README.md 2024-03-01

# Portfolio Project

The purpose of this repo is to provide a framework for creating your own component in the software sequence discipline.

## Recommended Steps to Get Started

When starting your portfolio project, the following steps should make your life a bit easier.

#### Step 1: Install Recommended Plugins

When you open VSCode with this project, you should get a notification in the bottom right corner that there are some recommended extensions to install. Click install all. If you ignored this message or it never came up, feel free to press CTRL+SHIFT+P and type "Show Recommended Extensions". Install all of the extensions listed.

#### Step 2: Install the Latest JDK

If you do not have an available JDK on your system, you may be prompted to install one by VSCode. The default seems to be Red Hat's OpenJDK, which seems to require you to register for an account or to install on the command line. Regardless, there is no mac support. As a result, I would just recommend installing the latest JDK directly from Oracle's site.

#### Step 3: Add Key Libraries to Project

As you are probably all aware at this point, you need the components jar to get anything running. My advice is to download it from here. Then, drop it into the lib folder in the project. Git automatically ignores anything you put here by default, so don't worry about committing it to version control.

Similarly, you will need the testing APIs (e.g., JUnit). Perhaps the easiest way to include them in your project is to click the beaker symbol in the left sidebar; it's right below the extensions button which looks like four squares. From there, you can click "Enable Java Tests" and then click "JUnit" from the dropdown. That's it! You should now see the two JUnit libraries in the lib folder.

**Note**: if you're using VSCode for class projects, you might be wondering why you never had to do this. In general, it's bad practice to commit binaries to version control. However, we have no way of managing dependencies with the custom components.jar, so I included them directly in the template. I did not include them here, so you could see how it might be done from scratch. If at any point you're struggling with Step 3, just copy the lib folder from the monorepo template.

### **Next Steps**

Now that you have everything setup, you can begin crafting your component. There will be deadlines for each step in Carmen, but you're free to complete each step as early as you'd like. To start, you'll want to visit the doc directory for each assignment file.