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# Building Java Projects with Maven

This guide walks you through using Maven to build a simple Java project.

## What you'll build

You'll create an application that provides the time of day and then build it with Maven.

## What you'll need

- About 15 minutes
- A favorite text editor or IDE
- JDK 6 (<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/index.html>) or later

## How to complete this guide

Like most Spring Getting Started guides (/guides), you can start from scratch and complete each step, or you can bypass basic setup steps that are already familiar to you. Either way, you end up with working code.

To **start from scratch**, move on to Set up the project.

To **skip the basics**, do the following:

- Download (<https://github.com/spring-guides/gs-maven/archive/master.zip>) and unzip the source repository for this guide, or clone it using Git (/understanding/Git):

```
git clone https://github.com/spring-guides/gs-maven.git (https://github.com/spring-guides/gs-maven.git
```

- cd into `gs-maven/initial`
- Jump ahead to [initial].

**When you're finished**, you can check your results against the code in `gs-maven/complete`.

## Set up the project

First you'll need to setup a Java project for Maven to build. To keep the focus on Maven, make the project as simple as possible for now.

### Create the directory structure

In a project directory of your choosing, create the following subdirectory structure; for example, with

```
mkdir -p src/main/java/hello
```

 on \*nix systems:

```
└─ src
  └─ main
    └─ java
      └─ hello
```



















