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Creating a Perspective

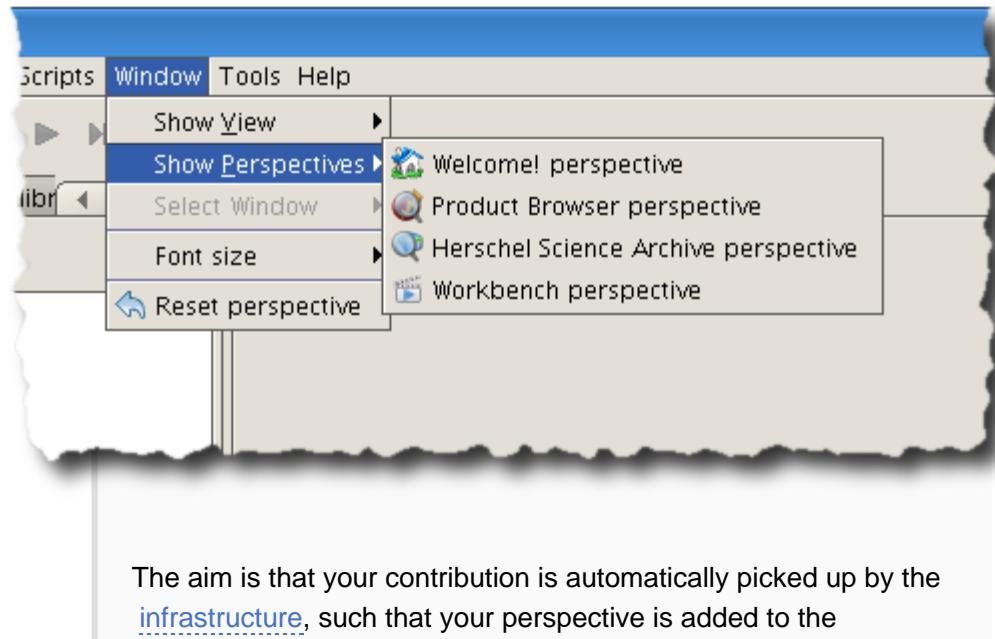
If you think that a set of (new) [views](#) should be presented in standard layout, you can do so by creating a new perspective. Such a perspective defines how these views are laid out in tabs and split panes. This section briefly explains how to contribute a new perspective.

See also the [overview](#) page.

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Basic Steps



perspective menu, as shown in the picture on the right.

To make this happen, you will have to:

- Implement the [Perspective](#) interface.
- Register your implementation to the [Extension Registry](#) in the *init.py* file.

For your convenience an abstract implementation exists ([AbstractPerspective](#)); it allows you to concentrate on implementing one method only:

```
public abstract class AbstractPerspective implements Perspective {

    public abstract SitePart doLayout(SitePartBuilder builder);

}
```

Construction items

[SitePart](#) objects are the building blocks of a perspective. The following flavours are available:

- [ViewPart](#): normal views.
- [EditorArea](#): the editor area.
- [SplitPart](#): two windows with a movable split.
- [TabbedPart](#): several windows organized into tabs.

Access to the views, editor area or creation of the tab and split layout containers are all through the [SitePartBuilder](#) interface:

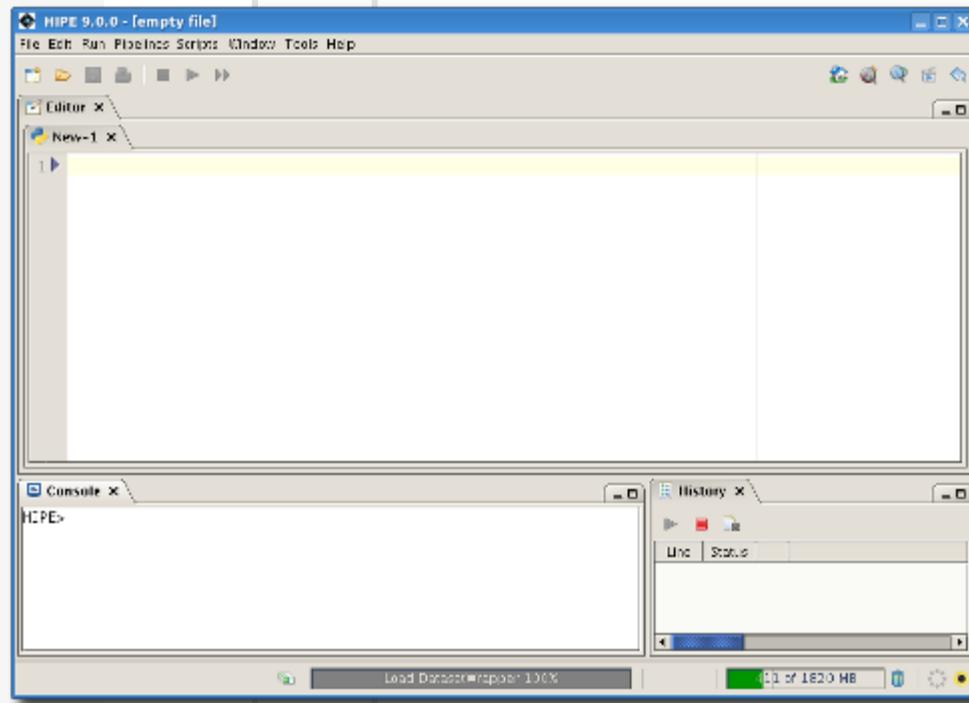
```
public interface SitePartBuilder {
    ViewPartManager getViewManager();
    TabbedPart buildTabs(SitePart... parts);
    SplitPart buildSplit(float split, boolean horizontal,
    SitePart lhs, SitePart rhs);
}
```

Example

The above is explained by an example in which we are going to create a simple perspective with just three views. Next we are going to register it to [HIPE](#).

Implementation

The implementation below is made of three views: *Editor*, *Console* and *History*.







The above code is divided into three stages:

- Getting hold of the views you are interested in. This is done by asking the builder for the view manager. Then you grab existing views either by *title* or by a view's unique *identifier*.
- Creation of split panes that hold the views. First we create the bottom part (*console* and *history*), and then split the window into a top part (being the *editor area*) and the bottom part we just created.

The last part is returning the created site part.

Registry

The following snippet, could then go into your `__init__.py`:

```
REGISTRY.register(PERSPECTIVE, Extension(
    "site.perspective.mysimple",
    # a unique ID

    "resides.in.java.package.MySimplePerspective"
    # the above implementation
    "My Simple",
    # how it should be called in the
    menu
    None
    # possible icon (none here)
))
```

See also the [Extension Registry](#) documentation for more details.

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