Javadocs

Javadoc is a tool built into the JDk that automatically generates nicely formatted web pages of documentation from your source code. The javadoc tool uses a special form of comments built into your code. You should add javadoc comments for all class definitions and method definitions.

Writing Javadoc

1. All methods and classes should be preceded with javadoc comments that start with /** and end with */ (this makes it a javadoc comments and not just a regular block comment.

2. The first sentence of the comment should be one summary sentence, ending in a period. This will be the main descriptor on the resulting html page of documentation.

3. You can use HTML tags, such as <p> for paragraph, <code> </code> for formatted code snippets, <b> </b> for bold text, <pre> </pre> for multi-line pre-formatted snippets, and more.

4. After the description, you should include:

   (a) for classes, the tags
   @author with your name/email
   @version #.#

   (b) for methods, the tags
   @param variable_1 description_of_variable_1
   @param variable_2 description_of_variable_2
   @return description_of_return_data

The full documentation for javadoc is at http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/documentation/index-137868.html

Generating Javadoc

From the command line: type javadoc YourClass.java and the html files (lots of them) will be generated.

From eclipse: click on Project->Generate javadoc. This generates documentation in a folder named doc within your project folder. You can then open this documentation in a web browser.