

ArgoUML Quick Guide

Get started with ArgoUML 0.14

by Kunle Odutola, Anthony Oguntimehin, and Linus Tolke

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction	
1.1. Welcome to ArgoUML	1
1.2. About this guide...	1
2. Installing ArgoUML	
2.1. System requirements	2
2.2. Installation options	2
2.3. Making .zargo-file clickable (on Windows)	3
3. Running ArgoUML	
3.1. The window	4

Chapter 1. Introduction

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1.1. Welcome to ArgoUML

ArgoUML is a powerful yet easy-to-use interactive, graphical software design environment that supports the design, development and documentation of object-oriented software applications.

If you are familiar with a family of software applications called Computer Aided Software Engineering (CASE) tools then you should find ArgoUML instantly familiar.

The users of ArgoUML are software designers & architects, software developers, business analysts, systems analysts and other professionals involved in the analysis, design and development of software applications. Main features:

- Open standards: XMI, SVG and PGML
- 100% Java
- Open Source allows to extend or customize it.
- Cognitive features like: reflection-in-action, opportunistic design, comprehension and problem solving

1.2. About this guide...

This guide - the ArgoUML Quick Guide - is provided to help you get up and running as quickly as possible with ArgoUML. It provides step-by-step instructions for obtaining, installing and starting ArgoUML, performing common tasks, and learn more about ArgoUML. If you need further details please look in the User Manual [<http://argouml.tigris.org/documentation/defaulthtml/manual/>].

Chapter 2. Installing ArgoUML

2.1. System requirements

Minimum system requirements:

- Any OS that supports Java2
- 200MHz Intel Pentium, AMD K6 or similar processor
- 64MB (128MB for Windows 2000) RAM
- 10MB of free disk storage space on your hard disk
- SVGA video output and monitor
- Mouse (or other pointing device) and a Keyboard
- Java 2 JRE or JDK version 1.3 or 1.4.

2.2. Installation options

Now that you have a computer that can install and run ArgoUML effectively, you need to decide which of the installation options available is appropriate for you. You can choose from the following options:

- Java Web Start

This alternative is good for occasional users and tests. It is the easiest and quickest way to start using ArgoUML. It requires connection to the ArgoUML homepage [<http://www.argouml.org/>].

1. Make sure you have Java Web Start [<http://java.sun.com/products/javawebstart/>] installed.
2. Follow the Launch ArgoUML-link from the ArgoUML homepage [<http://www.argouml.org/>].
3. ArgoUML will be downloaded, cached locally and started.
4. On subsequent starts, the ArgoUML is available also from the Java Web Start console and at each start the version is checked against that on the web server and updates are automatically downloaded.

- Binary distribution

This is good for regular users and guarantees that the version of ArgoUML cannot change during the course of your project.

1. Make sure that you have a Java 2 JRE installed.
2. Download the ArgoUML binary distribution from the ArgoUML homepage [<http://www.argouml.org/>].

This could also include copying it to and from floppy disks or CD:s in order to get it to the computer if no network connection is available.

3. Create an ArgoUML installation directory.
4. Change the current directory to the ArgoUML installation directory and extract the ArgoUML files to the installation directory: `jar xvf ArgoUML-archive-filename`

Remember to use **jar** to do this. For some odd reason WinZIP might have problems with the ArgoUML zip-files.
5. Start by running the `argouml.jar` file. `java -jar argouml.jar`

2.3. Making .zargo-file clickable (on Windows)

Ewan R. Grantham

This works only if you have installed using the binary distribution.

First, find a Zargo file, and right-click on it. You should get the normal Windows menu, including an Open or Open With option. At this point, give a description for the file like "ArgoUML Model", and tell Windows to use Notepad to open the file. That's not what you want to do ultimately, but it does get Windows to accept the .zargo extension as representing a valid file type.

Now, open Windows Explorer and from the menu select View->Options. You should get a two (or more) tabbed dialog. Click the "File Types" dialog, and then scroll through the list for the Description you gave - in the example "ArgoUML Model". Click to select that file type, and then click the "Edit" button.

Now, click on the "Open" action and then the "Edit" button there. You will then get a dialog that has a line for entering in the application action which will have a line for using Notepad to open the file. Replace that line with:
"C:\Program Files\Java\j2re1.4.0_01\bin\javaw.exe" -jar "c:\ArgoUML-0.10\argouml.jar" "%1"

Substitute your path to your JavaW.exe and ArgoUML.jar files if they aren't where I have them. Click OK, then click OK, then click OK (three buttons on three different levels of the dialog).

Chapter 3. Running ArgoUML

ArgoUML contains one model that you can examine and modify.

Commands are available from the menus and by right-clicking on the objects either in the list of objects or in the diagram. The commands available from the objects work on these objects.

Some commands for creating and drawing are available from the icon bars over the diagrams.

3.1. The window

At the top there is a menu bar with commands available. In the file menu you can store the model or open another model instead.

The upper left part of ArgoUML lists the diagrams and objects of the model in one of several views.

The upper right part of ArgoUML shows one diagram at the time. You can work with the objects in the diagrams, dragging and dropping and using the quick-links to create new objects connected to the already present objects.

The lower right part you contains various details of various objects of the model. You select the object in one of the upper levels and choose what details you want to examine using the tabs.

The lower left part contains a list of all ToDo items for this model.