Maven is a software project management and comprehension tool. Based on the concept of a Project Object Model (POM), Maven can manage project’s build, reporting and documentation from a central piece of information.

Project Object Model has a set of standards, a project lifecycle, a dependency management system, and logic for executing plugin goals at defined phases in a lifecycle.

Maven project directory structure:

└───maven-project

    ├───pom.xml

    ├───README.txt

    ├───NOTICE.txt

    ├───LICENSE.txt

    └───src

        ├───main

        │   ├───java

        │   ├───resources

        │   ├───filters

        │   └───webapp

        ├───test

        │   ├───java

        │   ├───resources

        │   └───filters

Maven Life Cycle:

1. Validate

Validate the project is correct

1. Compile

Compile the source code of the project

1. Test

Test the compiled source code using a unit testing framework

1. Package

Package the compiled code into distributable format, jar in case of java.

1. Integration-test

Deploy the package into an environment where integration test can be run.

1. Install

Install the package into local repository for use as dependency for other projects locally.

1. Deploy

This phase is performed during release environment. Copies the final package to remote repository for sharing with other developers and projects.

Plugin goals can be attached to each lifecycle phase. Maven executes the goals attached to each phase.