

The standard way to distribute Java programs is with a Java Archive (JAR) file, which is what you must use to hand in your Java projects. Here is how you would do it with the “Hello, world!” example from the Setup for NetBeans handout.

1. Test your project to make sure that it compiles. You get zero credit if your project does not at least compile.
2. The default configuration for NetBeans is to only include the `.class` files in the JAR file. For your project to be graded, however, you must also include the `.java` source files. To create a JAR file with source files for the above Hello project, first make sure the Project tab is selected. Right click the Hello project node and select Properties from the contextual menu.
3. In the Project Properties window, select Categories: Build → Packaging.
4. In the entry Exclude from JAR file: should be the String

```
**/*.java,**/*.form
```

The first item in the string tells NetBeans to exclude the `.java` file from the JAR file. Edit the string by removing the first item including the comma as follows:

```
**/*.form
```

Click OK.

5. Select the NetBeans command Run → Clean and Build Project on the main menu, or, equivalently, click the hammer-and-broom icon on the tool bar. Making a clean build of the project also creates a JAR file for distribution. NetBeans creates a new folder named `dist` for distribution, and puts the JAR file in it.
6. The JAR file has the following path:

```
Hello/dist/Hello.jar
```

The file `Hello.jar` is the one you would hand in electronically.