How to Create a JAR File in Eclipse

There are several ways to create a JAR (Java Archive) file.
This guide walks you through one of the methods using Eclipse IDE.

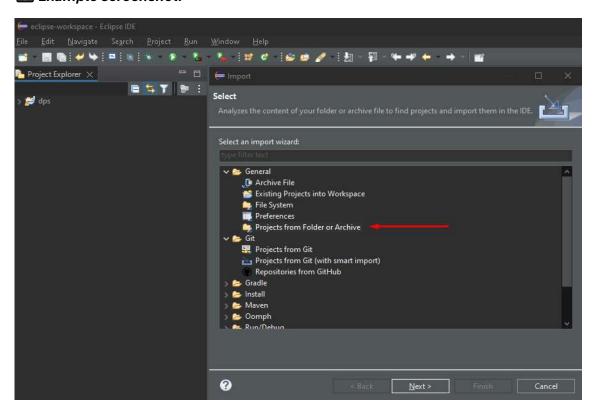---

Requirements
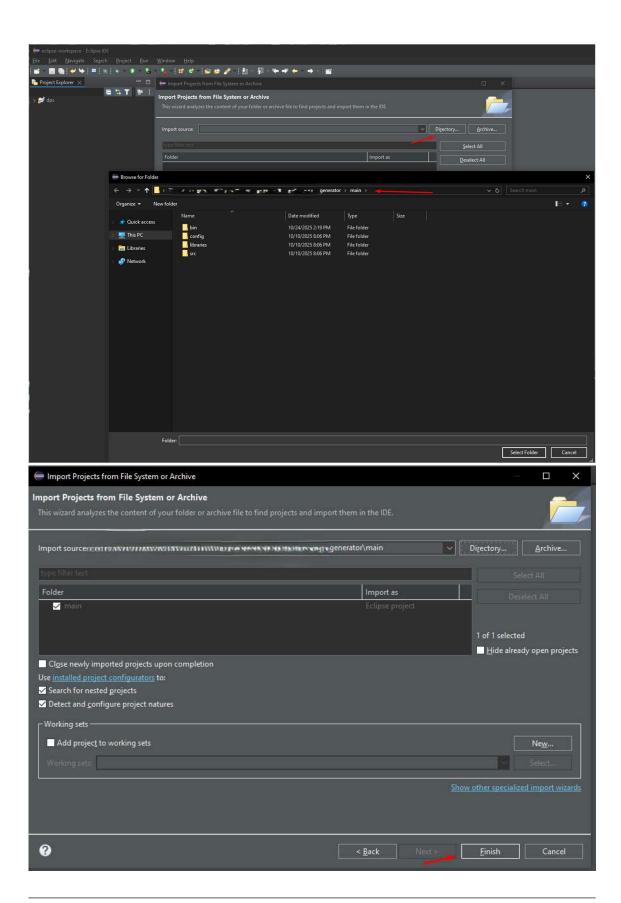
Before starting, make sure you have the following ready:

- ❎ **Eclipse IDE (latest version recommended)**

- ☕ **JDK (Java Development Kit) installed and configured**

- 📁 **The project source code and all required library (.jar) dependencies**

Step 1: Import the Project

1. **Open Eclipse IDE.**

2. **Navigate to File → Import → Projects from Folder or Archive.**

3. **Browse to the main project folder and select it.**

4. **Click Finish to import the project into your workspace.**
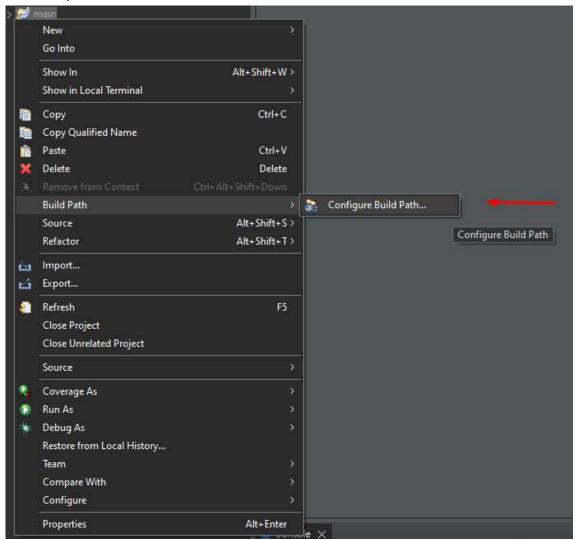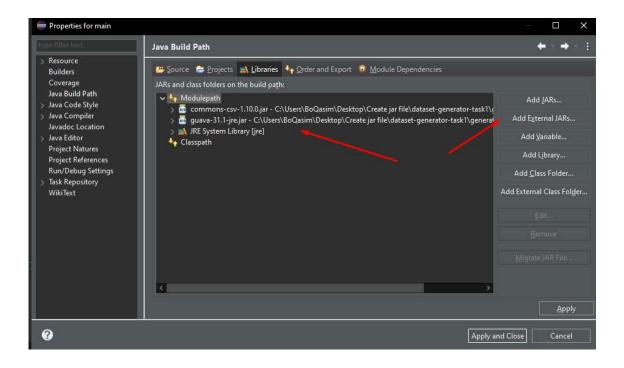
📷 *Example screenshot:*

Step 2: Add the Project Libraries (if they are not added automatically)

1. In the Project Explorer, right-click the project name.

2. Select Build Path → Configure Build Path.

3. Go to the Libraries tab.

4. Under Modulepath, click Add External JARs…

5. Navigate to the project's libraries folder and select all the .jar files.
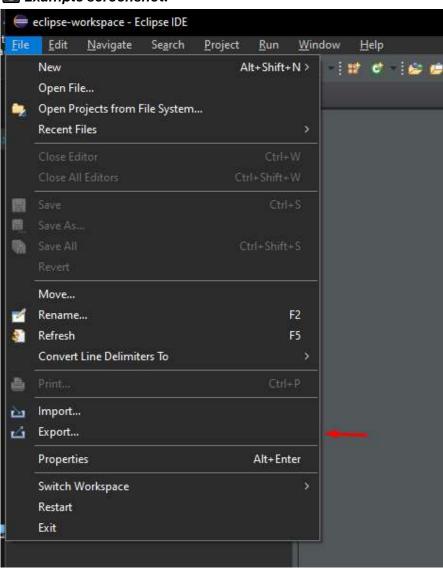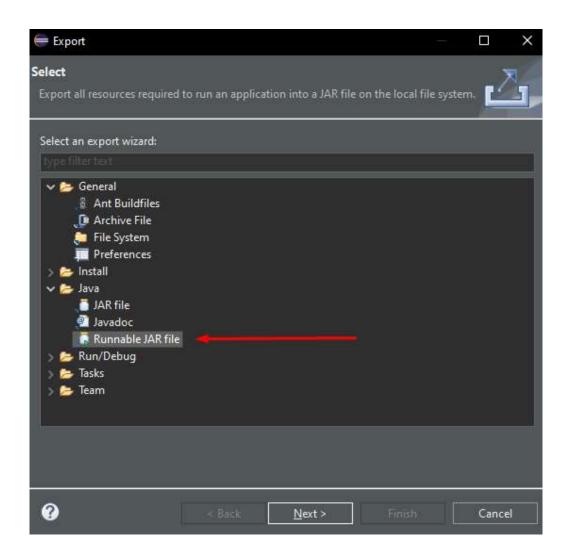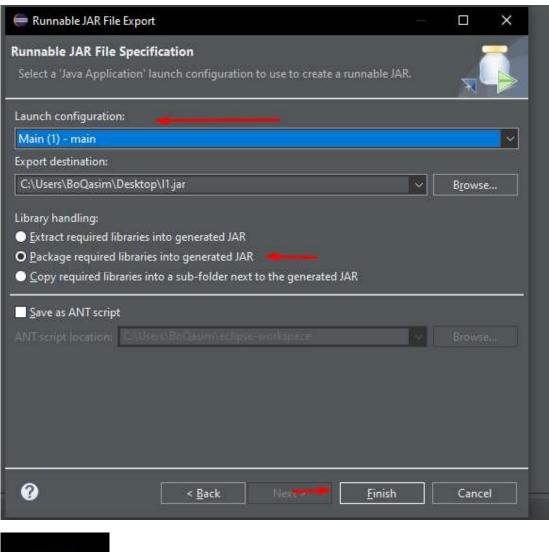
6. Click Apply and Close.

📷 *Example screenshot:*

Step 3: Export the Project as a Runnable (Fat) JAR

1. **Go to File → Export.**

2. **Under Java, select Runnable JAR file and click Next.**

3. **Configure the export options as follows:**

   o **Launch configuration: select your project's main class.**

   o **Export destination: choose the location where the JAR file will be saved.**

   o **Library handling: select**
      👉 *"Package required libraries into generated JAR."*

4. **Click Finish to create the JAR file.**
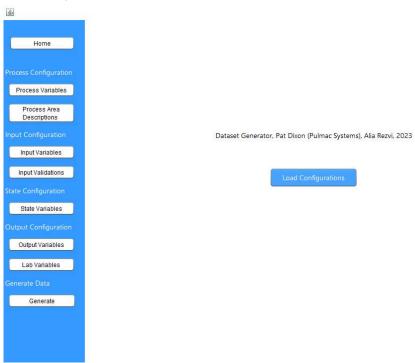
📷 *Example screenshot:*

Step 4: Verify the Generated JAR

1. **Open the folder where the exported .jar file was saved.**

2. **Double-click the JAR file to run it.**

3. **Confirm that your program launches successfully and works as expected.**

📷 *Example screenshot:*