browser to see the change.
6. Change the main Java class (src/package.client.AppName.java) so that the default textfield value is "Jane Java" instead of "GWT User". Change the button in the popup dialog box from "Close" to "Close dialog box". Reload the page in the browser to see the change.
7. Run the project in production mode. First R-click project and do Google > GWT Compile. Then change the URL in the browser by deleting the "?" and all text after it. If you have a browser that does not have the Google browser plugin installed, you can verify that you are really running in pure JavaScript by cutting/pasting the URL into that browser.
8. You should have Tomcat installed on your PC. If you know how to use it, deploy your app to that server. On the class PCs, the renamed "war" folder should go in C:\tools\tomcat\apache-tomcat-7.xxx\webapps, and C:\tools\tomcat\apache-tomcat-7-xxx\bin has the start and stop scripts.