**Apache ANT**

* Ant stands for Another Nitche Tool
* Apache Ant is a Java-based build tool.
* Ant's build files are written in XML.
* Ant is a platform-independent (like Java) *scripting tool* that lets you construct your build scripts using many built-in commands like delete, jar, get, mkdir, exec and copydir.
* Each build file contains one ***project*** and at least one (*default*) ***target***.
* The XML element *project* has three attributes:
  + *name*: The Name of the project. (Optional)
  + *default*: The default target for the build script. A project may contain any number of targets. This attribute specifies which target should be considered as the default. (Mandatory)
  + *basedir*: The base directory (or) the root folder for the project. (Optional)
* A *target* is a collection of tasks that you want to run as one unit.
* Targets can have dependencies on other targets. Dependencies are denoted using the ‘*depends’* attribute.