Java for Non Majors

CGS 3416: Spring 2016
Department of Computer Science, Florida State University

Compiling Java Programs on the Command Line

January 9, 2017

On a Windows Machine

This assumes you've downloaded the Java SDK and have added the bin folder to the 'Path' environment variable. For more details on this, consult the Resources page on the class website.

1. Write your program using your favorite text editor (like Notepad++).
2. The program should have the '.java' as the extension. It should not be '.txt' or anything else.
3. Open the command prompt. This can be done by searching for "command prompt" after you hit the start button.
4. Once the command prompt pops up, move to the directory where you saved the file. This can be done using the 'cd' command. The mouse doesn't work in the command prompt. For example, if your file's in a folder called "Homework" on the Desktop, you would have to type
   `cd Desktop/Homework`
5. Once you're in the folder, compile the program using the 'javac' command. If it doesn't return anything, the program compiled fine. If it generates errors, try to fix them and try again. For example
   `javac MyProgram.java`
6. Once you've compiled the program, run it using the 'java' command. When you do this, only call the Class Name. Don't include any extensions. For example
   `java MyProgram`

On a Mac

This assumes you've downloaded the Java SDK. For more details on this, consult the Resources page on the class website.

1. Write your program using your favorite text editor (like Sublime Text).
2. The program should have the '.java' as the extension. It should not be '.txt' or anything else.
3. Open the terminal. This can be done by searching for "terminal" in your applications. Macs come with the terminal. You need not install anything. Also, the mouse doesn't work here, so you can't use the mouse.

4. Once the terminal pops up, move to the directory where you saved the file. This can be done using the 'cd' command. For example, if your file's in a folder called "Homework" on the Desktop, you would have to type
   `cd Desktop/Homework`

5. Once you're in the folder, compile the program using the 'javac' command. If it doesn't return anything, the program compiled fine. If it generates errors, try to fix them and try again. For example
   `javac MyProgram.java`

6. Once you've compiled the program, run it using the 'java' command. When you do this, only call the Class Name. Don't include any extensions. For example
   `java MyProgram`

On Linux

This assumes you've downloaded the Java SDK using apt-get on the terminal. If you want more details about this setup, please send me an email.

1. Write your program using your favorite text editor (like emacs or vim).

2. The program should have the '.java' as the extension. It should not be '.txt' or anything else.

3. Open the terminal. This can be done by searching for "terminal" in your Heads Up Display. Linux OS comes with the terminal. You need not install anything. Also, the mouse doesn't work here, so you can't use the mouse.

4. Once the terminal pops up, move to the directory where you saved the file. This can be done using the 'cd' command. For example, if your file's in a folder called "Homework" on the Desktop, you would have to type
   `cd Desktop/Homework`

5. Once you're in the folder, compile the program using the 'javac' command. If it doesn't return anything, the program compiled fine. If it generates errors, try to fix them and try again. For example
   `javac MyProgram.java`

6. Once you've compiled the program, run it using the 'java' command. When you do this, only call the Class Name. Don't include any extensions. For example
   `java MyProgram`