

Lesson 13: Introduction to GUI

1. **GUI** (Graphical User Interface) in Java is an easy-to-use visual experience builder for Java applications. It is mainly made of graphical components like buttons, labels, windows, etc. through which the user can interact with an application.
2. **Swing** in Java is a Graphical User Interface (GUI) toolkit that includes the GUI components. Swing provides a rich set of widgets and packages to make sophisticated GUI components for Java applications.
3. All the components in swing like **JButton**, **JComboBox**, **JList**, **JLabel** are inherited from the **JComponent** class which can be added to the container classes. Containers are the windows like frame and dialog boxes.
4. **JFrame** can be constructed as you do other objects using, class name, identifier, assignment operator. For example, the following two statements construct two JFrames: one with the title "Hello" and another with no title:

```
JFrame firstFrame = new JFrame("Hello");  
JFrame secondFrame = new JFrame();
```

Method	Purpose
void setTitle(String)	Sets a JFrame 's title using the String argument
void setSize(int, int)	Sets a JFrame 's size in pixels with the width and height as arguments
void setSize(Dimension)	Sets a JFrame 's size using a Dimension class object; the Dimension(int, int) constructor creates an object that represents both a width and a height
String getTitle()	Returns a JFrame 's title
void setResizable(boolean)	Sets the JFrame to be resizable by passing true to the method, or sets the JFrame not to be resizable by passing false to the method
boolean isResizable()	Returns true or false to indicate whether the JFrame is resizable
void setVisible(boolean)	Sets a JFrame to be visible using the boolean argument true and invisible using the boolean argument false
void setBounds(int, int, int, int)	Overrides the default behavior for the JFrame to be positioned in the upper-left corner of the computer screen's desktop. The first two arguments are the horizontal and vertical positions of the JFrame 's upper-left corner on the desktop. The final two arguments set the width and height.

```
firstFrame.setSize(250, 100);  
firstFrame.setTitle("My frame");  
the following statements set the firstFrame object's size to 250 pixels horizontally  
by 100 pixels vertically
```

5. **JLabel Class** - It is used for placing text in a container. It also inherits **JComponent** class.
6. **JLabel label_name = new JLabel("Text")**- We used the **add()** method to attach the new Label component to your Frame.
`aFrame.add(label_name);`

7. **TextField Class** - is a component into which a user can type a single line of text data. (Text data comprises any characters you can enter from the keyboard, including numbers and punctuation.)
8. **TextField textField= new TextField(10)**- You can use a method name `setBounds(x,y, width, height)` to customize the size of the textField. Other methods you might want to consider as well are `setText()`, `setEditable()`
9. **Button Class** - is a Component the user can click with a mouse to make a selection. A Button is even easier to create than a TextField.
10. **Button readyButton = new Button("Press when ready")**