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TechDoc#2: Build Tools

What's in a Build Tool?

Build tools are programs that automate the creation of executable applications from source. Building incorporates compiling, linking and packaging the code into a usable or executable form.

Basically build automation is the act of scripting or automating a wide variety of tasks that software developers do in their day-to-day activities like:

1. Downloading dependencies
2. Compiling source code into binary code
3. Packaging that binary code
4. Running tests
5. Deployment to production systems

References:

Build Tools: http://www.lihaoyi.com/post/WhatsinaBuildTool.html

Maven: http://tutorials.jenkov.com/maven/maven-tutorial.html

Gradle: https://spring.io/guides/gs/gradle/

Quick Comparison: https://dzone.com/articles/maven-vs-gradle-and-the-best-of-both-worlds

Dependency Management: https://spring.io/blog/2015/02/23/better-dependency-management-for-gradle

Solving dependency conflicts: https://dzone.com/articles/solving-dependency-conflicts-in-maven

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