

## Running Applets in the Java Plug-In

NOTE: This supplemental material may be used at the end of Chapter 12, "Applets and Advanced Graphics."

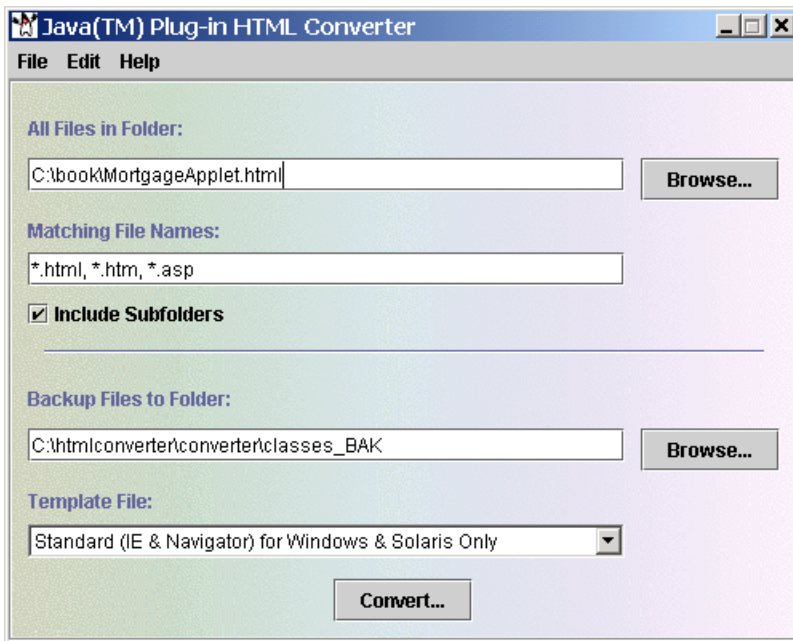
When Java was first introduced in 1995, the only Web browser for viewing Java applets was the HotJava browser by Sun. Netscape quickly updated Navigator 2 to support JDK 1.0. Microsoft followed suit to support JDK 1.0 in Internet Explorer 3. As Java rapidly evolves, browser vendors are falling behind in their effort to keep up with Java updates. Consequently, your Java applets may not be viewable on certain Web browsers. To address this problem, Sun introduced the Java Plug-In technology, which can be installed in browsers so that applets can be viewed consistently on any platform.

NOTE: At present, Netscape 6 supports Java 2. To view Java applets on Netscape 4.x or on Internet Explorer, you have to use Java Plug-In.

To use the Java Plug-In, you have to convert your simple HTML file that uses the `<applet>` tag to a rather complex HTML file that uses the `<object>` tag, using the Java Plug-in HTML Converter supplied by JavaSoft. The converter is packaged in a compressed file named `htmlconv1_3.zip`, which can be downloaded from

**[www.javasoft.com/products/plugin/1.3/converter.html](http://www.javasoft.com/products/plugin/1.3/converter.html)**

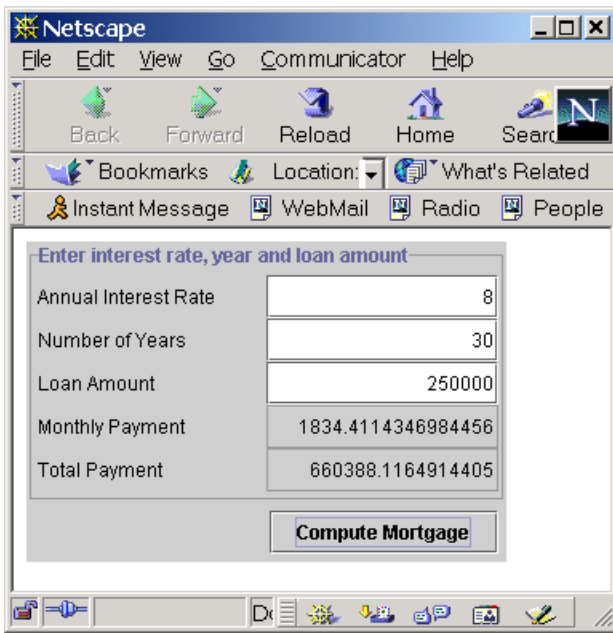
To install the converter, unzip `htmlconv1_3.zip` and save the files in a directory. To use the converter, change the directory to where the `HTMLConvert.class` is located and type **`java HTMLConverter`** at the DOS prompt to display a window titled "Java Plug-in HTML Converter," as shown in Figure 12.4. Specify the folder for the HTML files, and select an appropriate conversion template in the Template File text field, as shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1**

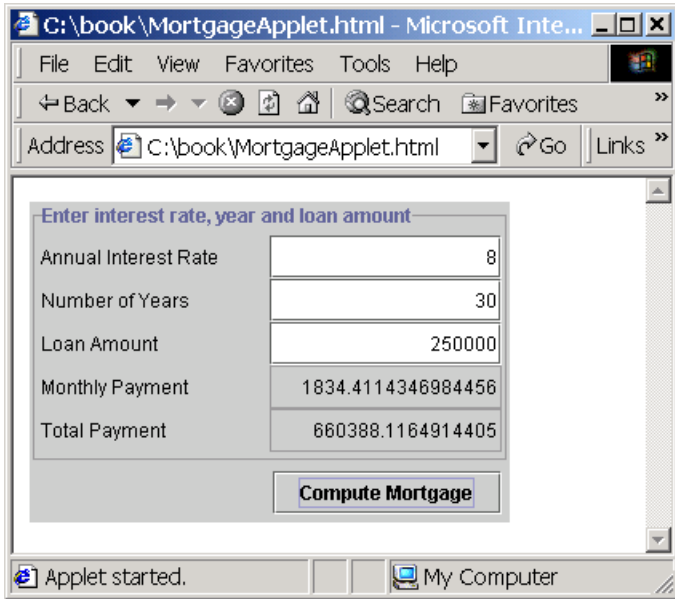
*The HTML converter translates a simple HTML file to one that uses the Java Plug-In.*

Press the Convert button to process the conversion. The generated HTML file contains the script that prompts you to download and install the Java Plug-In if it is not installed on your machine. You can run it from Netscape or Internet Explorer. Figures 2 and 3 are sample runs of the MortgageApplet running on Netscape and Internet Explorer.



**Figure 2**

*The MortgageApplet runs on Netscape using the Java Plug-In.*



**Figure 3**

*The MortgageApplet runs on Internet Explorer using the Java Plug-In.*

NOTE: If you installed JDK 1.3, the Java Plug-In is also installed.

NOTE: The HTML converter is buggy. If you encountered problems, or your HTML files are not converted, please remove all nonessential contents from the HTML, and retain the contents that begin with <applet> and end with </applet>.