

Re: Recommendations for Free/Cheap GUI-builder/RAD tool for Java Swing

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.softwaretools/2003-12/0091.html>

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"E.Otter" <no-email@given.com> wrote:

> *Preferably one that supports j2se 1.3+. Not new to java development, but
> time and money is a major constraint. Mainly for application development.*

>

> *Thanks,*

> *E.Otter*

>

Netbeans (www.netbeans.org) is free and Open Source. I think you will find it the best choice. Borland JBuilder Personal Edition (<http://www.borland.com/jbuilder/personal/index.html>) is also free (or \$10.00 if you want it on CD). Oracle's JDeveloper (<http://otn.oracle.com/products/jdev/content.html>) is free but the license severely restricts what you can do with programs you write if you do not pay for it.

Eclipse (www.eclipse.org) is a popular Open Source IDE and there are free plug-ins like http://www.assisiplugins.com/index_start.html and <http://www.eclipse.org/vcp/> that provide limited WYSIWYG GUI development.

Sun One Studio 4 Community Edition, which is derived from Netbeans, is still available, without charge, from

<http://jsecom16d.sun.com/ECom/EComActionServlet?StoreId=8&PartDetailId=FJCI9-401-TL9M&TransactionId=tr>

but has been superseded by Studio 5. Sun suggest you use Netbeans if you want a free version. IBM has a free version of Visual Age for Java at

<http://www7.software.ibm.com/vad.nsf/FrameData/Master?OpenDocument&FSet=1&Doc3=4589&Title=Overview&...>

It has a limit on the number of classes in your application and, in any case, has been superseded by Websphere Studio Application Developer (<http://www-3.ibm.com/software/awdtools/studioappdev/>).

Websphere is not free but a sixty day trial is available.

I believe that this is a complete list of free Java IDE's that include a WYSIWYG GUI builder and contains references to all the commercial

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vendors of such a product. Please submit a follow-up if you have a correction.