

CS 251

Intermediate Programming

GUIs: Components and Layout

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Spring 2014

Hello GUI

```
import javax.swing.*;

public class HelloGUI extends JFrame {
    public HelloGUI() {
        super("Hello World GUI");
        setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);

        getContentPane().add(new JLabel("Hello, World"));
        pack();
    }

    public static void main(String[] args) {
        new HelloGUI().setVisible(true);
    }
}
```

Java Packages

We'll be using two major packages when writing our GUIs

- `javax.swing`
 - Provides most of the GUI components.
- `java.awt`
 - Provides graphics, fonts, layouts.

GUI components and containers

- `java.awt.Component` Abstract class for graphics objects.
- `java.awt.Container` Component that can contain other components.
- `javax.swing.JComponent` Base class for all Swing components (except top-level containers)

Top-Level Containers

- JFrame – top-level window
- JDialog – temporary subwindow
- JApplet – embed in web page, run in browser

Top-level container is the root of a *containment hierarchy*.

The *content pane* holds the components.

JFrame

- Top-level window with title and border.
- For main window of application, usually want to change default close operation from hide to exit.

```
JFrame frame = new JFrame("My Frame Title");  
frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);
```

JDialog

- Temporary subwindow for messages, warnings, user input, etc.
- Display relative to a *parent component* (usually the main frame of the application)
- Often *modal*, blocking input to other windows in the program.
- JOptionPane provides methods to create many standard dialogs.
- JColorChooser and JFileChooser also useful.
- Use JDialog directly for custom work.

Swing Components

- Buttons
- Check Boxes
- Labels
- Panels
- Text Areas
- Tables
- etc...

Use the Java Tutorials and API Reference.

JComponent methods

- Appearance
 - Borders
 - Foreground and background colors
 - Opaque
 - Font
 - Cursor
- State
 - Name
 - Tool Tip
 - Visible
 - Enabled
- Events
 - Keyboard
 - Mouse moves
 - Mouse clicks
- Painting

Layout Managers

- FlowLayout
- BorderLayout
- BoxLayout
- GridLayout
- GridBagLayout

FlowLayout

- Components in a row, wrapping as needed.
- Default for JPanel
- Row is centered by default.

FlowLayout Example

```
import javax.swing.*;

public class FlowLayoutDemo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        JFrame frame = new JFrame("FlowLayout Demo");
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);

        JPanel panel = new JPanel(); // Defaults to FlowLayout
        panel.add(new JButton("One"));
        panel.add(new JButton("Two"));
        panel.add(new JButton("Three"));
        panel.add(new JButton("Four"));
        panel.add(new JButton("Five"));

        frame.setContentPane(panel);
        frame.pack();
        frame.setVisible(true);
    }
}
```

BorderLayout

- Add components to center or border areas.
 - PAGE_START
 - PAGE_END
 - LINE_START
 - LINE_END
 - CENTER
- Default for JFrame's content pane.
- Center area gets the most space.
- Don't need to use all areas.

BorderLayout Example

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.BorderLayout;

public class BorderLayoutDemo {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        JFrame frame = new JFrame("BorderLayout Demo");
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);

        JPanel panel = new JPanel(new BorderLayout());
        panel.add(new JButton("Page Start"), BorderLayout.PAGE_START);
        panel.add(new JButton("Page End"), BorderLayout.PAGE_END);
        panel.add(new JButton("Line Start"), BorderLayout.LINE_START);
        panel.add(new JButton("Line End"), BorderLayout.LINE_END);
        panel.add(new JButton("Center"), BorderLayout.CENTER);

        frame.setContentPane(panel);
        frame.pack();
        frame.setVisible(true);
    }
}
```

BoxLayout

- Stacks components vertically or places in horizontal row – your choice.
 - LINE_AXIS
 - PAGE_AXIS
- Like FlowLayout with more functionality.
- Use invisible components to adjust spacing.
 - Defined in Box class
 - Rigid area – fixed space between components
 - Glue – Specify where excess space should go
 - Filler – component with min, max, preferred size.

Panels

- A JPanel is a lightweight container to hold other components (including other panels)
- Default layout is FlowLayout
- Use to logically group components
- Panels in panels can provide powerful layout control.

Event Listeners

- Look at component to see what sort of listeners it can take.
- Implement listener interface and add to component.
- Listener interfaces with multiple methods generally have an *adapter* class that provides empty implementation.