Setting up Java in a Local Environment

In this tutorial, we will guide you through the process of setting up Java in your local environment. We will cover the installation of Java Development Kit (JDK) as well as configuring popular text editors such as Visual Studio Code and Eclipse for Java development.

Installing Java Development Kit (JDK)

To begin, follow these steps to install the Java Development Kit (JDK):

- 1. Visit the official Oracle website for Java SE Development Kit at https://www.oracle.com/java/technologies/javase-jdk11-downloads.html.
- 2. Accept the license agreement and download the appropriate JDK version for your operating system. Make sure to select the JDK distribution, not just the JRE (Java Runtime Environment).
- 3. Run the downloaded installer and follow the installation wizard instructions.
- 4. Once the installation is complete, you will need to configure the system environment variables to ensure Java is accessible from the command line.
 - Windows: Open the Start menu, search for "Environment Variables," and select "Edit the system environment variables." In the System Properties window, click the "Environment Variables" button. Under the "System variables" section, find the "Path" variable and click "Edit." Add the path to the JDK's bin directory (e.g., C:\Program Files\Java\jdk-11\bin) to the list of paths.
 - macOS/Linux: Open a terminal and edit the .bashrc or .bash_profile file located in your user directory. Add the following line to the file, replacing /path/to/jdk with the actual path to the JDK installation: export PATH=/path/to/jdk/bin:\$PATH . Save the file and execute source ~/.bashrc or source ~/.bash_profile to apply the changes.
- 5. Verify the installation by opening a new terminal or command prompt window and executing the command java -version . You should see the version of Java you installed.

Now that Java is installed and configured, let's proceed to setting up popular text editors for Java development.

Setting up Visual Studio Code for Java

Visual Studio Code (VS Code) is a lightweight and versatile code editor with excellent Java support. Here's how you can configure it for Java development:

- Install Visual Studio Code by downloading it from the official website: https://code.visualstudio.com/.
- 2. Launch VS Code and install the Java Extension Pack by Microsoft. To do this, click on the Extensions button on the left sidebar (or press Ctrl+Shift+X), search for "Java Extension Pack," and click "Install."

- 3. After the installation is complete, you may need to reload VS Code for the changes to take effect.
- 4. Once VS Code restarts, you will be prompted to install the recommended Java tools such as the Java Development Kit (JDK), Language Support for Java™ by Red Hat, Debugger for Java, and Maven for Java. Follow the instructions to install these tools.
- 5. After the installation, you can create a new Java project or open an existing one. VS Code will provide IntelliSense, code navigation, debugging, and other features to enhance your Java development experience.

Setting up Eclipse for Java

Eclipse is a popular integrated development environment (IDE) for Java development. Follow these steps to set up Eclipse:

- 1. Visit the official Eclipse website at https://www.eclipse.org/ and download the Eclipse IDE for Java Developers package.
- 2. Extract the downloaded package to a directory of your choice.
- 3. Launch Eclipse by executing the