Gradle Wrapper basics

The recommended way to execute any Gradle build is with the gradle wrapper

The wrapper script invokes a declared version of Gradle, downloading it beforehand if necessary

Where is the wrapper? It is available as a gradlew or gradlew.bat file

Wrapper has benefits in that it provisions the same gradle version for different users.

How to use the gradle wrapper?

Once again, it is always better to execute a build using the wrapper.

A gradle invocation of the installed gradle looks like this :-

Gradle build

A gradle invocation of the wrapper gradle looks like this:-

./gradlew build

./gradlew.bat build

This command is run in the same directory where the wrapper is located in !

So what happens when you type

Gradlew.bat build ?

Downloading https://services.gradle.org/distributions/gradle-5.0-all.zip

.....................................................................................

Unzipping C:\Documents and Settings\Claudia\.gradle\wrapper\dists\gradle-5.0-all\ac27o8rbd0ic8ih41or9l32mv\gradle-5.0-all.zip to C:\Documents and Settings\Claudia\.gradle\wrapper\dists\gradle-5.0-al\ac27o8rbd0ic8ih41or9l32mv

Set executable permissions for: C:\Documents and Settings\Claudia\.gradle\wrapper\dists\gradle-5.0-all\ac27o8rbd0ic8ih41or9l32mv\gradle-5.0\bin\gradle

BUILD SUCCESSFUL in 12s

1 actionable task: 1 executed

* Gradle-5.0 is downloaded.
* Set executable permissions

We need to understand the wrapper files

├── gradle

│ └── wrapper

│ ├── gradle-wrapper.jar

│ └── gradle-wrapper.properties

├── gradlew

└── gradlew.bat

What is the gradle-wrapper.jar?

* This contains the gradle wrapper code. It downloads and installs the correct version of gradle for a project

What is the gradle-wrapper.properties ?

* This contains the config properties! Such as the url where to download gradle from!

What is the gradlew and gradlew.bat?

* This is a shell script. It is a wrapper around gradle-wrapper.jar , so that you don’t need to know how to run the gradle-wrapper.jar directly.

Important thing to note is to never update these files.