



Build Tools

Optimizing the Build Process

Randy J. Fortier
randy.fortier@uoit.ca
[@randy_fortier](https://twitter.com/randy_fortier)

Outline

- What are build tools?
- What can build tools do for me?
- An introduction to Gradle
- Incorporating 3rd party tools into the build cycle



Build Tools

What are build tools?

Why use build tools?

Build Tools

- A build tool is a software package that automates the build process
 - Make
 - Rake
 - Ant, NAnt
 - Maven
 - Grunt
 - Gradle

make

makefile:

```
all: prog lib1 lib2
```

```
prog:
```

```
    g++ -Wall prog.cpp -o prog
```

```
lib1:
```

```
    g++ -Wall lib1.cpp -o lib1.o
```

```
lib2:
```

```
    g++ -Wall lib2.cpp -o lib2.o
```

Rake

rakefile:

```
file 'prog' => 'prog.cpp' do
  sh 'g++ -Wall prog.cpp -o prog'
end
file 'lib1.o' => 'lib1.cpp' do
  sh 'g++ -Wall lib1.cpp -o lib1.o'
end
file 'lib2.o' => 'lib2.cpp' do
  sh 'g++ -Wall lib2.cpp -o lib2.o'
end
```

Ant

build.xml:

```
<project>
  <target name="compile">
    <javac srcdir="src" destdir="build/classes"/>
  </target>
  <target name="jar">
    <mkdir dir="build/jar"/>
    <jar destfile="build/jar/MyApp.jar" basedir="build/classes">
      <manifest>
        <attribute name="Main-Class" value="pkg.MainApp" />
      </manifest>
    </jar>
  </target>
  <target name="run">
    <java jar="build/jar/MyApp.jar" fork="true" />
  </target>
</project>
```

Maven

- Maven is quite a different build tool than make, rake, and ant
 - It handles libraries/dependencies
- Maven keeps track of a large repository of libraries that you can link to and use in your application
 - Dependencies are downloaded automatically
 - It is declarative, rather than imperative
 - We don't necessarily declare the steps to do something, just declare that we want it done

Maven

pom.xml:

```
<project xmlns="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="http://maven.apache.org/POM/4.0.0
    http://maven.apache.org/xsd/maven-4.0.0.xsd">
  <modelVersion>4.0.0</modelVersion>
  <groupId>ca.uoit.myApp</groupId>
  <artifactId>myApp</artifactId>
  <version>1.0</version>
  <packaging>jar</packaging>
  <dependencies>
    <dependency>
      <groupId>junit</groupId>
      <artifactId>junit</artifactId>
      <version>4.10.0</version>
      <scope>test</scope>
    </dependency>
  </dependencies>
```

Maven Projects

- The pom.xml is called the Project Object Model
- The directory structure of your project should match:

```
myApp
  pom.xml
  src
    main
      java
    test
      java
```

Grunt

- Declarative 'build' tool (like Maven)
 - Dependency management (e.g. libraries)
 - Automated tasks
- Used in Node.js projects (server-side JavaScript)

```
module.exports = function(grunt) {  
  
  grunt.initConfig({  
    jshint: {  
      files: ['Gruntfile.js', 'src/**/*.js', 'test/**/*.js'],  
      options: {  
        globals: {  
          jQuery: true  
        }  
      }  
    },  
    watch: {  
      files: ['<%= jshint.files %>'],  
      tasks: ['jshint']  
    }  
  });  
};
```

Bower

- Declarative 'build' tool (like Maven)
 - Dependency management
 - Automated tasks
- Client-side JavaScript

```
{  
  "name": "myApp",  
  "version": "1.0.0",  
  "dependencies": {  
    "jquery": "~2.1.4"  
  },  
  "private": true  
}
```



Build Tools

Gradle Basics

Gradle

- Gradle combines the best of Ant and Maven into a single tool:
 - The ability to create your own tasks (Ant)
 - The management of dependencies (Maven)
 - A declarative syntax (Maven)

Gradle

- Gradle also other advantages:
 - It doesn't use the cumbersome XML syntax that Ant and Maven use
 - Instead, Gradle uses Groovy
 - Groovy is a programming language, inspired by Java
 - Groovy is compiled into bytecodes, and can be run in the JVM
 - Writing custom tasks is easy

Imperative vs. Declarative

- Imperative:
 1. Clean project
 2. Compile source code
 3. Put distribution into an archive
 4. ...
- Declarative:
 - Here is what I want to do

Gradle Projects

- The directory structure is identical to a Maven project:

```
myApp
  build.gradle
  src
    main
      java
    test
      java
```

Gradle Files

- settings.gradle
 - This file is optional
 - Properties (e.g. project name)
- gradle.build
 - Custom build tasks
 - Import plug-ins
 - Dependencies

Custom Tasks

- Defining a task occurs in a Groovy closure (basically, a function):

```
task(sayHello) {  
    doLast {  
        println "Hello from a custom task!"  
    }  
}
```

Dependent Tasks

- Tasks can require that other tasks be executed, first:

```
task(sayHello) {
  doLast {
    println "Hello from a custom task!"
  }
}

task(howAreYou, dependsOn: 'sayHello') {
  doLast {
    println "How are you?"
  }
}
```

Dependencies

- Any libraries your project needs are called dependencies
- Like Maven, Gradle manages those dependencies for you
 - Gradle can even use Maven's repository, Maven Central
- This build script declares a dependency on Apache's Commons Validator

```
repositories {
    mavenCentral()
}

dependencies {
    compile group: 'commons-validator',
            name: 'commons-validator',
            version: '1.4.1'
}
```

Plug-ins

- Gradle has many useful plug-ins:
 - java
 - android
 - scala
 - groovy

```
apply plugin: 'java'
```

The 'java' Plug-in

- The 'java' plug-in adds several tasks:
 - `classes`: Generates classfiles
 - `jar`: Creates a JAR file
 - `javadoc`: Generate Javadoc documentation from source files

```
$ gradle classes
:compileJava UP-TO-DATE
:processResources UP-TO-DATE
:classes UP-TO-DATE
```

```
BUILD SUCCESSFUL
```

```
Total time: 3.913 secs
```

Configuring Tasks

- Let's customize the 'jar' task that comes with the 'java' plug-in:

```
sourceCompatibility = 1.7
version = '1.0'
jar {
    manifest {
        attributes 'Main-Class': 'Test',
                  'Implementation-Title': 'Sample-Gradle',
                  'Implementation-Version': version
    }
}
```


Task Types

- Tasks can also be assigned types
 - Task types indicate what Java class (if any) should implement the task
 - Task types, therefore, have an effect similar to inheritance

```
task(run, dependsOn: 'classes', type: JavaExec) {  
    main = 'Test'  
    classpath = sourceSets.main.runtimeClasspath  
}
```

Configuration

- Normally, goes in settings.gradle
- Can also put settings in gradle.properties

```
rootProject.name = 'Sample-Gradle'
```



Build Tools

Integrating external tools into the build

Minification and Obfuscation

- Minification
 - Reduces the size of generated classfiles
- Obfuscation
 - Changes variable/function names to make the code harder to read if decompiled

ProGuard

- Use ProGuard within Gradle:

```
buildscript {
    repositories {
        flatDir dirs: 'C:/Dev/proguard5.2.1/lib'
    }
    dependencies {
        classpath ':proguard'
    }
}

task (minify, dependsOn: 'jar', type: proguard.gradle.ProGuardTask)
    configuration 'proguard.cfg'

    injars 'build/libs/Sample-Gradle-1.0.jar'
    outjars 'build/libs/Sample-Gradle-1.0.min.jar'
}
```

ProGuard

- Configure ProGuard:

```
-libraryjars <java.home>/lib/rt.jar
-printmapping sample_gradle.map
-keep public class myapp.Test {
    public static void main(java.lang.String[]);
}
-keep public class myapp.data.Message { *; }
-dontwarn
```

Wrap-Up

- In this section, we learned about:
 - What build tools are, and why should we use them
 - How to implement a Gradle build for a Java project
 - How to use external tools within our build:
 - e.g. obfuscation