

Matt Stevenson CS202  
5/29/2020  
Program #4 IDE Write Up

Finally moving to an IDE was a breath of fresh air, and I found it dramatically aided in the learning of Java. The suggestions offered by the IDE showed me better ways to structure my code and ensured I was actually doing what I intended. Additionally, the highlighting of code and error messages on hover certainly saved me a lot of time during development. What's more, the availability of Vim like typing made sure that I didn't lose any of the speed I am used to while giving me the flexibility to use the mouse when I want to. I am more used to working in an IDE and I primarily worked with Python before starting the CS program, so while I appreciate what Vim gave me in terms of speed, I am glad to be back in an IDE as I feel it is just much more conducive to productive programming.

Beyond all of the perks of the IDE itself, the debugger was also a huge boon and was much simpler to use than GDB. I especially enjoyed being able to "unfold" all of the variables and memory at any given point, and the setting of breakpoints couldn't be simpler. This enabled me to quickly and easily track down most of my errors myself, and in the process taught me a great deal about Java itself.