**Create an Executable Spring Boot Standalone Application**

**Add a plugin in pom.xml**:

<plugin>

<groupId>org.springframework.boot</groupId>

<artifactId>spring-boot-maven-plugin</artifactId>

</plugin>

**Package up the application into a jar file**:

mvn clean package -DskipTests

**Use launch4j to create the executable file (.exe) with jre bundle**:

1. Create a new directory and copy jre folder to it.
2. Click launch4j.exe to open Launch4j GUI.
3. In Basic tab, specify output exe file location and the application jar file location. Icon can also be specified.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

1. In Header tab, select Console option.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

1. In JRE tab, specify jre directory in JRE paths.

A screenshot of a computer

Description automatically generated

1. Save the configuration as a .xml file and run it by clicking the gear icon. It should generate the standalone application with .exe file extension.

A black text on a white background

Description automatically generated

1. Click the .exe file, it should lunch the application console. The parent directory can be zipped up and deployed as a standalone application with jre bundle.

A screen shot of a computer screen

Description automatically generated

Can also use command line to run launch4j:

launch4j launch4j.xml

If run time arguments need to be specified, create a .ini file in the same directory where the .exe file resides. The ini file's name must correspond to the exe file (myapp.exe: myapp.l4j.ini). Example of contents in the .ini file:

-Dspring.config.location=classpath:/application.properties

-Dserver.port=8081

Launch4j:

<https://launch4j.sourceforge.net/>