

19. A Quick Java Swing Tutorial

Introduction

- Swing – A set of GUI classes
 - Part of the Java's standard library
 - Much better than the previous library: AWT
 - Abstract Window Toolkit
- Highlights
 - A rich set of widgets
 - Widget: Any GUI element (also called: components)
 - Contents and shape are separated (MVC support)
 - Fine-grained control over the behavior and look and feel
 - Platform independent
 - Isolates the programmer from the operating system's GUI

Swing Components

- Containers
 - Contain and manage other components.
 - Top Level/Internal
 - Examples: `JFrame` (Top Level), `JScrollPane`, `JPanel`.
- Basic controls
 - Atomic components
 - Used for showing output and/or getting some input
 - Inherits `JComponent`
 - Examples: `JButton`, `JLabel`, `JTextArea`, `JTable`, `JList`
- Usually every Swing class extends the corresponding AWT class
 - For backward-compatibility reasons

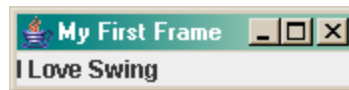
My First Swing Program

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.BorderLayout;

public class First {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        JFrame frame = new JFrame("My First Frame");

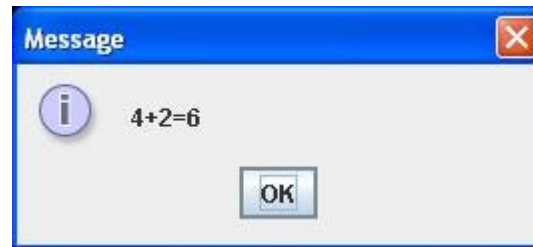
        // operation to do when the window is closed.
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);

        frame.getContentPane().setLayout(new BorderLayout());
        frame.getContentPane().add(new JLabel("I Love Swing"),
            BorderLayout.CENTER);
        frame.pack();
        frame.setVisible(true);
    }
}
```



Top Level Containers: JDialog

- **javax.swing.JDialog:**
 - More simple and limited than frames
 - Typically used for showing a short message on the screen
 - Also has a border and a title bar
 - May have an owner
 - If the owner is invisible the dialog will also be invisible
 - Use the static method of JOptionPane to show standard dialog boxes:
`JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(null, "4+2=6");`



Top Level Containers: JFileChooser



- **javax.swing.JFileChooser.**
 - Allows the the user to choose a file
 - Supports “open” and “save”: `showOpenDialog()`, `showSaveDialog()`

```
JFileChooser fc = new JFileChooser();  
int returnVal = fc.showOpenDialog(null);  
if(returnVal == JFileChooser.APPROVE_OPTION)  
    System.out.println("File: " + fc.getSelectedFile());
```

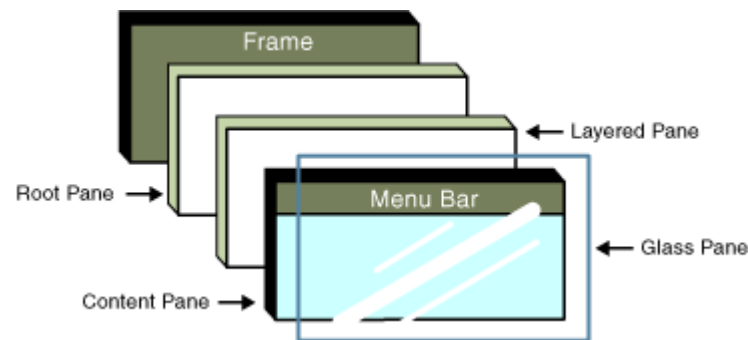
Top Level Containers: JFrame

- **`javax.swing.JFrame`:**
 - Top-level window with a title and a border.
 - Usually used as a program's main window



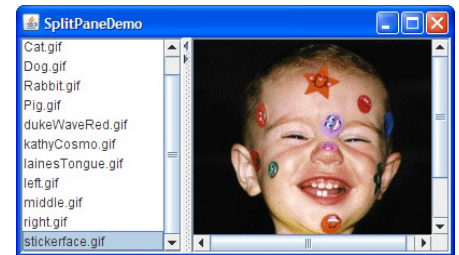
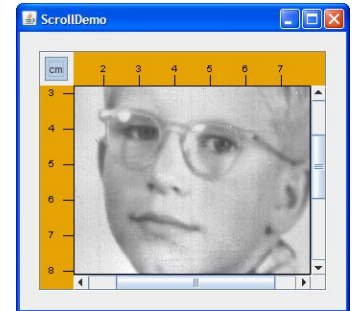
More on JFrame

- Made of several layers
- Widgets are added to the Content Pane layer.
 - Use `getContentPane()` to obtain it
- Other layers are used for customizing the window's appearance



Internal Containers

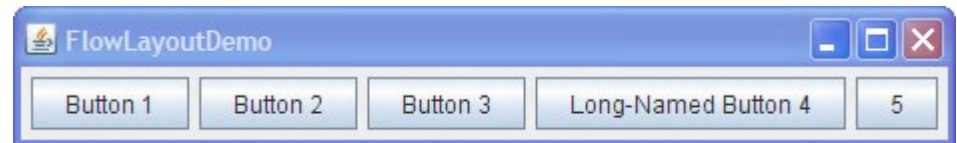
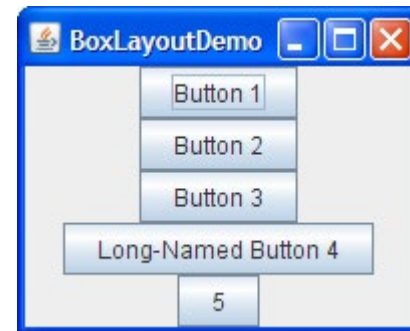
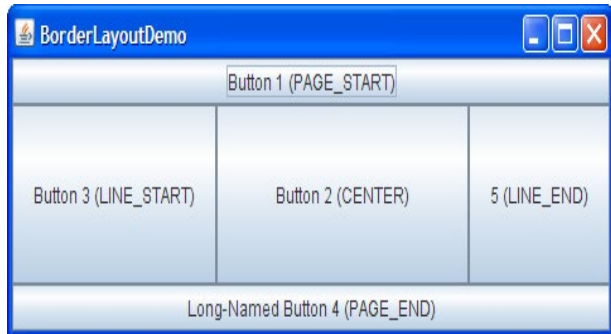
- Not Top level containers
- Can contain other non-top level components
- Examples:
 - `JScrollPane`: Provides a scrollable view of its components
 - `JSplitPane`: Separates two components
 - `JTabbedPane`: User chooses which component to see



Containers - Layout

- Each container has a layout manager
 - Determines the size, location of contained widgets.
- Setting the current layout of a container:
void setLayout(LayoutManager lm)
- *LayoutManager* implementing classes:
 - BorderLayout
 - BoxLayout
 - FlowLayout
 - GridLayout

Containers - Layout



Swing Components

Basic Controls

Simple components that are used primarily to get input from the user; they may also show simple state.

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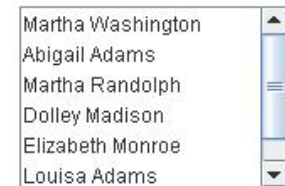
[JButton](#)



[JCheckBox](#)



[JComboBox](#)



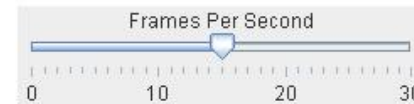
[JList](#)



[JMenu](#)



[JRadioButton](#)



[JSlider](#)



[JSpinner](#)



[JTextField](#)



[JPasswordField](#)

Swing Components

Interactive Displays of Highly Formatted Information

The image displays five Swing components within a window titled "Interactive Displays of Highly Formatted Information".

- Color chooser:** A component with tabs for "Swatches", "HSB", and "RGB". The "Swatches" tab is active, showing a grid of 100 color swatches.
- File chooser:** A dialog box titled "Open" with a "Look in:" dropdown set to "C:\". It shows a list of folders: "emacslib", "host-news", "java", and "mbin".
- Table:** A table with three columns: "First Name", "Last Name", and "Favorite Food".

First Name	Last Name	Favorite Food
Jeff	Dinkins	
Ewan	Dinkins	
Amy	Fowler	
Hania	Gajewska	
David	Geary	
- Text:** A text area containing a list of text styles: "red", "blue", "green", "small", "large", "italic", and "bold".
- Tree:** A tree view showing a hierarchy of folders: "Music" (parent), "Classical" (child), "Beethoven" (child of Classical), "Brahms" (child of Classical), "Mozart" (child of Classical), "Jazz" (child of Music), and "Rock" (child of Music).

Uneditable Information Displays

The image displays three Swing components within a window titled "Uneditable Information Displays".

- Label:** A window titled "LabelDemo" containing a label with the text "Image and Text" and a "Text-Only Label".
- Progress bar:** A progress bar showing 18% completion.
- Tool tip:** A tool tip displayed over a cow image, showing the text "Mooooooo".

First Swing Program Revisited

```
import javax.swing.*;  
import java.awt.BorderLayout;
```

Create a frame

```
public class First {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        JFrame frame = new JFrame("My First Frame");  
  
        // operation to do when the window is closed  
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);  
  
        frame.getContentPane().setLayout(new BorderLayout());  
        frame.getContentPane().add(new JLabel("I Love Swing"),  
            BorderLayout.CENTER);  
        frame.pack();  
        frame.setVisible(true);  
    }  
}
```

Choose the border layout

Specify CENTER
as the layout
position

Add the label to
the content pane

Create a text
label

Input

- So we now know how to present widgets on the screen
- A program also needs to react to the user's actions
- Examples:
 - When the user presses a button we want to save a file
 - When the user closes the program we want to ask “are you sure?”
 - ...
- Swing mechanism: Events and Listeners

Events, Listeners

- Swing defines all sorts of Listener interfaces
 - E.g.: `ActionListener`, `MouseMotionListener`, ***WindowListener***, ...

```
public interface ActionListener extends EventListener {  
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e);  
}
```

```
public interface MouseMotionListener extends EventListener {  
    public void mouseDragged(MouseEvent e);  
    public void mouseMoved(MouseEvent e);  
}
```

- There are default (empty) implementations for many of the listeners
 - E.g.: `MouseMotionAdapter`, ***WindowAdapter***

Events, Listeners (cont.)

- A listener is an object that implements a listener interface
- If we need to react to an event (on a certain widget) we register a listener object with that widget
- E.g.: `addActionListener()` registers an action listener with its receiver:

```
JButton button = new JButton();  
ActionListener listener = ...;  
button.addActionListener(listener);
```

- When an event occurs, all registered listeners are notified
 - The appropriate listener method (e.g: `actionPerformed()`) is invoked
 - An object describing the event is passed as a parameter

Event Handling Demo: GUI



Event Handling Demo: Code

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;
import java.awt.event.*;

public class Events implements ActionListener {
    public Events() {
        JFrame frame = new JFrame("Events");
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);

        frame.getContentPane().setLayout(new FlowLayout());
        JButton b = new JButton("Click me!");
        b.addActionListener(this);
        frame.getContentPane().add(b);

        frame.pack();
        frame.setVisible(true);
    }
    public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
        JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(null, "Thank you");
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) { new Events(); }
}
```

Inner Classes

- Nested within another classes
- Instance specific:
 - Has access to methods & fields of the object that created it
 - => An inner class has TWO **this** variables
- Can be static
 - Can access only static members and methods only
 - A static method cannot create a non-static inner class

Local Classes

- Same as inner classes but defined inside a method
- Has access to local variables of the enclosing method
 - Only if the variable is defined as final
- Can be anonymous
 - Doesn't have a name.

Event Handling Demo: Local Class

```
import javax.swing.*;
import java.awt.*;
import java.awt.event.*;

public class Events {
    public Events() {
        JFrame frame = new JFrame("Events");
        frame.setDefaultCloseOperation(JFrame.EXIT_ON_CLOSE);

        frame.getContentPane().setLayout(new FlowLayout());
        JButton b = new JButton("Click me!");
        b.addActionListener(new ActionListener() {
            public void actionPerformed(ActionEvent e) {
                JOptionPane.showMessageDialog(null, "Thank you");
            }
        });
        frame.getContentPane().add(b);

        frame.pack();
        frame.setVisible(true);
    }
    public static void main(String[] args) { new Events(); }
}
```

Accessing Fields of Enclosing Object

```
public class A {  
    int x = 0;  
    public void f() {  
        B b = new B();  
        b.g();  
        System.out.println(x);    // Output: 5  
    }  
}
```

内部类

```
public class B {  
    public void g() { x = 5; }  
}
```

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    new A().f();  
}
```

Using the Second this Variable

```
public class A {  
    public void f() {  
        B b = new B();  
        System.out.println(b.g()); // Output: 1024  
    }  
  
    public int g() { return 512; }  
  
    public class B {  
        public int g() { return A.this.g() * 2; }  
    }  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        new A().f();  
    }  
}
```