

The Java2HTML Tool

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Introduction

Java2HTML is a simple-to-use tool which converts a bunch of Java Source Code into a [colourized](#) and [browsable](#) HTML representation. Go to [download](#) (Version 1.3.1) to get the tool now and/or see some [example](#) outputs. You **must** read the [License Agreement](#) before downloading this software.

Java2HTML output has been tested with Microsoft Internet Explorer 4, 5, 6 and Netscape Navigator 4, running on NT and Solaris.

Java2HTML is used by thousands of organizations to publish their source code on the internet, including Sun Microsystems ([Java Pet Store Demo 1.3.1](#)) and Oracle ([XML Example](#)).

For discussions regarding Java2HTML please subscribe to to our mailing list:-

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Feature List

Main features include:-

- Converts Java Code into Colourized HTML.
- Specify TAB Spacing.
- Specify style and colour options of all Java keywords types via standard cascading style sheets.
- JavaDoc Look'n Feel.
- Links Class references into source code for Class definitions.
- Links external Class references into 'JavaDoc' output.
- Optional Line Number feature.
- API

Ant

Java2HTML can be used from within [Ant](#). View the [Java2HTML Task](#) documentation to see how to do this.

API

Java2HTML can be used from within a Java program by using the Java2HTML [API](#). This is only available in 1.3Beta onwards.

View the Java2HTML API [example](#) to see how to use it.

Installing

Installing, assumes a certain level of technical knowledge.

- Unzip *Java2HTML.zip* into a temporary directory, using either [WinZIP](#) or the [JDK](#) jar tool (using "jar-xf Java2HTML.zip")
- Copy *j2h.jar* and one of the scripts to an appropriate area on your file system (e.g. *C:\Tools\Java2HTML*)
- Place the installation directory in your PATH.
- Edit the script to reflect the installation directory, or create an appropriate script if you are not using a DOS/Unix based operating system.
- Use of the scripts is optional, alternatively you can place the *j2h.jar* location in your class path, and type "*java j2h*" in its place or if you are using Java 2, you can type, "*java -jar j2h.jar*".
- Type, "*j2h*" to see if your installation has succeeded. You should see a usage description if it has been successful.
- Alternatively you can now use Java2HTML from within Ant.

Requirements

- Java2HTML is written in Java and therefore needs a Java 1.1 or above compatible JVM.

Options

Type, "*j2h*" (if using the script) with no arguments to get a list of options.

Option	aka	Default	Description
-d <directory>	-destination	output	Specifies the HTML output directory.
-js <directory>	-javasource	current directory	Specifies the Java Source directory that will be converted to HTML. Repeat for each Java Source directory.
-jd <directory> [web_reference]	-javadoc	N/A	Used to specify JavaDoc directories that the generated HTML will link to. Specify the optional extra parameter [web_reference] to indicate the web address if the Java HTML is to be accessed from a web server.
-m	-margin	0	Margin size, with Line Numbers.
-t	-tab	4	The number of spaces that Tabs will be converted to.
-n	-name	Java Source	Name used in the frames.
-h	-help, /? or j2h with no arguments	N/A	Display Help Options.
-nh	-noheader	false	prevents the header from being displayed.
-nf	-nofooter	false	prevents the footer from being displayed.

-s	-simple	false	Simple output, just include the Java source and stylesheet.css files. Also package links will not be set within the source
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In addition, Java2HTML will produce a *"stylesheet.css"*, in the output directory which can be edited to change the colour or style scheme. (Warning: this will get overwritten if it already exists when you run j2h)

Example Usage

To review the output of running Java2HTML, view the *index.html* produced in the output directory with your favorite web browser.

I highly recommend the use of the *-jd* option. You will nearly always want to link into the standard Java libraries, so you will typically supply the following parameter, *"-jd C:\JDK1.2\DOCS\API"*. Use the *-jd* option for each set of Java Doc you have access to.

Assuming you are using the Dos or Unix scripts *"j2h.bat"* or *"j2h"*, type the examples for the specified effects.

- *j2h -js C:\JDK1.2\src*

This will produce HTML representation under *output* in the current directory, for the JDK1.2 public source code.

- *j2h -js \home\billgates\dev\cooljavaproject -jd \usr\jdk1.2\docs\api \www\docs\jdk1.2\docs\api*

This will produce HTML representation under *output* for the *cooljavaproject* source code with links into the standard Java Doc output for the JDK1.2 libraries.

- *j2h -n COOL_PROJECT -t 8*

This will produce HTML representation under *output* for any Java Source files in the current directory, with tabs set to 8 spaces and a title of *COOL_PROJECT*.

- *j2h -m 4 COOL_PROJECT*

This will produce HTML representation under *output* for any Java Source files in the current directory, with line numbers and a title of *COOL_PROJECT*.

- *j2h -js C:\dev\project1 -js C:\dev\project2 -jd C:\jdk1.2\docs\api -jd C:\JavaXML\docs\api*

This will produce HTML representation under *output* for any Java Source files under *C:\dev\project1* or *C:\dev\project2* with Java Doc links to the standard JDK1.2 API and the SUN Microsystems XML libraries.

Example Outputs

Examples are from the SUN Microsystems JDK 1.3 Demos. If you experience any strange problems whilst browsing these links, please email a description of the problem to support@java2html.com

- [Example Output 1](#)

Shows Source code for JDK 1.3 Java 2D Demo, created with the following command:-

```
j2h -js C:\jdk1.3.1\demo\jfc\Java2D -d examples\Java2D_demo -jd C:\jdk1.3.1\docs\api http://java.sun.com/products/jdk/1.3/docs/api -n JAVA2D_DEMO
```

- [Example Output 2](#) (with line numbers)

Shows Source code for JDK 1.3 SwingSet2 Demo, created with the following command:-

```
j2h -js C:\jdk1.3.1\demo\jfc\SwingSet2 -d examples\SwingSet_demo -jd C:\jdk1.3.1\docs\api http://java.sun.com/products/jdk/1.3/docs/api -n SwingSet_DEMO -m 4
```

- *Example Output 3* - [TreeDemo.java.html#80](#)

Note: These examples use the *web_reference* feature of the -jd option, to point the web documentation at the Sun Java website. It would be more typical in general use to point the web_reference at your own local copy of the documentation.

Known Limitations and Future Extensions

Please send requests for enhancements to support@java2html.com If I use your ideas I will give you a credit in this document.

- Support for Apples Macs and a java properties file to specify options.
- Method and Object Instance hyper links.
- Make use of a proper installer package.
- Hyper links of references within comments and strings
- Style sheet option, to prevent the overwriting of a customized stylesheet.
- Better handling of non-conformant java code.
- Extend Java2HTML to deal with other languages such as JSP, SQLJ, XML, SQL scripts, Perl and C/C++ and/or extend the architecture to allow third parties to implement additional language sources.
- Possibly publish the source code with an appropriate license.
- HTML driven Search Facility.
- [Tony O'Hagan](#) suggested providing a -link option so that JavaDoc can be linked directly from a URL.

Support

Please report bugs to support@java2html.com, before emailing make sure that the bug is not listed in [Known Limitations and Possible Extensions](#).

Change History

Version	Date	Change
1.0	19th Aug 1999	Release
1.0.1	20th Aug 1999	front.html now appears with white background on all mainstream browsers. (See Version Change 1.0.3)
		Fixed JavaDoc URL Reference, now uses "/", instead of "\" which does not work with all mainstream browsers.
1.0.2	23rd Aug 1999	Fixed Java Source URL Reference now uses "/", instead of "\" which does not work with all mainstream browsers.
		Added extra information in the usage description.
1.0.3	5th Sept 1999	front.html now appears with white background on all mainstream browsers. (Accidentally not released in Version 1.0.1)
		when using the -jd option with a single parameter it will now automatically convert the parameter into proper URL references in the JavaDoc links. (This can be done anyway using the second parameter). Requested by Anand Santhanam & David Karr, .
		Java2HTML now deals with accented characters properly. Thanks to Gerald Pfarrand & Martin Desruisseaux for spotting that one.
		Tidied up HTML generation in many places.

		Added manifest file to j2h.jar. This allows Java 2 users to type, " <i>java -jar j2h.jar</i> ". Thanks to Martin Desruisseaux for that.
		<pre>interface A { class B {}; // <-- ';' is problematic }</pre> <p>The above code would generate a parse error in Java2HTML. Not anymore. Thanks to Kang Pilsung for spotting that.</p>
1.0.4	27th Oct 1999	Returns exit code, for better integration with Scripting Languages. Requested by Kaze
		Improved Line Number rendering. (Looks a lot better now)
		Added more information to front.html.
1.0.5	4th Nov 1999	Fixed typo on front.html.
		Error message inserted into HTML output for Non Legal Java files.
		<pre>class Foo { SomeObject thing = something;; // <-- Extra semi-colon }</pre> <p>The extra semi-colon would generate a parse error. Not anymore. Thanks to Mike for spotting that. You're right Mike, even though it isn't Kosher Java, most of the compilers accept it.</p>
1.0.6	17th Nov 1999	Output messages have been improved.
		Catches Lexical Errors properly. Thanks to Jason King of Sun Microsystems for pointing that out.
		Added Meta "GENERATOR" Tag to all generated pages.
1.0.7	31st Oct 2000	Added Line Number Tags. So you can no use URL references such as, TreeDemo.java.html#80
		Fixed typos in the j2h usage message. Thanks to Robert Biuk-Aghai of University of Technology, Sydney, for so kindly pointing that out. He also noted a few typos on this page which have also been fixed.
		Deprecated the -dir option. Java2HTML now uses a superior (if what slower) two-parse mechanism.
		Please note that ownership of Java2HTML has now been transferred to RiteLink Computing Limited.
		Added j2h wrapper class.
		Added -nh -nf options to remove Header and Footer.
		Import lists in source now link to JavaDoc.
		Package declaration in source now links to package frame.
		Operating System "new line" is used throughout generated HTML, instead of hard coded DOS/NT new line.
		Changed 'Package' to 'Packages' text in top left frame.
		Fixed single line comment on last line parse failure bug, also spotted by Brad Wells .
1.0.8	11th Nov 2000	Fixed "Project" hyper text reference (top Right hand Corner) to refer to front.html instead of FRONT.HTML.
1.0.9	2nd Feb 2002	Fixed some HTML output bugs, most importantly line number anchors were not being terminated with . Spotted by a Peter Luschny , Markus.Schmidt and Andreas Schenk
		Changed the instructions on the front page so that 'this' in 'Text displayed like <u>this</u> represents', is in the same style as the actual links within Java Source. Thanks for Christophe Laprun for pointing that out.

		Operating System "new line" is now used in the generated stylesheet. Thanks again to Robert Biuk-Aghai for that.
1.1	15th Oct 2002	Footer/Header not correct for Netscape Browser
		Now recognizes .super() method Calls. Spotted by Jim Fisher .
		Added Support for Java Version 1.4.
		Fixed problem with /**/ when it appeared more than once within a file.
		Fixed problem with use of \u9999. (This problem was originally fixed in an earlier version but got reintroduced)
1.2	25th Oct 2002	Expanded the lexical range of characters allowed for a java identifier, requested by Dirk Zoetl
		Added ".java" to the header and changed the background colour.
1.3beta	2nd Feb 2003	default.index.html replaces .index.html, Raised by Tanguy PERENNOU
		Moved Java2HTML to an ANT based build script
		Numerous changes to the internals of Jav2HTML.
		Ownership of Java2HTML Transferred to Polygon Enterprises
		Better supports Integration with Ant
		Published Java2HTML API.
1.3Beta2	22nd Feb 2003	Fixed 'null' bug when no JavaDoc option was set
		Added -simple option
1.3Beta3	23rd Feb 2002	(Internal changes only)
1.3Beta4	23rd April 2003	Added Ant Support, recommended by numerous users.
		Fixed -jd command line option problem. Spotted by Cal Holman
		Changed the Java2HTML API to support Ant.
		Removed references to the deprecated -dir option.
1.3	28th April 2003	No Changes
1.3.1	15 May 2003	(Internal changes only)

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Credits

- [Sun Microsystems](#), thanks for making [Java](#).
- Peter Van der Linden, Maintainer of the [Java FAQ](#), and author of "*Just Java 1.2*" as well as many other good books.
- The people who put together JavaCC, especially Siram Sankar for his help.
- Guys on the JavaCC newsgroup, including David Williams for his Java 1.2 extensions.
- Thanks to the people at [JARS](#) for giving this tool (version 1.0.3) a, "rated JARS Top 25%", although it actually got 895 out of a 1000, losing marks on presentation :-)
- Jason Shattu, the original creator of Java2HTML.
- [Polygon Enterprises](#), the owners of this product.
- Other good products out there:-
 - Bruce Blackshaw's [Java FTP Client](#)
 - David Shattu's [Easy Password Manager](#)

Payment

Java2HTML is distributed as free software but should a user or company make significant use of it, they are encouraged to make a \$50 contribution which gives them registration status and helps towards future development costs. Please click on the following link.

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