HOW THINGS WORK IN JAVA

You write the actual code for your programmes in a text editor. The code is called source code and is saved with the file extension `.java`. A programme called `Javac` is then used to turn the source code into Java Byte Code. This is known as *compiling*. After `Javac` has finished compiling the Java Byte Code, it creates a new file with the extension `.class`. Once the class file has been created, it can be run on the Java Virtual Machine. Therefore:

- Create source code with the extension .java
- Use Javac to create (compile) a file ending in .class
- Run the compiled class

Note: with the NetBeans IDE you don't have to do all these as it does it for you behind the scene.