Environment Setup Spring Tool Suite 4

Description: “Spring Tool Suite 4 is the next generation of Spring tooling for your favorite coding environment. Largely rebuilt from scratch, it provides world-class support for developing Spring-based enterprise applications, whether you prefer Eclipse, Visual Studio Code, or Theia IDE.” – Spring.io.

Project: Download and install Spring Tool Suite 4 on local machine.

Technology / Dependencies:
This project uses the following technology:

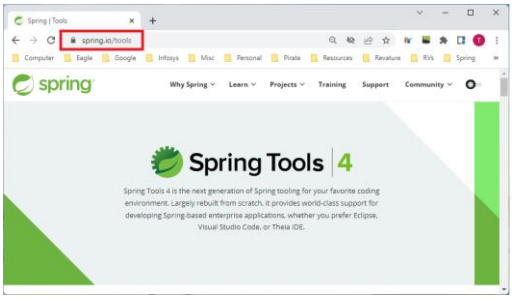
- Java 1.8 (See Environment Setup 02 Java 1.8.docx)
- Git Hub (See Environment Setup 01 Git Hub.docx)
- Spring Tool Suite 4

Table of Contents

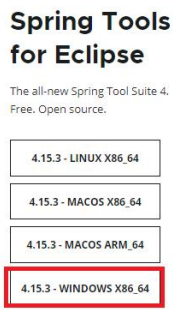
Install Spring Tool Suite 4

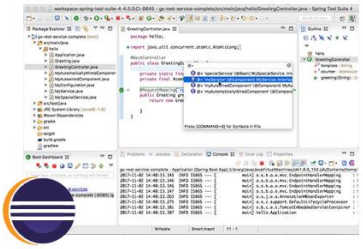
Download Spring Tool Suite 4

Using an Internet browser, browse to the Sprint Tools 4 download website (https://spring.io/tools).



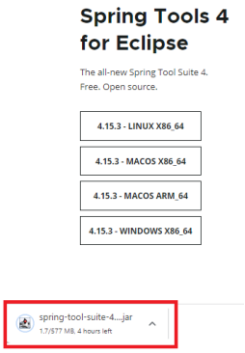
There are various download options for types of tools (Eclipse, Visual Studio, and Theia). In this document and other project documents Eclipse for Windows is used.





At the time this document was written Spring Tool Suite 4 version 4.15.3 was the latest. It is recommended to check back at the tools website to see if newer version of Spring Tool Suite 4 is available.

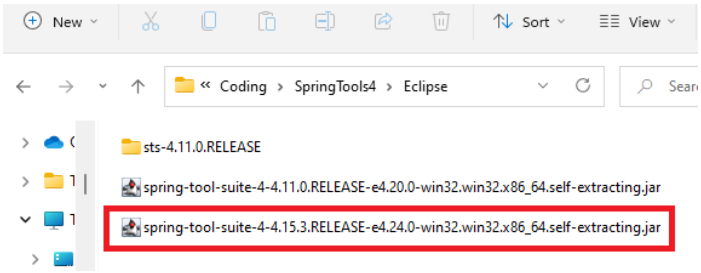
Click the button for your operating system (O/S) to begin the download. "4.15.3 – WINDOWS X86_64" is used in this document and future projects.



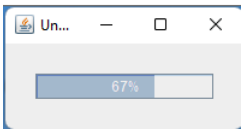
Depending on your browser and download settings, you might need to navigate to a save location and you should see some indication of download progress. This download might take a while to complete.

Extract Spring Tool Suite 4 Files

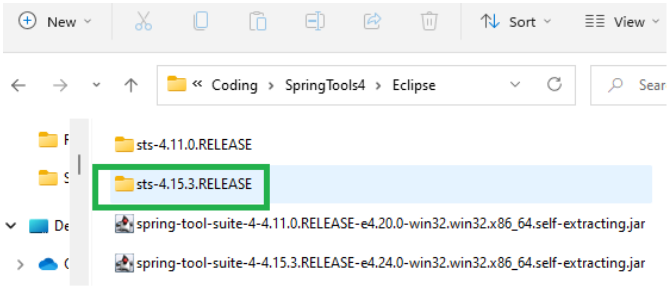
Once the download is complete, open the file location with your O/S file browser. Move the file to a location where you want the self-extracting jar file to extract all the files. The self-extracting jar file will create a version directory where the files will be extracted. As you can see from the screen shot, I am upgrading to a newer version of Spring Tool Suite 4. I also have a Desktop directory structure that contains subfolder for the Eclipse tool.



Double click the self-extracting jar file to begin the extraction. You should see a progress bar.



The extraction should not take long and once completed you will see a release folder. Inside the folder will be the extracted files.



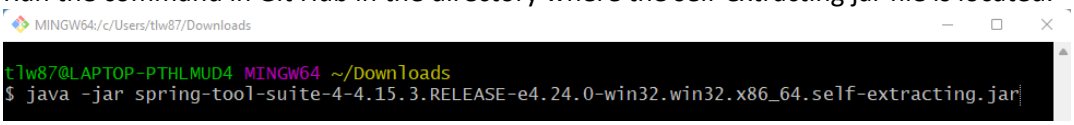
Alternate way to Extract Spring Tool Suite 4 Files

If double clicking the self-extracting jar file does not work, you do not have a zip extract program on your machine. You can go to a GIT Bash terminal and extract the files from the jar using a command like:

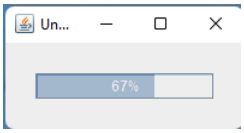
java -jar <filename>.jar
Where: <filename> is the name of the jar file to extract.

```
java -jar spring-tool-suite-4-4.15.3.RELEASE-e4.24.0-win32.win32.x86_64.self-extracting.jar
```

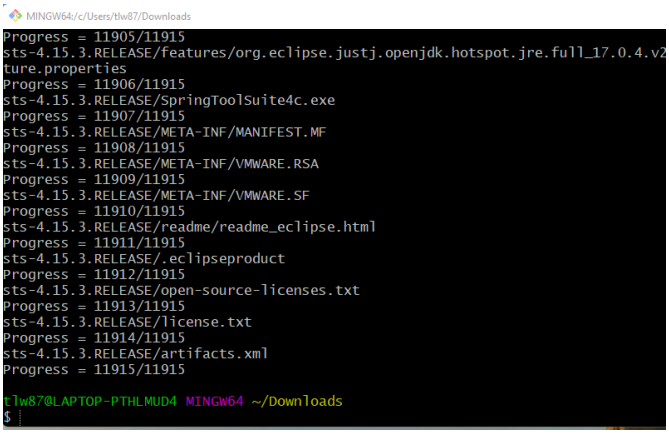
Run the command in Git Hub in the directory where the self-extracting jar file is located.



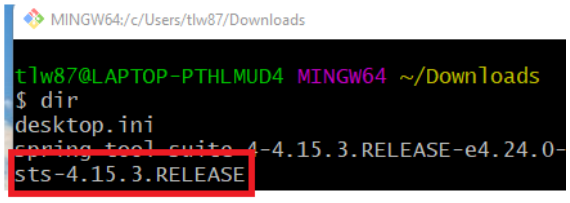
A progress bar should pop up.



Extracted files will also scroll in the Git Hub window.

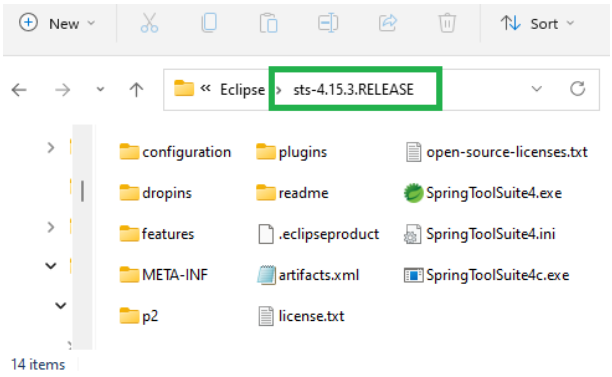


Once the extract is done, the release folder with the extracted file is created.

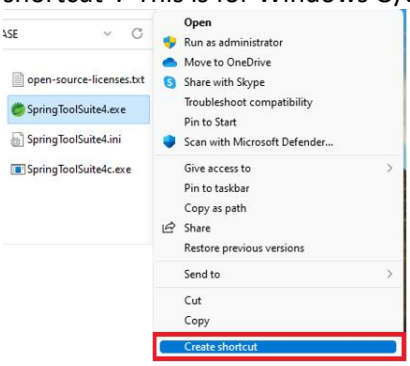


Create Spring Tool Suite 4 Shortcut

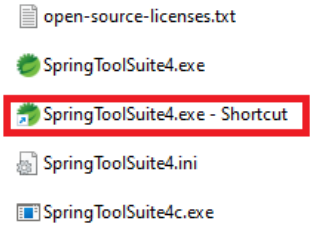
Open the release folder where the Spring Tool Suite 4 program files are located.



For convenience a shortcut can be created by right clicking on the executable file and selecting “Create shortcut”. This is for Windows O/S.



You can rename and move the shortcut to a different location if desired.



Validate Spring Tool Suite 4 Installation

Spring Tool Suite 4 is dependent on the Java 1.8 installation. Open the Spring Tool Suite 4 application by using the shortcut or the executable directly. If you encounter any errors check all the path variables configured in the Java 1.8 installation.

If STS opens without errors the tool will asked to create a workspace. For now just click "Cancel". The next section “Using Spring Tool Suite for the First Time” will setup the workspace and detail some other initial configuration setup.

Using Spring Tool Suite 4 for the First Time

When starting Spring Tool Suite 4 for the first time you should define a folder for you default workspace. This can be a new or existing folder on your desktop or in your documents folder. This workspace will contain project files that you will create going forward.

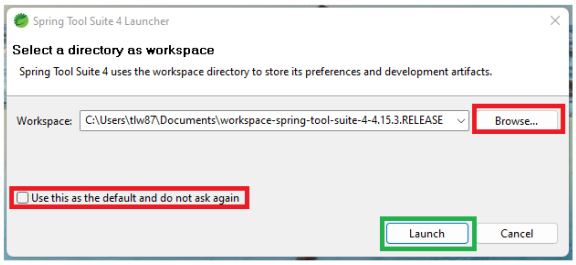
This section will also create a simple Java project to configure some configuration elements. The configuration elements will be used in future projects like selecting the current Java version we want to use and building the application.

Open the Spring Tool Suite 4 application, the splash screen will appear briefly.

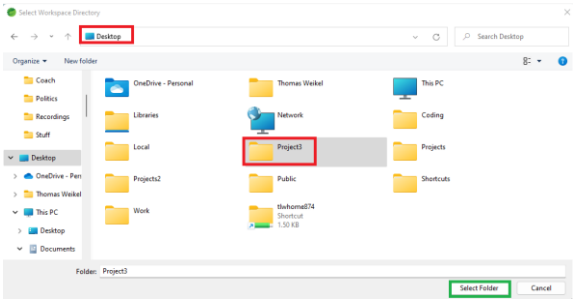
Define Spring Tool Suite 4 Default Workspace

If you do not create a workspace at this time, you can create one in the future or use the default workspace.

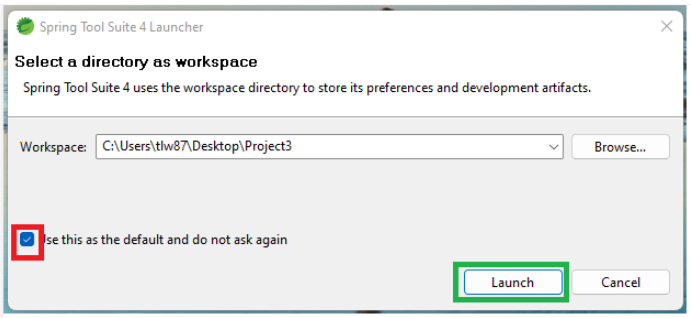
You can use the default workspace as shown in the workspace dialog or click “Browse” and select a different folder. Click the “Use this as the default and do not ask again” checkbox if you do not want to see this dialog every time you open the program.



In this document we use “Browse…” and select a Desktop folder “Project3”



Browse and select a folder for your projects and click “Select Folder”.

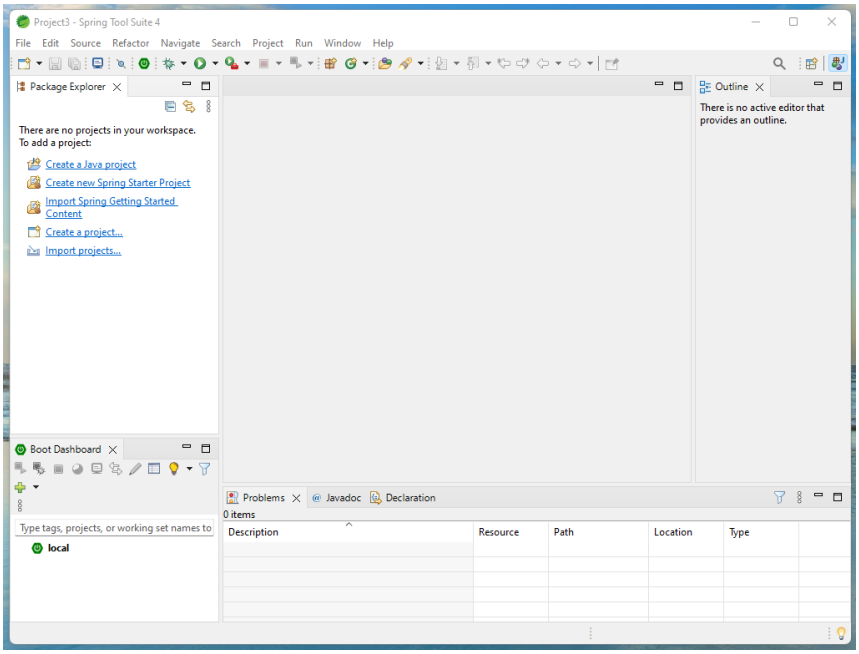


Once a selection is made, click “Launch”.

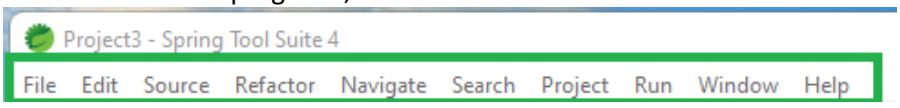
The splash screen is shown again then the program opens for the first time.

Spring Tool Suite 4 Program Workspace

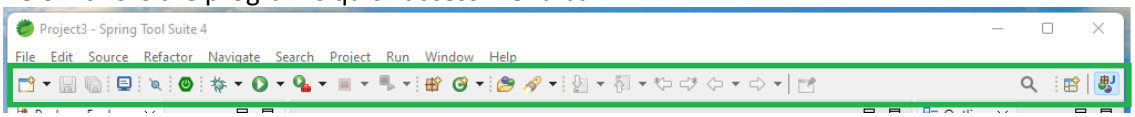
The screen capture below shows a typical launch of the Spring Tool Suite 4 program when it opens for the first time.



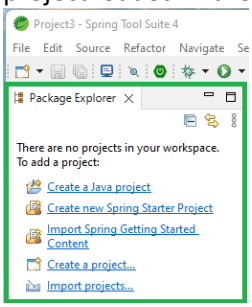
Like most Window programs, there is a main menu bar.



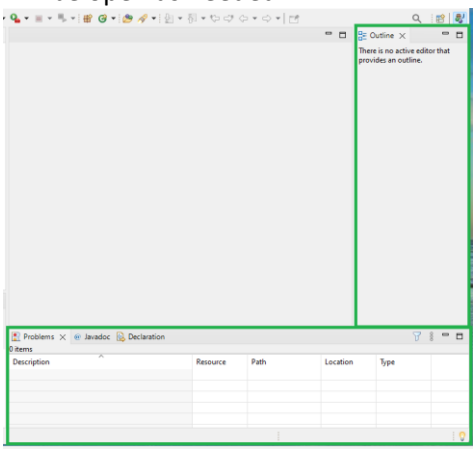
Below this is the program’s quick access menu bar.



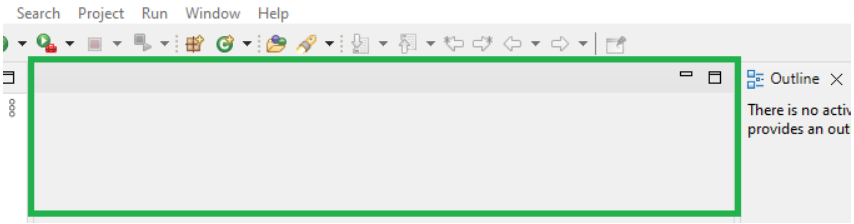
A “Package Explorer” area which will look different after creating the first project. This area will show all project loaded in the Spring Tool Suite 4 program.



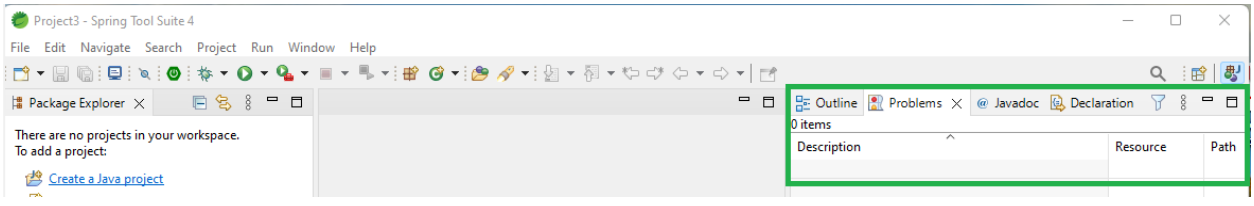
There are information areas with tabs for various views. The two area can be combined to conserve space and enlarge other areas. Combining the areas is done by dragging and dropping into the other. My preference is to combine the bottom area with the “Outline” area. Additional tabs, like “Console” will be open as needed.



The center area is where files will be open for editing.



As mentioned before, certain areas can be moved around. Here the bottom area where the “Problems” and other tabs were shown is combined with the “Outline” tab area.



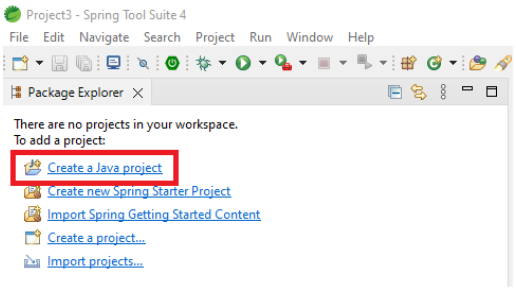
Other program area will be discussed when used.

Spring Tool Suite 4 Program First Program

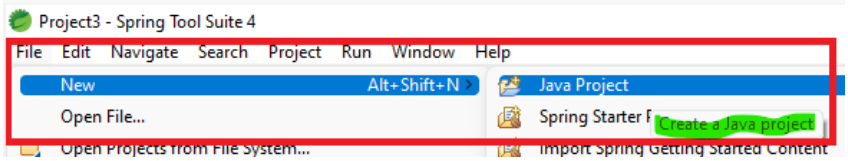
We'll start with a simple classic "Hello World" Java project. Mainly to do some initial configuration to utilize the Java 8 installation libraries.

Create New Java Project Navigation Options

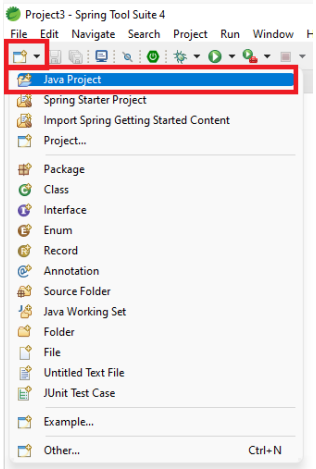
When using Spring Tool Suite 4 for the first time you can select the "Create a Java project" in the "Package Explorer".



Alternatively, and after the first project is created, use the main menu to create Java projects. Select File ➔New ➔ Java Project

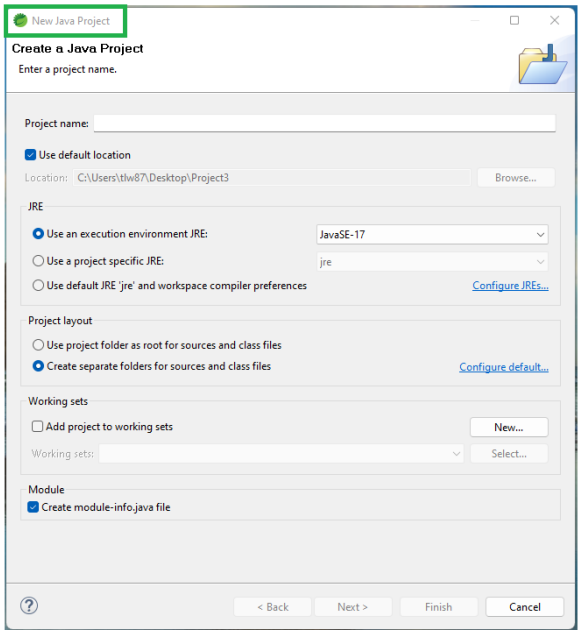


You can also use the "New" icon and select the item to be created. In this case a "Java Project".

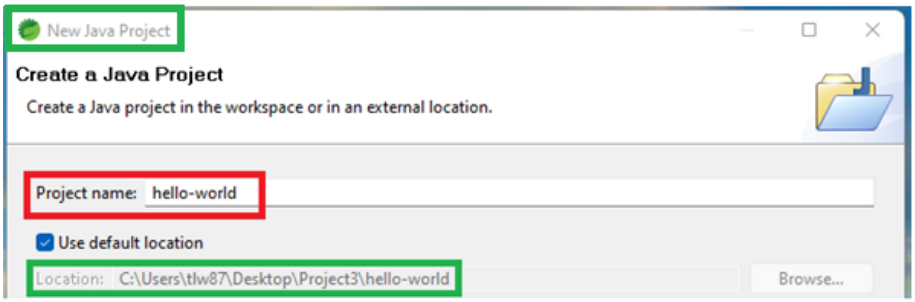


Create “New Java Project” Dialog Window

After selecting the option to create a new Java project, a dialog window opens.



Enter “Project name:” “hello-world”



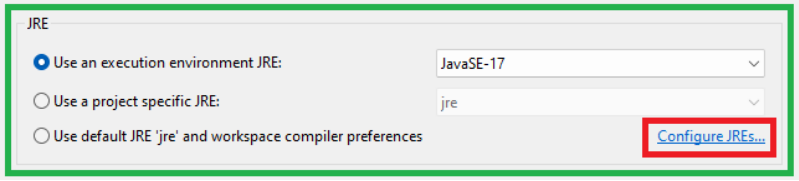
Notice the default workspace location will be used.

Set New Default Java Version for the JDK / JRE

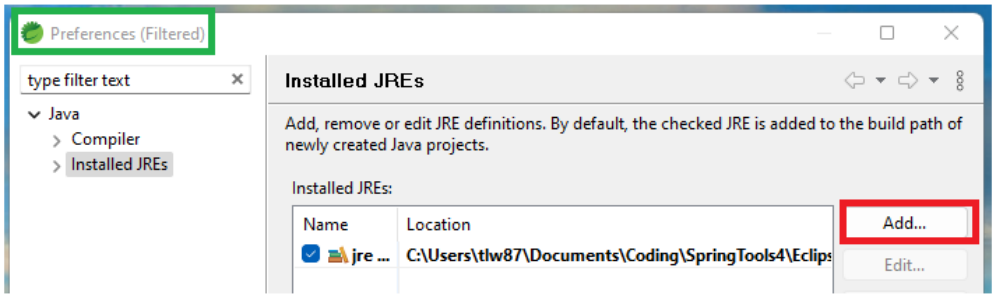
Notice the IDE comes with a version of the JDK / JRE in this case “JavaSE-17”. This will vary depending on the version of the Spring Tool Suite 4 downloaded.

Using the installation document “Environment Setup 02 Java 1.8.docx” we installed a version of Java we want to use. This also can change over time.

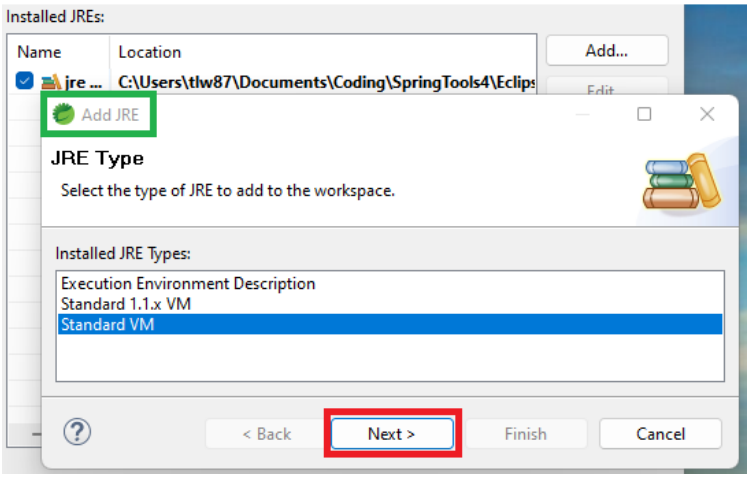
Click the “Configure JREs” link to change the JDK / JRE version to use.



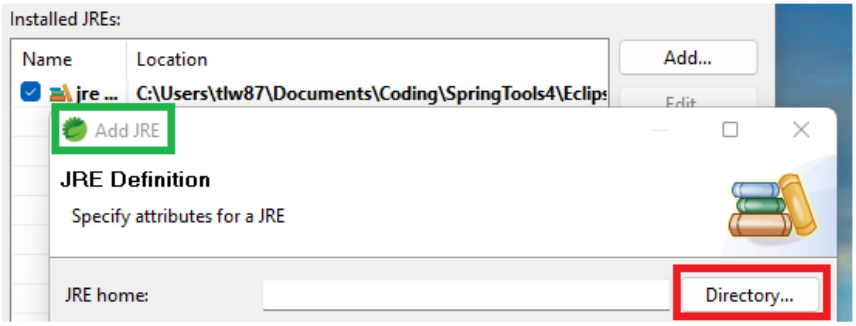
In the “Preference” dialog window, click “Add…”



In the “Add JRE” dialog window.
Click “Next >”



Click “Directory…”

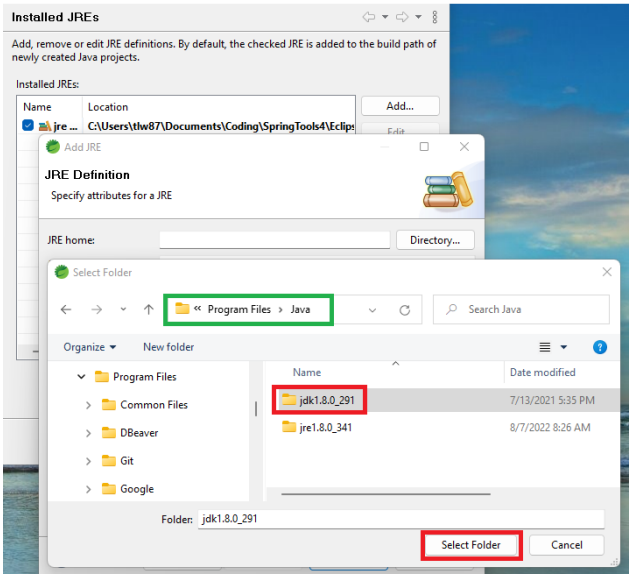


Navigate to where the Java 1.8 files are installed.
Typically, this should be on the C: drive “C:\Program Files\Java”
Select the jdk folder not the jre folder: jdk1.8.0_271

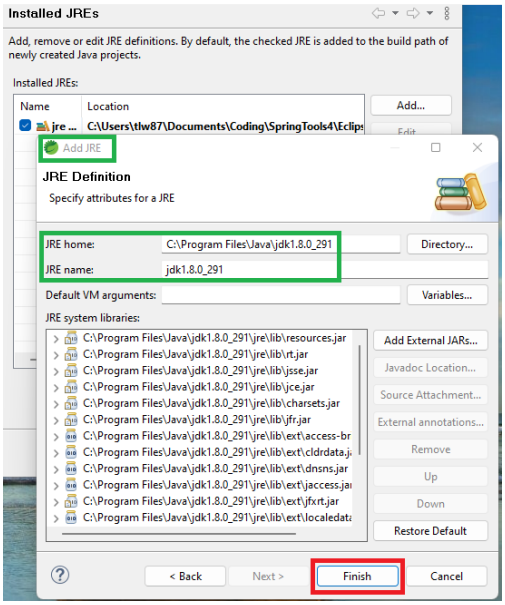
- A jre is included inside the jdk folder

The folder name will vary depending on which version of Java was installed.

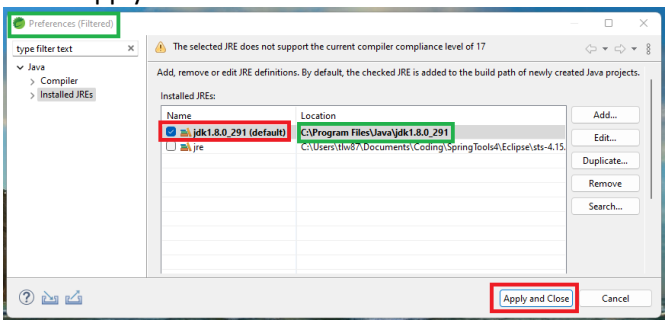
Click “Select Folder”



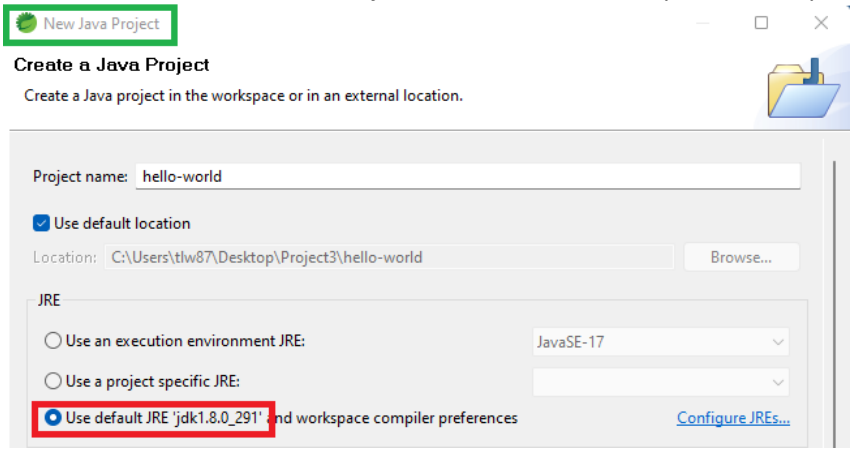
Click “Finish”



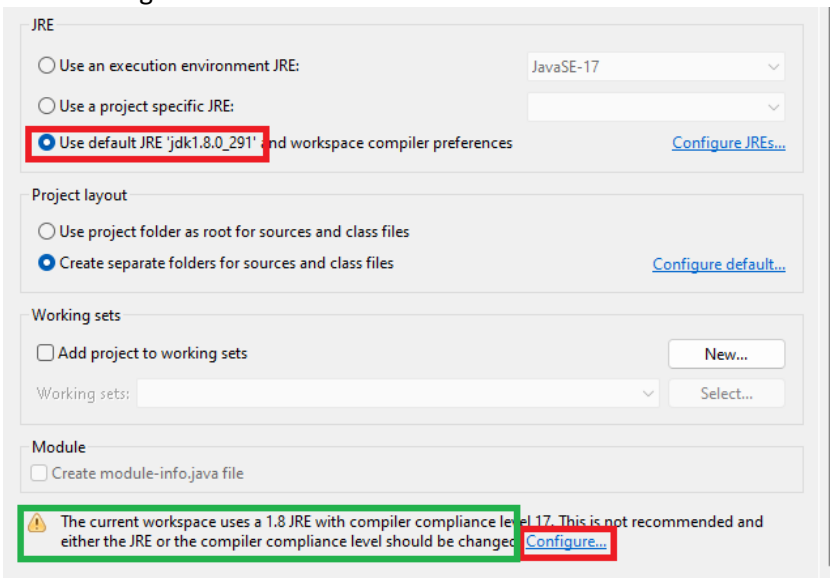
Select the checkbox for the JDK from the previous steps.
Click “Apply and Close”



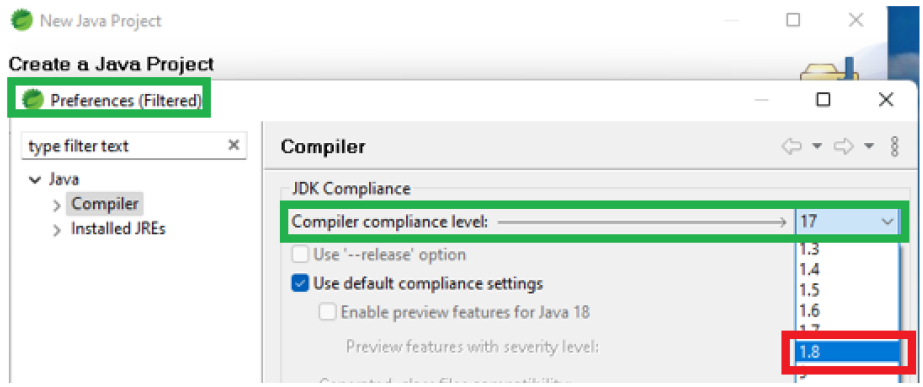
Select the radio button for the jdk 1.8 version from the previous steps.



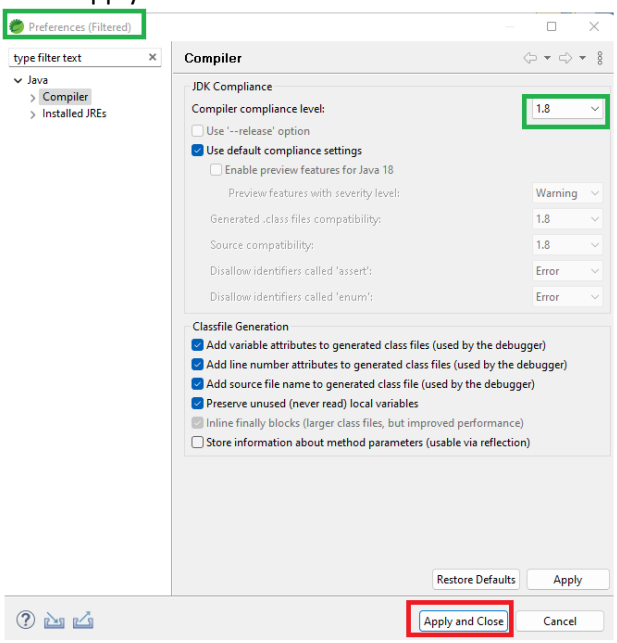
When selecting the radio button to use the new default JDK a warning is shown. Click “Configure…” link.



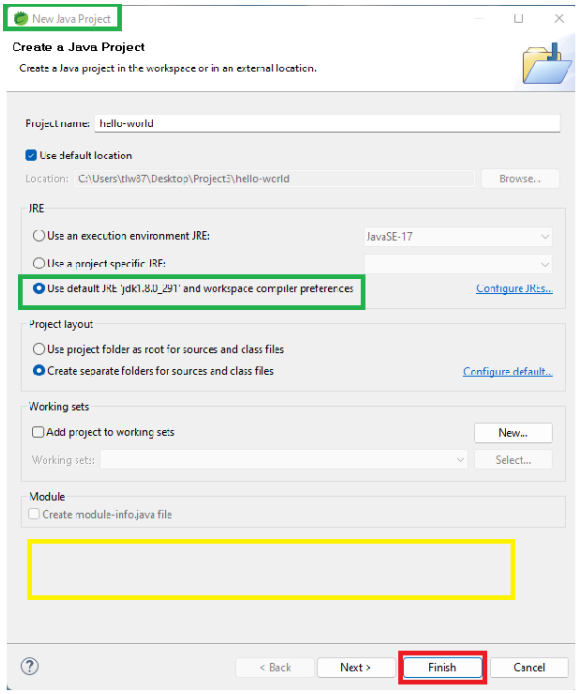
Change the “Compiler compliance level:” to 1.8



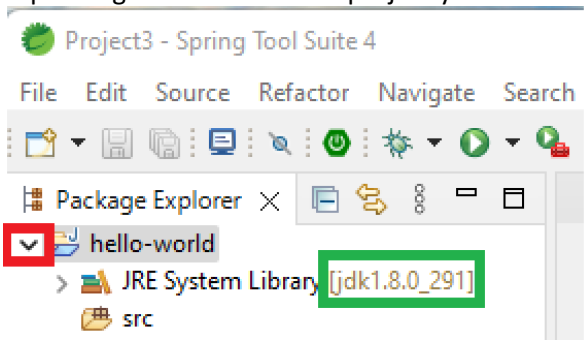
Click “Apply and Close”



The warning message is resolved.
Click “Finish”



Expanding the “hello-world” project you can see the new JDK version

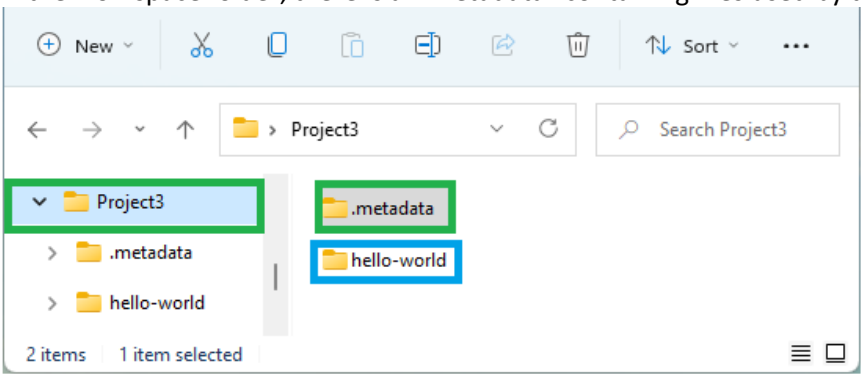


The steps performed in this section “Set New Default Java Version for the JDK / JRE” sets the Java 1.8 JDK / JRE as the default. This means that these steps are not performed again, and any new project will use the default Java 1.8 JDK / JRE.

Continue Spring Tool Suite 4 Program First Program

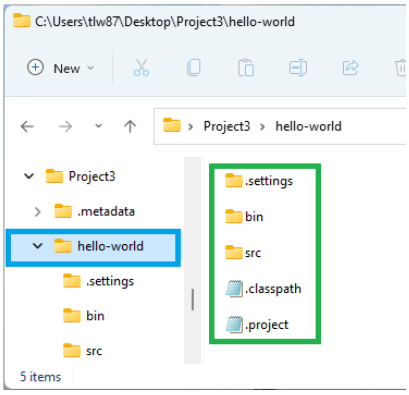
Workspace Folder Description

In the workspace folder, there is a ".metadata" containing files used by the Spring Tool Suite 4 program.



As you create new Java project, they will appear as folders in the workspace.
The "hello-world" project create in the previous step has a folder in the workspace.
The folders will contain all relevant files necessary for your project.
Each project create will have a different project folder and different project files.

The folder for a simple Java project, such as "hello-world" contains Spring Tool Suite 4 items used by the program (.settings folder, .classpath and .project files).

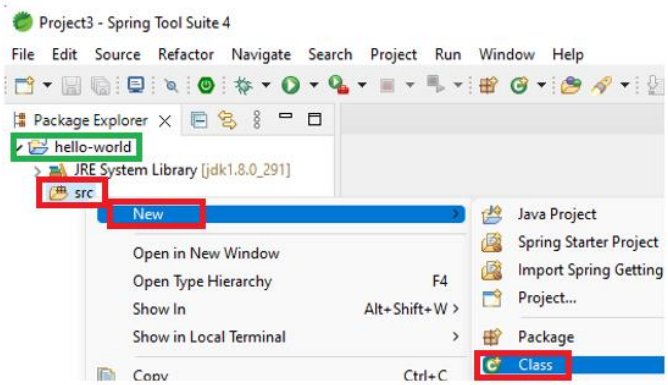


The .classpath file contains information to build the project.
The .project file is Spring Tool Suite 4 specific information concerning the project.
The bin folder will contain the .class files containing the byte code to run the project in the JVM.
The src folder will contain the .java files containing the source code to create the .class files when compiled.

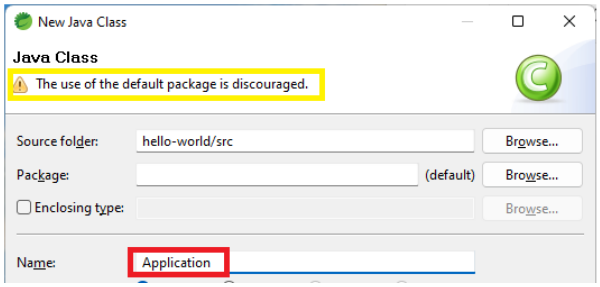
Finish the Java “hello-world” Project

Create a class file

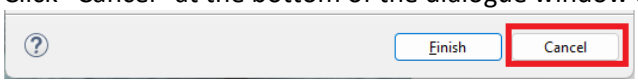
Right click on src folder
Select ➔New ➔Class



Once an “Name” is entered in the “New Java Class” dialog window a warning message is displayed. Best practices require creating packages for storing the source code files. For this simple “hello-world” project it would not really make a difference. But as project created becomes more complex, packages help to organize our source code files with like processing.

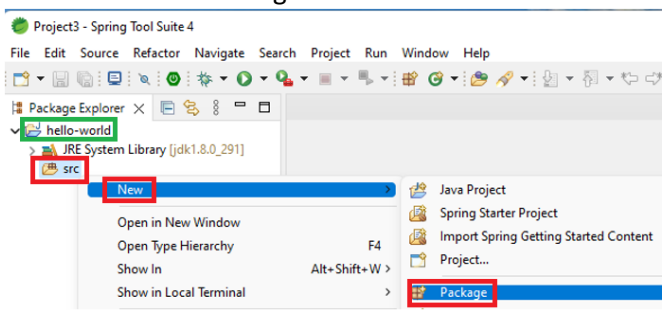


Click “Cancel” at the bottom of the dialogue window and create a package.



Create a package

Right click on src folder
Select ➔New ➔Package

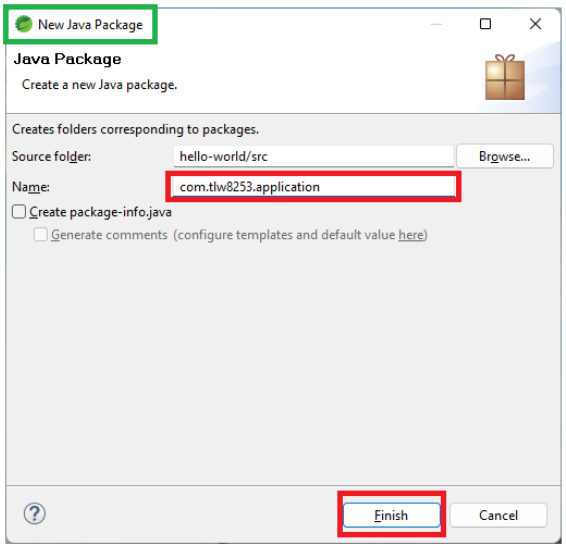


In the “New Java Package” dialogue window enter a package “Name:”
Generally a package name starts with com followed by a company identifier and the package name in the format: com.companyName.packageName.

You can find detail explanation of naming convention at the Oracle site https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/java/package/namingpkgs.html and other web searches.

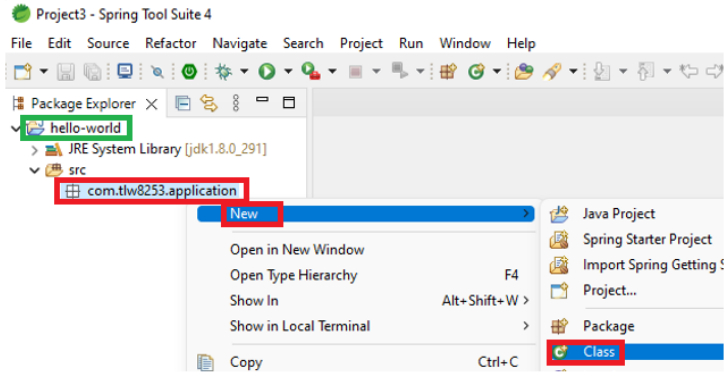
> Naming Conventions
> Package names are written in all lower case to avoid conflict with the names of classes or interfaces.
>
> Companies use their reversed Internet domain name to begin their package names—for example, com.example.mypackage for a package named mypackage created by a programmer at example.com.
>
> Name collisions that occur within a single company need to be handled by convention within that company, perhaps by including the region or the project name after the company name (for example, com.example.region.mypackage). – Oracle site referenced above.

For this example “Name:” com.tlw8253.application
Click “Finish”

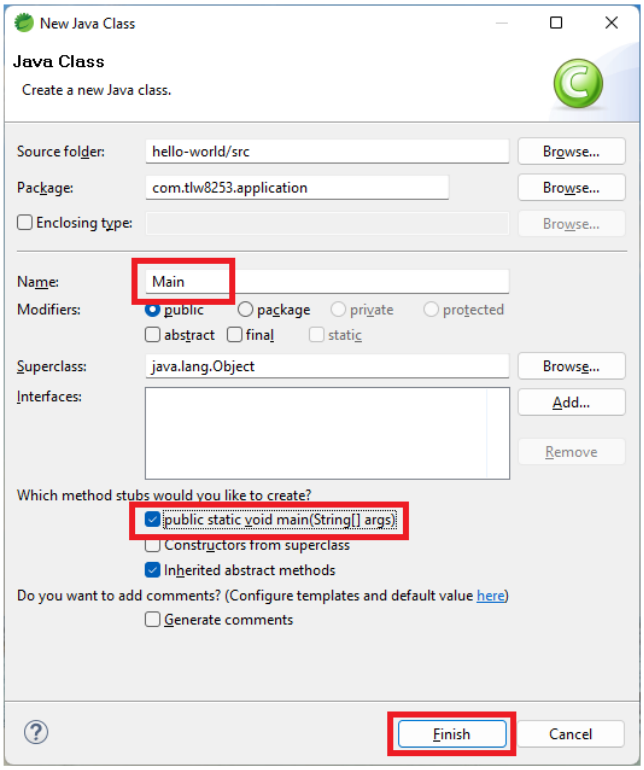


Create a class file in the package

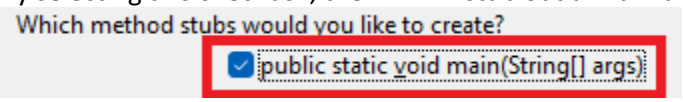
Right click on package created above
Select ➔New ➔Class



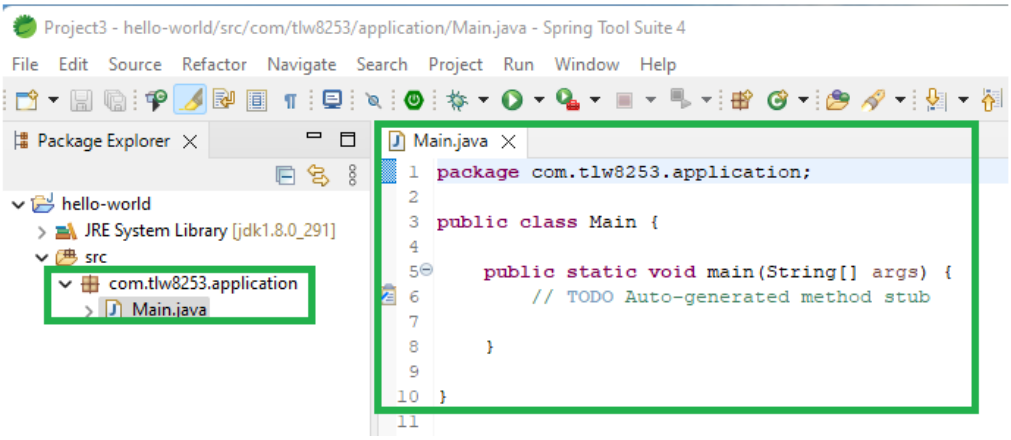
In the “New Class” dialogue window.
Enter a “Name:” “Main”
Select checkbox “public static_void …”
Click “Finish”



By selecting this checkbox, the IDE will stub out an runnable version of a Java program.

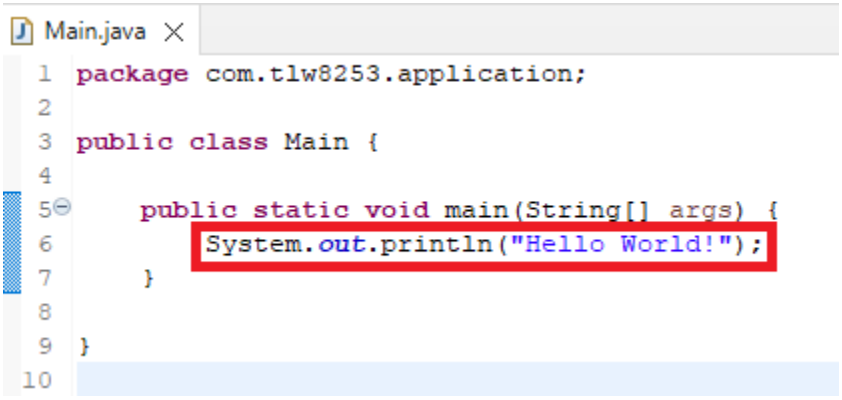


The class “Main.java” is created under the package and is automatically open for editing.



Update the code with a print statement.

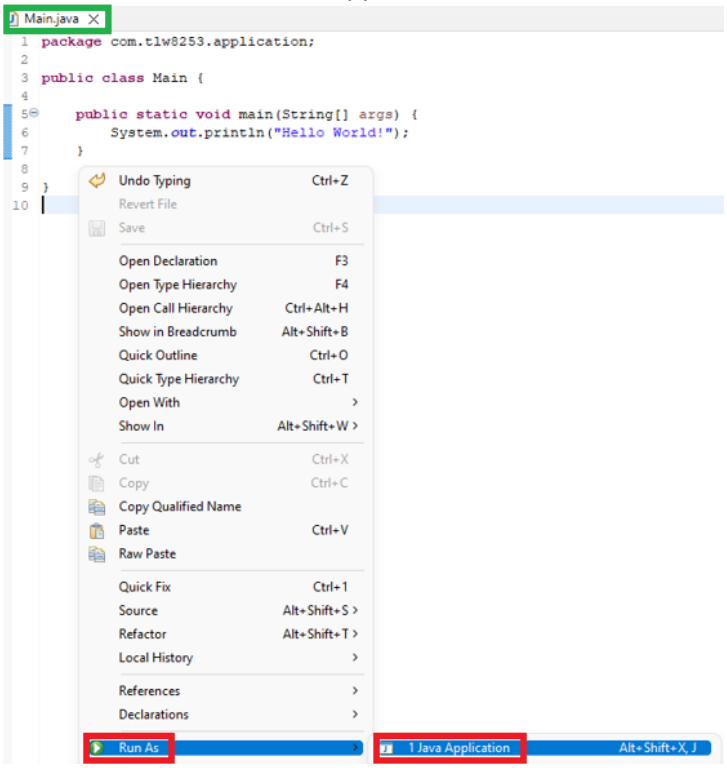
```
System.out.println("Hello World!");
```



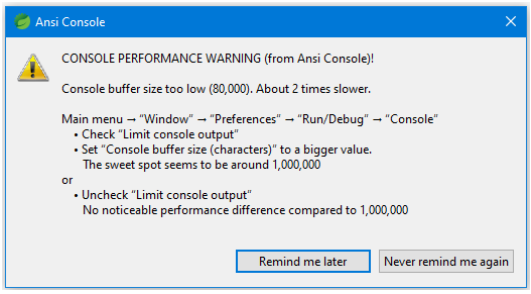
Save the file.

Run the Java "hello-world" application

There are multiple ways to run the application. The simplest is to right-click inside the source code area. Select "Run As" ➔ "1. Java Application"

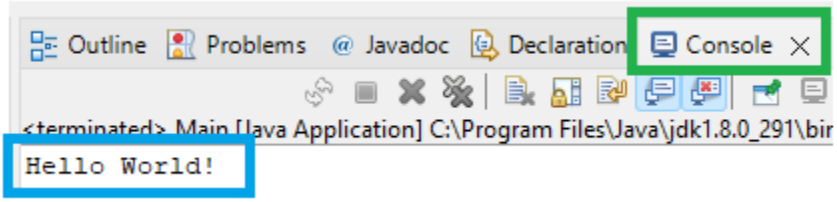


If a warning message concerning buffer size appears, ignore for now and click “Remind me Later”.
The last section in this document will address fixing the issue.



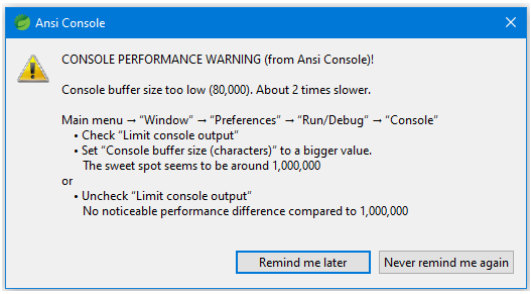
A new tab “Console” appears in the information area next to the other tabs. The location of the information area will vary, but if following the instructions in this document, the areas were combined to the right of the center section.

The console shows the output of the simple “hello-world” application.
In other applications the console will show more information and errors.

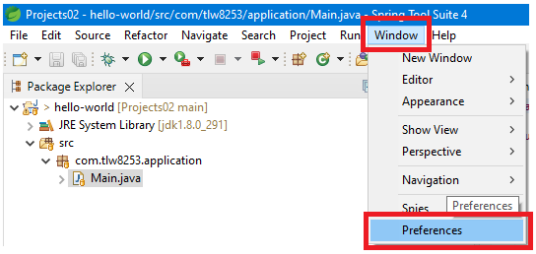


Fix Console Performance Warning

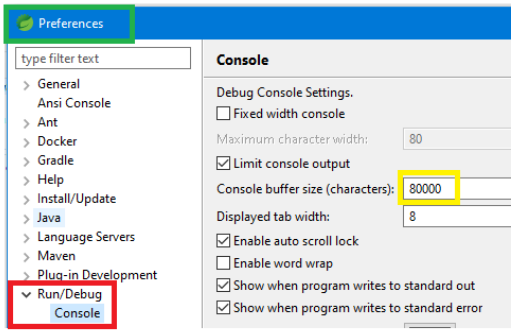
If at any time the following message is seen it can be resolved by following the instructions in the warning. This section also details what the warning message steps to perform.



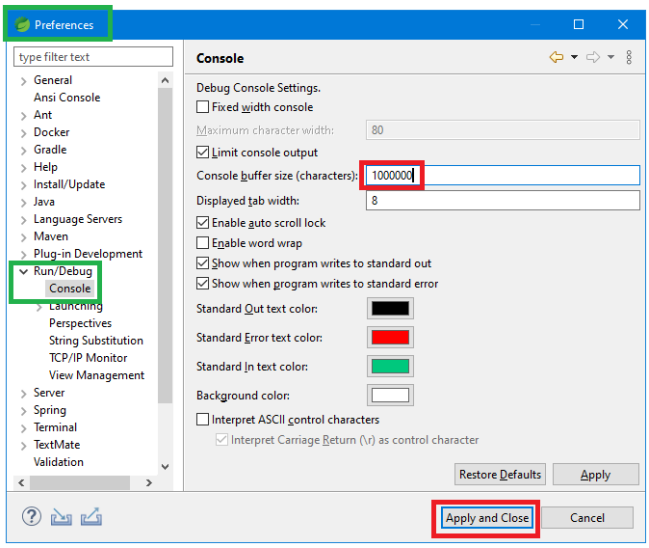
On the Main menu tool bar select "Window ➔ Preferences".



In the "Preferences" dialogue window.
Select "Run/Debug ➔ Console"



Update the current “Console buffer size (characters):” to the size recommended in the warning message: “1000000”.
Click “Apply and Close”.



If the warning is seen in the future, increase the buffer size again.

This concludes the environment setup for the Spring Tool Suite 4.