

User Guide: Hangman Game Software

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1. Introduction

The Hangman Game Software is a fun and interactive word game that challenges players to guess a hidden word by suggesting letters.

This user guide provides step-by-step instructions for installing, running, and effectively using the program.

Purpose:

The aim of the project is to provide an entertaining game which at the same time helps to improve guessing, spelling and memory skills.

2. Installation Guide

Before installing the Hangman Game Software, ensure that your system meets the following requirements:

- Operating System: Windows XP or later
- Processor: 1 GHz or faster
- Memory: 512 MB RAM
- Storage: 50 MB free disk space

To install the program, follow these steps:

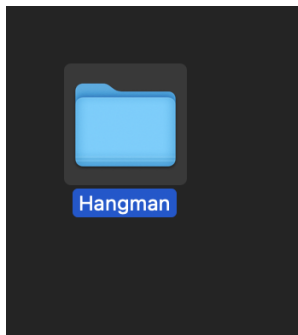
1. Download the Hangman Game Software project directory as a ZIP file.
2. Extract the contents of the ZIP file to your desired location.
3. If you don't have NetBeans please head to <https://netbeans.apache.org/download/nb17/> and install it. You may also refer to this youtube tutorial if you are having any difficulties :

Windows: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_n_5_4bwSn4&themeRefresh=1

Mac: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9a5AD9dEG8M>

3. Running the Program

First, you need to extract the .zip file, usually on Mac it does it automatically, but you might need to open your terminal and type unzip followed by dragging the file to the terminal window which will insert its file path. Alternatively, you can press `⌘` (Option) `cmd` (command) and the alphabet `c` simultaneously while you previously clicked on a folder, you can save its file path. Below is a screenshot of how that would look like when you select, after which you can press `⌘` (Option) `cmd` (command) and the alphabet `c` simultaneously to get the path.



On Windows, just head to your file, right-click, and look for extract zip if it has not been done automatically.

Once the project directory is extracted, you can run the Hangman Game Software by following these steps:

1. Open NetBeans IDE, but the steps should be about the same for all Java IDEs.
2. Select "Open Project" from the "File" menu.
3. Navigate to the extracted project directory and select it.
4. Click "Open" to open the Hangman Game project in the IDE.
5. Run the project to make it work.

4. Using the Hangman Game

4.1 Game Rules

The Hangman Game follows the traditional rules of the classic word game. The objective is to guess a hidden word by suggesting letters within a certain number of tries. The rules include:

- Guessing a correct letter reveals its position in the word.
- Guessing an incorrect letter results in a penalty (losing a try).
- The game ends when the player successfully guesses the word or runs out of tries.

4.2 Gameplay Instructions

To play the Hangman Game, follow these instructions:

1. The game window will appear on your screen once the program is launched.
2. Select play to start the game.
3. After which please select category : Music, Films or Random.
4. The program will randomly select a word from the category.
5. The words will be divided by blank spaces, with each _ representing a letter.

For example;

“Java is cool” → “ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ ”

6. Click on the keyboard on screen to select a number.
7. If the letter is correct, it will replace the corresponding “_” in the word.
8. If the letter is incorrect, the player will lose a try while no marks will be lost, and a part of the hangman image will be displayed.
9. Continue guessing letters until the player either guesses the word correctly or runs out of tries.

4.3 Special Features

The Hangman Game Software includes the following special features:

- Word List: The program uses a collection of diverse word lists, providing a wide range of words for guessing.
- Hangman Image: As you make incorrect guesses, a visual representation of the hangman will appear, adding excitement to the gameplay.
- Keyboard Buttons: The program provides an on-screen keyboard for ease of input, allowing you to click on letters instead of typing.
- Game Status Display: The program displays the number of remaining tries and the current state of the word, making it easy to track your progress.
- Customisation: Allows you to add and remove word/s to an existing category
- There is a timer at the top right which keeps track of the time you take to reply, but does not change your score.
- Scoreboard, which will add 10 marks per correct letter guessed and remove 10 per game lost.

5. Screenshots

[Insert relevant screenshots here, demonstrating the program's screen layouts, input fields, and buttons.]

Starting pane



Word Choice Panel

H A N G M A N

Hello and welcome there,
This is my version of a hangman game, in french known as
Qui Sera Pendu?

I would like to invite you to play!

Just press on a category you like, and we'll get started!

Random is a wide list of different words in different
categories!

Hang in there!

Music

Film

Random

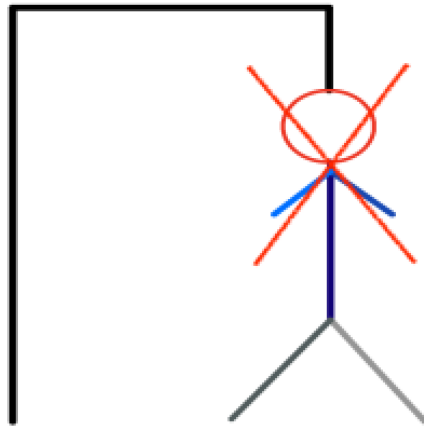
Main Game Panel

Menu

New

Score: 0

Timer: 00:05



Game Over! You lost. The word was: computer



[These screenshots are non-exhaustive, and further updates or actual gameplay might differ]

Congratulations! You have successfully installed and launched the Hangman Game Software. Enjoy guessing words and challenging yourself with these exciting new words!