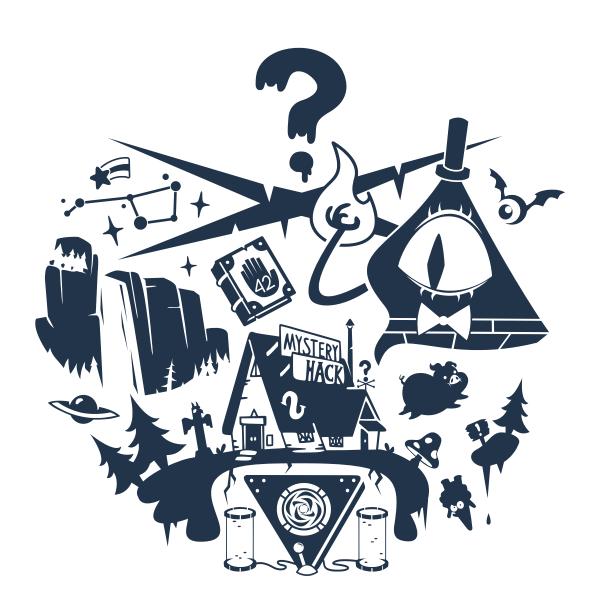


Tutori- — Bootstrap

version **#1.0.0**



Yet Another Kind of Assistants 2026

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^{*}https://intra.forge.epita.fr

The goal of this document is to provide you with a list of tools that will be used during the Java workshop.

A more detailed presentation of each tool will be given in later tutorials so do not worry if you do not understand everything for now.

1 Intelli J IDEA

1.1 Introduction

Intellij IDEA is an IDE (Integrated Development Environment) for projects built around the JVM (Java Virtual Machine). This tool has been chosen mainly for the following reasons:

- It is one of the best Java IDEs available so far.
- You can get a free education license for the Ultimate edition using your EPITA email address.
- It fully supports and integrates Maven, and many other useful tools.

1.2 Installation

If you would like to work on your own computer, you can install IDEA on *Windows*, *MacOS* and *Linux*. A complete tutorial is available here.

Be careful!

On Windows, you can use it with WSL 2 at the cost of a very memory hungry software and virtual environment running (at least 16GB of RAM are recommanded).

1.3 Configuration

When starting the application, you will be asked for a license key or a JetBrains account. You can get an education license when creating a JetBrains account with your EPITA credentials here.

After opening a Maven project, you may be prompted to select the Java JDK that will be used by the IDE^1 to compile this project. On the PIE, you will be using OpenJDK 21. If no SDK is set up when trying to code on your first project, you can go to $Files \rightarrow Project$ Structure and then set the SDK to the one

https://www.jetbrains.com/help/idea/sdk.html

available on your machine. On your personal setup, you can also download an *SDK* using the built-in feature of IDEA.

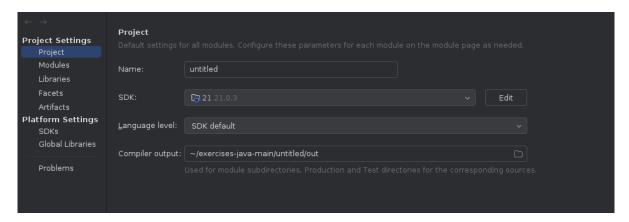


Fig. 1: SDK setup menu

If you are at school in a machine room, you should be able to use the EPITA license server. To do this, click on the "Server License" tab.

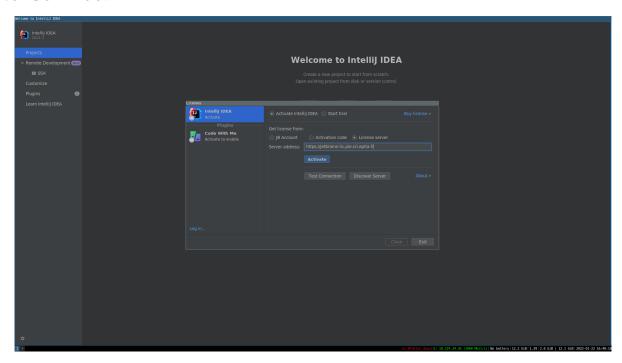


Fig. 2: License server menu

Going further...

IDEA can be hard to use at first You can find with this tutorial a cheat sheet with the essentials to get started. Furthermore, we recommend doing the optional (and short) *Triad* exercise to get more hands-on with IDEA.

2 Java

2.1 Introduction

The Java programming language will be the focus of the coming workshop.

In order to develop and run Java applications, you need a Java Development Kit (JDK). We will be using JDK 21 for every Javabased project this year.

If for some reason one of your projects does not have the correct JDK setup, you can access the JDK selection from the File > Project Structure menu. Make sure Project Language Level is set to use the 21 Java language level.

3 Maven

3.1 Introduction

Maven is a project management and build tool for Java-based projects. During the workshop, you will mainly use Maven as a build system for your projects, similar to Meson with C.

3.2 Installation

We will be using Maven version 3.9.6. You can find helpful guides (such as Maven phases and project bootstraps, which will also be explained later on in this document) on the Maven website¹.

3.3 Useful commands

Here are the M aven commands you will use the most during the workshop:

- mvn clean: This command cleans the Maven project by deleting the target directory.
- mvn compile: This command compiles the individual source Java classes of the project.
- mvn test: This command runs the test cases of the project.

https://maven.apache.org/guides/getting-started/maven-in-five-minutes. html

mvn package: This command builds the Maven project and packages it into a JAR (compressed archive). It also runs the test cases of the project.

4 Bootstrap a maven project

4.1 Setup of a Maven project

You can generate a Maven project using the following command:

Here are the key parameters to understand:

- groupId: The unique identifier of your project. By convention, it takes the following form: <reversed_domain_name>.cproject_name>.
- artifactId: The name of your project.

In order to enforce the use of Java 21 as our target Java version, you need to modify the pom.xml file and change the properties fields as follows:

If you prefer, it is also possible to setup a Maven project directly from the IDEA IDE. You can learn more from the Intellij website³.

4.2 Structure of a Maven project

Here is a quick overview of the project generated by the above command.

- example-app/: The root directory of your project.
- example-app/pom.xml: The POM (Project Object Model), a file that describes your project, and is used by Maven to build and manage it.
- example-app/src/main/java/: The root directory of your project's main source files.

³ https://www.jetbrains.com/help/idea/maven-support.html

- example-app/src/test/java/: The root directory of your project's test source files.
- [...]/fr/epita/example/App.java: The App class from the fr.epita.example package. Classes and Packages are core elements of Java projects. You will learn more about them shortly.
- example-app/src/site/: You can ignore and even remove this directory.

You can find more information about the Standard Directory Layout on the Maven website⁴.

5 Dependencies

You are asked to have some packages installed for the workshop. You have three choices:

- Working on the PIE
- Installing all packages by yourself
- Installing Nix and using the given commands

5.1 Installing by yourself

You **must** have **J**ava21¹, **postgresq**l, **maven**, **Quarkus**, **Nodejs22**² and **docker**³ as root.

5.2 Using Nix

You need to install docker as $root^3$ on your own. You should install Nix as non-root using the guide⁴. You should not install Nix using your package manager.

You can test your install with this command:

```
42sh$ nix-shell -p lolcat
...
nix-shell$ echo test | lolcat
```

⁴ https://maven.apache.org/guides/introduction/introduction-to-the-standard-directory-

https://www.oracle.com/fr/java/technologies/downloads/#java21

https://nodejs.org/en/download

³ https://docs.docker.com/engine/install

⁴ https://nixos.org/download

This command should print "test" on your terminal with a random color.

Then you need to write this as superuser in /etc/nix/nix.conf:

experimental-features = flakes nix-command

In the triad node, you have been given a flake.nix file. You should use the following command in the directory where flake.nix is stored.

Be careful!

You should add the flake.nix file to git.

42sh\$ nix develop

This command creates a shell environment in which you have all required dependencies.

Be careful!

You should not add the flake.lock file created by the command to git.

Be careful!

You should open Intellij while being in the shell environment.

Being a hero means fighting back even when it seems impossible.