

Java Overview

Java programming language was originally developed by Sun Microsystems which was initiated by James

Gosling and released in 1995 as core component of Sun Microsystems' Java platform (Java 1.0 [J2SE]).

As of December 2008, the latest release of the Java Standard Edition is 6 (J2SE). With the advancement of Java and its widespread popularity, multiple configurations were built to suite various types of platforms. Ex: J2EE for Enterprise Applications, J2ME for Mobile Applications.

Sun Microsystems has renamed the new J2 versions as Java SE, Java EE and Java ME, respectively. Java is guaranteed to be **Write Once, Run Anywhere**.

Java is:

- **Object Oriented:** In Java, everything is an Object. Java can be easily extended since it is based on the Object model.
 - **Platform independent:** Unlike many other programming languages including C and C++, when Java is compiled, it is not compiled into platform specific machine, rather into platform independent byte code. This byte code is distributed over the web and interpreted by virtual Machine (JVM) on whichever platform it is being run.
 - **Simple:** Java is designed to be easy to learn. If you understand the basic concept of OOP, Java would be easy to master.
 - **Secure:** With Java's secure feature, it enables to develop virus-free, tamper-free systems. Authentication techniques are based on public-key encryption.
 - **Architectural-neutral:** Java compiler generates an architecture-neutral object file format, which makes the compiled code to be executable on many processors, with the presence of Java runtime system.
 - **Portable:** Being architectural-neutral and having no implementation dependent aspects of the specification makes Java portable. Compiler in Java is written in ANSI C with a clean portability boundary which is a POSIX subset.
 - **Robust:** Java makes an effort to eliminate error prone situations by emphasizing mainly on compile time error checking and runtime checking.
-

- **Multithreaded:** With Java's multithreaded feature, it is possible to write programs that can do many tasks simultaneously. This design feature allows developers to construct smoothly running interactive applications.
- **Interpreted:** Java byte code is translated on the fly to native machine instructions and is not stored anywhere. The development process is more rapid and analytical since the linking is an incremental and lightweight process.
- **High Performance:** With the use of Just-In-Time compilers, Java enables high performance.
- **Distributed:** Java is designed for the distributed environment of the internet.
- **Dynamic:** Java is considered to be more dynamic than C or C++ since it is designed to adapt to an evolving environment. Java programs can carry extensive amount of run-time information that can be used to verify and resolve accesses to objects on run-time.

History of Java:

James Gosling initiated the Java language project in June 1991 for use in one of his many set-top box projects. The language, initially called Oak after an oak tree that stood outside Gosling's office, also went by the name Green and ended up later being renamed as Java, from a list of random words.

Sun released the first public implementation as Java 1.0 in 1995. It promised **Write Once, Run Anywhere** (WORA), providing no-cost run-times on popular platforms.

On 13 November 2006, Sun released much of Java as free and open source software under the terms of the GNU General Public License (GPL).

On 8 May 2007, Sun finished the process, making all of Java's core code free and open-source, aside from a small portion of code to which Sun did not hold the copyright.

Tools you will need:

For performing the examples discussed in this tutorial, you will need a Pentium 200-MHz computer with a minimum of 64 MB of RAM (128 MB of RAM recommended).

You also will need the following softwares:

- Linux 7.1 or Windows 95/98/2000/XP operating system.
 - Java JDK 5
 - Microsoft Notepad or any other text editor
-

Java Environment Setup

Before we proceed further, it is important that we set up the Java environment correctly. This section guides you on how to download and set up Java on your machine. Please follow the following steps to set up the environment.

Java SE is freely available from the link [Download Java](#). So you download a version based on your operating system.

Follow the instructions to download Java and run the **.exe** to install Java on your machine. Once you installed Java on your machine, you would need to set environment variables to point to correct installation directories:

Setting up the path for windows 2000/XP:

Assuming you have installed Java in *c:\Program Files\java\jdk* directory:

- Right-click on 'My Computer' and select 'Properties'.
- Click on the 'Environment variables' button under the 'Advanced' tab.
- Now, alter the 'Path' variable so that it also contains the path to the Java executable. Example, if the path is currently set to 'C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM32', then change your path to read 'C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM32;c:\Program Files\java\jdk\bin'.

Setting up the path for windows 95/98/ME:

Assuming you have installed Java in *c:\Program Files\java\jdk* directory:

- Edit the 'C:\autoexec.bat' file and add the following line at the end:
'SET PATH=%PATH%;C:\Program Files\java\jdk\bin'

Setting up the path for Linux, UNIX, Solaris, FreeBSD:

Environment variable PATH should be set to point to where the Java binaries have been installed. Refer to your shell documentation if you have trouble doing this.

Example, if you use *bash* as your shell, then you would add the following line to the end of your '.bashrc':
export PATH=/path/to/java:\$PATH'

Popular Java Editors:

To write your Java programs, you will need a text editor. There are even more sophisticated IDEs available in the market. But for now, you can consider one of the following:

- **Notepad:** On Windows machine, you can use any simple text editor like Notepad (Recommended for this tutorial), TextPad.
 - **Netbeans:** Is a Java IDE that is open-source and free which can be downloaded from <http://www.netbeans.org/index.html>.
 - **Eclipse:** Is also a Java IDE developed by the eclipse open-source community and can be downloaded from <http://www.eclipse.org/>.
-

Java Basic Syntax

W

hen we consider a Java program, it can be defined as a collection of objects that communicate via invoking each other's methods. Let us now briefly look into what do class, object, methods and instance variables mean.

- **Object** - Objects have states and behaviors. Example: A dog has states-color, name, breed as well as behaviors -wagging, barking, eating. An object is an instance of a class.
- **Class** - A class can be defined as a template/blue print that describes the behaviors/states that object of its type support.
- **Methods** - A method is basically a behavior. A class can contain many methods. It is in methods where the logics are written, data is manipulated and all the actions are executed.
- **Instance Variables** - Each object has its unique set of instance variables. An object's state is created by the values assigned to these instance variables.

First Java Program:

Let us look at a simple code that would print the words *Hello World*.

```
public class MyFirstJavaProgram{  
  
    /* This is my first java program.  
     * This will print 'Hello World' as the output  
     */  
  
    public static void main(String[]args){  
        System.out.println("Hello World");// prints Hello World  
    }  
}
```

Let's look at how to save the file, compile and run the program. Please follow the steps given below:

- Open notepad and add the code as above.
 - Save the file as: MyFirstJavaProgram.java.
 - Open a command prompt window and go to the directory where you saved the class. Assume it's C:\.
 - Type ' javac MyFirstJavaProgram.java ' and press enter to compile your code. If there are no errors in your code, the command prompt will take you to the next line(Assumption : The path variable is set).
-

- Now, type ' java MyFirstJavaProgram ' to run your program.
- You will be able to see ' Hello World ' printed on the window.

```
C :> javac MyFirstJavaProgram.java
C :> java MyFirstJavaProgram
HelloWorld
```

Basic Syntax:

About Java programs, it is very important to keep in mind the following points.

- **Case Sensitivity** - Java is case sensitive, which means identifier **Hello** and **hello** would have different meaning in Java.
- **Class Names** - For all class names, the first letter should be in Upper Case.

If several words are used to form a name of the class, each inner word's first letter should be in Upper Case.

Example *class MyFirstJavaClass*

- **Method Names** - All method names should start with a Lower Case letter.

If several words are used to form the name of the method, then each inner word's first letter should be in Upper Case.

Example *public void myMethodName()*

- **Program File Name** - Name of the program file should exactly match the class name.

When saving the file, you should save it using the class name (Remember Java is case sensitive) and append '.java' to the end of the name (if the file name and the class name do not match your program will not compile).

Example : Assume 'MyFirstJavaProgram' is the class name, then the file should be saved as '*MyFirstJavaProgram.java*'

- **public static void main(String args[])** - Java program processing starts from the main() method, which is a mandatory part of every Java program.

Java Identifiers:

All Java components require names. Names used for classes, variables and methods are called identifiers.

In Java, there are several points to remember about identifiers. They are as follows:

- All identifiers should begin with a letter (A to Z or a to z), currency character (\$) or an underscore (_).
 - After the first character, identifiers can have any combination of characters.
 - A keyword cannot be used as an identifier.
 - Most importantly identifiers are case sensitive.
 - Examples of legal identifiers: age, \$salary, _value, __1_value
 - Examples of illegal identifiers: 123abc, -salary
-

Java Modifiers:

Like other languages, it is possible to modify classes, methods, etc., by using modifiers. There are two categories of modifiers:

- **Access Modifiers:** default, public, protected, private
- **Non-access Modifiers:** final, abstract, strictfp

We will be looking into more details about modifiers in the next section.

Java Variables:

We would see following type of variables in Java:

- Local Variables
- Class Variables (Static Variables)
- Instance Variables (Non-static variables)

Java Arrays:

Arrays are objects that store multiple variables of the same type. However, an array itself is an object on the heap. We will look into how to declare, construct and initialize in the upcoming chapters.

Java Enums:

Enums were introduced in java 5.0. Enums restrict a variable to have one of only a few predefined values. The values in this enumerated list are called enums.

With the use of enums, it is possible to reduce the number of bugs in your code.

For example, if we consider an application for a fresh juice shop, it would be possible to restrict the glass size to small, medium and large. This would make sure that it would not allow anyone to order any size other than the small, medium or large.

Example:

```
Class FreshJuice{  
  
    enum FreshJuiceSize{ SMALL, MEDUIM, LARGE }  
    FreshJuiceSize size;  
}  
  
public class FreshJuiceTest{  
  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        FreshJuice juice =new FreshJuice();  
        juice.size =FreshJuice.FreshJuiceSize.MEDUIM ;  
    }  
}
```

Note: enums can be declared as their own or inside a class. Methods, variables, constructors can be defined inside enums as well.

Java Keywords:

The following list shows the reserved words in Java. These reserved words may not be used as constant or variable or any other identifier names.

abstract	assert	boolean	break
byte	case	catch	char
class	const	continue	default
do	double	else	enum
extends	final	finally	float
for	goto	if	implements
import	instanceof	int	interface
long	native	new	package
private	protected	public	return
short	static	strictfp	super
switch	synchronized	this	throw
throws	transient	try	void
volatile	while		

Comments in Java

Java supports single-line and multi-line comments very similar to c and c++. All characters available inside any comment are ignored by Java compiler.

```
public class MyFirstJavaProgram{

    /* This is my first java program.
       * This will print 'Hello World' as the output
       * This is an example of multi-line comments.
       */

    public static void main(String[]args){
        // This is an example of single line comment
        /* This is also an example of single line comment. */
        System.out.println("Hello World");
    }
}
```

Using Blank Lines:

A line containing only whitespace, possibly with a comment, is known as a blank line, and Java totally ignores it.

Inheritance:

Java classes can be derived from classes. Basically, if you need to create a new class and here is already a class that has some of the code you require, then it is possible to derive your new class from the already existing code.

This concept allows you to reuse the fields and methods of the existing class without having to rewrite the code in a new class. In this scenario, the existing class is called the superclass and the derived class is called the subclass.

Interfaces:

In Java language, an interface can be defined as a contract between objects on how to communicate with each other. Interfaces play a vital role when it comes to the concept of inheritance.

An interface defines the methods, a deriving class(subclass) should use. But the implementation of the methods is totally up to the subclass.

What is Next?

The next section explains about Objects and classes in Java programming. At the end of the session, you will be able to get a clear picture as to what are objects and what are classes in Java.

Java Object & Classes

Java is an Object-Oriented Language. As a language that has the Object Oriented feature, Java supports the following fundamental concepts:

- Polymorphism
- Inheritance
- Encapsulation
- Abstraction
- Classes
- Objects
- Instance
- Method
- Message Parsing

In this chapter, we will look into the concepts Classes and Objects.

- **Object** - Objects have states and behaviors. Example: A dog has states-color, name, breed as well as behaviors -wagging, barking, eating. An object is an instance of a class.
- **Class** - A class can be defined as a template/blue print that describes the behaviors/states that object of its type support.

Objects in Java:

Let us now look deep into what are objects. If we consider the real-world we can find many objects around us, Cars, Dogs, Humans, etc. All these objects have a state and behavior.

If we consider a dog, then its state is - name, breed, color, and the behavior is - barking, wagging, running

If you compare the software object with a real world object, they have very similar characteristics.

Software objects also have a state and behavior. A software object's state is stored in fields and behavior is shown via methods.

So in software development, methods operate on the internal state of an object and the object-to-object communication is done via methods.

Classes in Java:

A class is a blue print from which individual objects are created.

A sample of a class is given below:

```
public class Dog{
    String breed;
    int age;
    String color;

    void barking(){
    }

    void hungry(){
    }

    void sleeping(){
    }
}
```

A class can contain any of the following variable types.

- **Local variables:** Variables defined inside methods, constructors or blocks are called local variables. The variable will be declared and initialized within the method and the variable will be destroyed when the method has completed.
- **Instance variables:** Instance variables are variables within a class but outside any method. These variables are instantiated when the class is loaded. Instance variables can be accessed from inside any method, constructor or blocks of that particular class.
- **Class variables:** Class variables are variables declared within a class, outside any method, with the static keyword.

A class can have any number of methods to access the value of various kinds of methods. In the above example, barking(), hungry() and sleeping() are methods.

Below mentioned are some of the important topics that need to be discussed when looking into classes of the Java Language.

Constructors:

When discussing about classes, one of the most important subtopic would be constructors. Every class has a constructor. If we do not explicitly write a constructor for a class the Java compiler builds a default constructor for that class.

Each time a new object is created, at least one constructor will be invoked. The main rule of constructors is that they should have the same name as the class. A class can have more than one constructor.

Example of a constructor is given below:

```
public class Puppy{
    public Puppy(){
    }

    public Puppy(String name){
        // This constructor has one parameter, name.
    }
}
```

Java also supports [Singleton Classes](#) where you would be able to create only one instance of a class.

Singleton Classes

The Singleton's purpose is to control object creation, limiting the number of objects to one only. Since there is only one Singleton instance, any instance fields of a Singleton will occur only once per class, just like static fields. Singletons often control access to resources such as database connections or sockets.

For example, if you have a license for only one connection for your database or your JDBC driver has trouble with multithreading, the Singleton makes sure that only one connection is made or that only one thread can access the connection at a time.

Implementing Singletons:

Example 1:

The easiest implementation consists of a private constructor and a field to hold its result, and a static accessor method with a name like `getInstance()`.

The private field can be assigned from within a static initializer block or, more simply, using an initializer. The `getInstance()` method (which must be public) then simply returns this instance:

```
// File Name: Singleton.java
public class Singleton{

    private static Singleton singleton =new Singleton();

    /* A private Constructor prevents any other
     * class from instantiating.
     */
    private Singleton(){}

    /* Static 'instance' method */
    public static Singleton getInstance(){
        return singleton;
    }

    /* Other methods protected by singleton-ness */
    protected static void demoMethod(){
        System.out.println("demoMethod for singleton");
    }
}

// File Name: SingletonDemo.java
public class SingletonDemo{
    public static void main(String[] args){
        Singleton tmp =Singleton.getInstance();
        tmp.demoMethod();
    }
}
```

This would produce the following result:

```
demoMethod for singleton
```

Example 2:

Following implementation shows a classic Singleton design pattern:

```
public class ClassicSingleton{

    private static ClassicSingleton instance =null;
    protected ClassicSingleton(){
        // Exists only to defeat instantiation.
    }
    public static ClassicSingleton getInstance(){
        if(instance ==null){
            instance =new ClassicSingleton();
        }
        return instance;
    }
}
```

The ClassicSingleton class maintains a static reference to the lone singleton instance and returns that reference from the static getInstance() method.

Here ClassicSingleton class employs a technique known as lazy instantiation to create the singleton; as a result, the singleton instance is not created until the getInstance() method is called for the first time. This technique ensures that singleton instances are created only when needed.

Creating an Object:

As mentioned previously, a class provides the blueprints for objects. So basically an object is created from a class. In Java the new keyword is used to create new objects.

There are three steps when creating an object from a class:

- **Declaration:** A variable declaration with a variable name with an object type.
- **Instantiation:** The 'new' keyword is used to create the object.
- **Initialization:** The 'new' keyword is followed by a call to a constructor. This call initializes the new object.

Example of creating an object is given below:

```
public class Puppy{

    public Puppy(String name){
        // This constructor has one parameter, name.
        System.out.println("Passed Name is :"+ name );
    }

    public static void main(String[] args){
        // Following statement would create an object myPuppy
        Puppy myPuppy =new Puppy("tommy");
    }
}
```

If we compile and run the above program, then it would produce the following result:

```
PassedNameis:tommy
```

Accessing Instance Variables and Methods:

Instance variables and methods are accessed via created objects. To access an instance variable the fully qualified path should be as follows:

```

/* First create an object */
ObjectReference = new Constructor();

/* Now call a variable as follows */
ObjectReference.variableName;

/* Now you can call a class method as follows */
ObjectReference.MethodName();

```

Example:

This example explains how to access instance variables and methods of a class:

```

public class Puppy{

    int puppyAge;

    public Puppy(String name){
        // This constructor has one parameter, name.
        System.out.println("Passed Name is :"+ name );
    }

    public void setAge(int age ){
        puppyAge = age;
    }

    public int getAge(){
        System.out.println("Puppy's age is :"+ puppyAge );
        return puppyAge;
    }

    public static void main(String[] args){
        /* Object creation */
        Puppy myPuppy =newPuppy("tommy");

        /* Call class method to set puppy's age */
        myPuppy.setAge(2);

        /* Call another class method to get puppy's age */
        myPuppy.getAge();

        /* You can access instance variable as follows as well */
        System.out.println("Variable Value :"+ myPuppy.puppyAge );
    }
}

```

If we compile and run the above program, then it would produce the following result:

```

PassedName is:tommy
Puppy's age is :2
Variable Value :2

```

Source file declaration rules:

As the last part of this section, let's now look into the source file declaration rules. These rules are essential when declaring classes, *import* statements and *package* statements in a source file.

- There can be only one public class per source file.
 - A source file can have multiple non public classes.
-

- The public class name should be the name of the source file as well which should be appended by **.java** at the end. For example : The class name is `.public class Employee{}` Then the source file should be as `Employee.java`.
- If the class is defined inside a package, then the package statement should be the first statement in the source file.
- If import statements are present then they must be written between the package statement and the class declaration. If there are no package statements then the import statement should be the first line in the source file.
- Import and package statements will imply to all the classes present in the source file. It is not possible to declare different import and/or package statements to different classes in the source file.

Classes have several access levels and there are different types of classes; abstract classes, final classes, etc. I will be explaining about all these in the access modifiers chapter.

Apart from the above mentioned types of classes, Java also has some special classes called Inner classes and Anonymous classes.

Java Package:

In simple, it is a way of categorizing the classes and interfaces. When developing applications in Java, hundreds of classes and interfaces will be written, therefore categorizing these classes is a must as well as makes life much easier.

Import statements:

In Java if a fully qualified name, which includes the package and the class name, is given, then the compiler can easily locate the source code or classes. Import statement is a way of giving the proper location for the compiler to find that particular class.

For example, the following line would ask compiler to load all the classes available in directory `java_installation/java/io`

```
import java.io.*;
```

A Simple Case Study:

For our case study, we will be creating two classes. They are `Employee` and `EmployeeTest`.

First open notepad and add the following code. Remember this is the `Employee` class and the class is a public class. Now, save this source file with the name `Employee.java`.

The `Employee` class has four instance variables `name`, `age`, `designation` and `salary`. The class has one explicitly defined constructor, which takes a parameter.

```
import java.io.*;
public class Employee{
    String name;
    int age;
    String designation;
    double salary;

    // This is the constructor of the class Employee
    public Employee(String name){
```

```

this.name = name;
}
// Assign the age of the Employee to the variable age.
public void empAge(int empAge){
    age = empAge;
}
/* Assign the designation to the variable designation.*/
public void empDesignation(String empDesig){
    designation = empDesig;
}
/* Assign the salary to the variable salary.*/
public void empSalary(double empSalary){
    salary = empSalary;
}
/* Print the Employee details */
public void printEmployee(){
    System.out.println("Name:" + name );
    System.out.println("Age:" + age );
    System.out.println("Designation:" + designation );
    System.out.println("Salary:" + salary);
}
}

```

As mentioned previously in this tutorial, processing starts from the main method. Therefore in-order for us to run this Employee class there should be main method and objects should be created. We will be creating a separate class for these tasks.

Given below is the *EmployeeTest* class, which creates two instances of the class Employee and invokes the methods for each object to assign values for each variable.

Save the following code in EmployeeTest.java file

```

import java.io.*;
public class EmployeeTest{

    public static void main(String args[]){
        /* Create two objects using constructor */
        Employee empOne = new Employee("James Smith");
        Employee empTwo = new Employee("Mary Anne");

        // Invoking methods for each object created
        empOne.empAge(26);
        empOne.empDesignation("Senior Software Engineer");
        empOne.empSalary(1000);
        empOne.printEmployee();

        empTwo.empAge(21);
        empTwo.empDesignation("Software Engineer");
        empTwo.empSalary(500);
        empTwo.printEmployee();
    }
}

```

Now, compile both the classes and then run *EmployeeTest* to see the result as follows:

```

C :> javac Employee.java
C :> vi EmployeeTest.java
C :> javac EmployeeTest.java
C :> java EmployeeTest
Name:JamesSmith

```

```
Age:26
Designation:SeniorSoftwareEngineer
Salary:1000.0
Name:MaryAnne
Age:21
Designation:SoftwareEngineer
Salary:500.0
```

Java Basic Data Types

Variables are nothing but reserved memory locations to store values. This means that when you create a variable you reserve some space in memory.

Based on the data type of a variable, the operating system allocates memory and decides what can be stored in the reserved memory. Therefore, by assigning different data types to variables, you can store integers, decimals, or characters in these variables.

There are two data types available in Java:

- Primitive Data Types
- Reference/Object Data Types

Primitive Data Types:

There are eight primitive data types supported by Java. Primitive data types are predefined by the language and named by a keyword. Let us now look into detail about the eight primitive data types.

byte:

- Byte data type is an 8-bit signed two's complement integer.
- Minimum value is -128 (-2^7)
- Maximum value is 127 (inclusive) ($2^7 - 1$)
- Default value is 0
- Byte data type is used to save space in large arrays, mainly in place of integers, since a byte is four times smaller than an int.
- Example: byte a = 100, byte b = -50

short:

- Short data type is a 16-bit signed two's complement integer.
-

- Minimum value is -32,768 (-2^{15})
- Maximum value is 32,767(inclusive) ($2^{15} - 1$)
- Short data type can also be used to save memory as byte data type. A short is 2 times smaller than an int
- Default value is 0.
- Example: short s= 10000, short r = -20000

int:

- int data type is a 32-bit signed two's complement integer.
- Minimum value is - 2,147,483,648. (-2^{31})
- Maximum value is 2,147,483,647(inclusive). ($2^{31} - 1$)
- Int is generally used as the default data type for integral values unless there is a concern about memory.
- The default value is 0.
- Example: int a = 100000, int b = -200000

long:

- Long data type is a 64-bit signed two's complement integer.
- Minimum value is -9,223,372,036,854,775,808. (-2^{63})
- Maximum value is 9,223,372,036,854,775,807 (inclusive). ($2^{63} - 1$)
- This type is used when a wider range than int is needed.
- Default value is 0L.
- Example: int a = 100000L, int b = -200000L

float:

- Float data type is a single-precision 32-bit IEEE 754 floating point.
 - Float is mainly used to save memory in large arrays of floating point numbers.
 - Default value is 0.0f.
 - Float data type is never used for precise values such as currency.
 - Example: float f1 = 234.5f
-

double:

- double data type is a double-precision 64-bit IEEE 754 floating point.
- This data type is generally used as the default data type for decimal values, generally the default choice.
- Double data type should never be used for precise values such as currency.
- Default value is 0.0d.
- Example: double d1 = 123.4

boolean:

- boolean data type represents one bit of information.
- There are only two possible values: true and false.
- This data type is used for simple flags that track true/false conditions.
- Default value is false.
- Example: boolean one = true

char:

- char data type is a single 16-bit Unicode character.
- Minimum value is '\u0000' (or 0).
- Maximum value is '\uffff' (or 65,535 inclusive).
- Char data type is used to store any character.
- Example: char letterA ='A'

Reference Data Types:

- Reference variables are created using defined constructors of the classes. They are used to access objects. These variables are declared to be of a specific type that cannot be changed. For example, Employee, Puppy, etc.
 - Class objects and various types of array variables come under reference data type.
 - Default value of any reference variable is null.
 - A reference variable can be used to refer to any object of the declared type or any compatible type.
 - Example: Animal animal = new Animal("giraffe");
-

Java Literals:

A literal is a source code representation of a fixed value. They are represented directly in the code without any computation.

Literals can be assigned to any primitive type variable. For example:

```
byte a =68;  
char a ='A'
```

byte, int, long, and short can be expressed in decimal(base 10),hexadecimal(base 16) or octal(base 8) number systems as well.

Prefix 0 is used to indicate octal and prefix 0x indicates hexadecimal when using these number systems for literals. For example:

```
int decimal=100;  
int octal =0144;  
int hexa =0x64;
```

String literals in Java are specified like they are in most other languages by enclosing a sequence of characters between a pair of double quotes. Examples of string literals are:

```
"Hello World"  
"two\nlines"  
 "\"This is in quotes\""
```

String and char types of literals can contain any Unicode characters. For example:

```
char a ='\u0001';  
String a ="\u0001";
```

Java language supports few special escape sequences for String and char literals as well. They are:

Notation	Character represented
\n	Newline (0x0a)
\r	Carriage return (0x0d)
\f	Formfeed (0x0c)
\b	Backspace (0x08)
\s	Space (0x20)
\t	Tab
\"	Double quote
\'	Single quote
\\	Backslash
\ddd	Octal character (ddd)
\uxxxx	Hexadecimal UNICODE character (xxxx)

Java Variable Types

A variable provides us with named storage that our programs can manipulate. Each variable in Java has a specific type, which determines the size and layout of the variable's memory; the range of values that can be stored within that memory; and the set of operations that can be applied to the variable.

You must declare all variables before they can be used. The basic form of a variable declaration is shown here:

```
data type variable [ = value][, variable [= value] ...] ;
```

Here *data type* is one of Java's datatypes and *variable* is the name of the variable. To declare more than one variable of the specified type, you can use a comma-separated list.

Following are valid examples of variable declaration and initialization in Java:

```
int a, b, c;           // Declares three ints, a, b, and c.
int a = 10, b = 10;    // Example of initialization
byte B = 22;           // initializes a byte type variable B.
double pi = 3.14159;   // declares and assigns a value of PI.
char a = 'a';          // the char variable a is initialized with value 'a'
```

This chapter will explain various variable types available in Java Language. There are three kinds of variables in Java:

- Local variables
- Instance variables
- Class/static variables

Local variables:

- Local variables are declared in methods, constructors, or blocks.
 - Local variables are created when the method, constructor or block is entered and the variable will be destroyed once it exits the method, constructor or block.
 - Access modifiers cannot be used for local variables.
-

- Local variables are visible only within the declared method, constructor or block.
- Local variables are implemented at stack level internally.
- There is no default value for local variables so local variables should be declared and an initial value should be assigned before the first use.

Example:

Here, *age* is a local variable. This is defined inside *pupAge()* method and its scope is limited to this method only.

```
public class Test{
    public void pupAge(){
        int age = 0;
        age = age + 7;
        System.out.println("Puppy age is : " + age);
    }

    public static void main(String args[]){
        Test test = new Test();
        test.pupAge();
    }
}
```

This would produce the following result:

```
Puppy age is: 7
```

Example:

Following example uses *age* without initializing it, so it would give an error at the time of compilation.

```
public class Test{
    public void pupAge(){
        int age;
        age = age + 7;
        System.out.println("Puppy age is : " + age);
    }

    public static void main(String args[]){
        Test test = new Test();
        test.pupAge();
    }
}
```

This would produce the following error while compiling it:

```
Test.java:4:variable number might not have been initialized
age = age + 7;
      ^
1 error
```

Instance variables:

- Instance variables are declared in a class, but outside a method, constructor or any block.
-

- When a space is allocated for an object in the heap, a slot for each instance variable value is created.
- Instance variables are created when an object is created with the use of the keyword 'new' and destroyed when the object is destroyed.
- Instance variables hold values that must be referenced by more than one method, constructor or block, or essential parts of an object's state that must be present throughout the class.
- Instance variables can be declared in class level before or after use.
- Access modifiers can be given for instance variables.
- The instance variables are visible for all methods, constructors and block in the class. Normally, it is recommended to make these variables private (access level). However visibility for subclasses can be given for these variables with the use of access modifiers.
- Instance variables have default values. For numbers the default value is 0, for Booleans it is false and for object references it is null. Values can be assigned during the declaration or within the constructor.
- Instance variables can be accessed directly by calling the variable name inside the class. However within static methods and different class (when instance variables are given accessibility) should be called using the fully qualified name . *ObjectReference.VariableName*.

Example:

```
import java.io.*;

public class Employee{
    // this instance variable is visible for any child class.
    public String name;

    // salary variable is visible in Employee class only.
    private double salary;

    // The name variable is assigned in the constructor.
    public Employee (String empName){
        name = empName;
    }

    // The salary variable is assigned a value.
    public void setSalary(double empSal){
        salary = empSal;
    }

    // This method prints the employee details.
    public void printEmp(){
        System.out.println("name : " + name );
        System.out.println("salary : " + salary);
    }

    public static void main(String args[]){
        Employee empOne = new Employee("Ransika");
        empOne.setSalary(1000);
        empOne.printEmp();
    }
}
```

This would produce the following result:

```
name : Ransika  
salary :1000.0
```

Class/static variables:

- Class variables also known as static variables are declared with the *static* keyword in a class, but outside a method, constructor or a block.
- There would only be one copy of each class variable per class, regardless of how many objects are created from it.
- Static variables are rarely used other than being declared as constants. Constants are variables that are declared as public/private, final and static. Constant variables never change from their initial value.
- Static variables are stored in static memory. It is rare to use static variables other than declared final and used as either public or private constants.
- Static variables are created when the program starts and destroyed when the program stops.
- Visibility is similar to instance variables. However, most static variables are declared public since they must be available for users of the class.
- Default values are same as instance variables. For numbers, the default value is 0; for Booleans, it is false; and for object references, it is null. Values can be assigned during the declaration or within the constructor. Additionally values can be assigned in special static initializer blocks.
- Static variables can be accessed by calling with the class name . *ClassName.VariableName*.
- When declaring class variables as public static final, then variables names (constants) are all in upper case. If the static variables are not public and final the naming syntax is the same as instance and local variables.

Example:

```
import java.io.*;  
  
public class Employee{  
    // salary variable is a private static variable  
    private static double salary;  
  
    // DEPARTMENT is a constant  
    public static final String DEPARTMENT = "Development ";  
  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        salary = 1000;  
        System.out.println(DEPARTMENT+"average salary:"+salary);  
    }  
}
```

This would produce the following result:

```
Development average salary:1000
```

Note: If the variables are access from an outside class the constant should be accessed as Employee.DEPARTMENT

Java Modifier Types

Modifiers are keywords that you add to those definitions to change their meanings. The Java language has a wide variety of modifiers, including the following:

1. Java Access Modifiers

Java provides a number of access modifiers to set access levels for classes, variables, methods and constructors. The four access levels are:

- Visible to the package, the default. No modifiers are needed.
- Visible to the class only (private).
- Visible to the world (public).
- Visible to the package and all subclasses (protected).

Default Access Modifier - No keyword:

Default access modifier means we do not explicitly declare an access modifier for a class, field, method, etc.

A variable or method declared without any access control modifier is available to any other class in the same package. The fields in an interface are implicitly public static final and the methods in an interface are by default public

Example:

Variables and methods can be declared without any modifiers, as in the following examples:

```
String version ="1.5.1";

boolean processOrder(){
return true;
}
```

Private Access Modifier - private:

Methods, Variables and Constructors that are declared private can only be accessed within the declared class itself.

Private access modifier is the most restrictive access level. Class and interfaces cannot be private.

Variables that are declared private can be accessed outside the class if public getter methods are present in the class.

Using the private modifier is the main way that an object encapsulates itself and hide data from the outside world.

Example:

The following class uses private access control:

```
public class Logger{
    private String format;
    public String getFormat(){
        return this.format;
    }
    public void setFormat(String format){
        this.format = format;
    }
}
```

Here, the *format* variable of the *Logger* class is private, so there's no way for other classes to retrieve or set its value directly.

So to make this variable available to the outside world, we defined two public methods: *getFormat()*, which returns the value of *format*, and *setFormat(String)*, which sets its value.

Public Access Modifier - public:

A class, method, constructor, interface etc declared public can be accessed from any other class. Therefore fields, methods, blocks declared inside a public class can be accessed from any class belonging to the Java Universe.

However if the public class we are trying to access is in a different package, then the public class still need to be imported.

Because of class inheritance, all public methods and variables of a class are inherited by its subclasses.

Example:

The following function uses public access control:

```
public static void main(String[] arguments){
    // ...
}
```

The *main()* method of an application has to be public. Otherwise, it could not be called by a Java interpreter (such as *java*) to run the class.

Protected Access Modifier - protected:

Variables, methods and constructors which are declared protected in a superclass can be accessed only by the subclasses in other package or any class within the package of the protected members' class.

The protected access modifier cannot be applied to class and interfaces. Methods, fields can be declared protected, however methods and fields in a interface cannot be declared protected.

Protected access gives the subclass a chance to use the helper method or variable, while preventing a nonrelated class from trying to use it.

Example:

The following parent class uses protected access control, to allow its child class override *openSpeaker()* method:

```
class AudioPlayer{
protected boolean openSpeaker(Speaker sp){
// implementation details
}
}

class StreamingAudioPlayer{
boolean openSpeaker(Speaker sp){
// implementation details
}
}
```

Here, if we define *openSpeaker()* method as private, then it would not be accessible from any other class other than *AudioPlayer*. If we define it as public, then it would become accessible to all the outside world. But our intension is to expose this method to its subclass only, thats why we used *protected* modifier.

Access Control and Inheritance:

The following rules for inherited methods are enforced:

- Methods declared public in a superclass also must be public in all subclasses.
- Methods declared protected in a superclass must either be protected or public in subclasses; they cannot be private.
- Methods declared without access control (no modifier was used) can be declared more private in subclasses.
- Methods declared private are not inherited at all, so there is no rule for them.

2. Non Access Modifiers

To use a modifier, you include its keyword in the definition of a class, method, or variable. The modifier precedes the rest of the statement, as in the following examples (Italic ones):

```
public class className {
// ...
}
private boolean myFlag;
static final double weeks =9.5;
protected static final int BOXWIDTH =42;
public static void main(String[] arguments){
```

```
// body of method  
}
```

Access Control Modifiers:

Java provides a number of access modifiers to set access levels for classes, variables, methods and constructors. The four access levels are:

- Visible to the package. the default. No modifiers are needed.
- Visible to the class only (private).
- Visible to the world (public).
- Visible to the package and all subclasses (protected).

Non Access Modifiers:

Java provides a number of non-access modifiers to achieve many other functionality.

- The *static* modifier for creating class methods and variables
- The *final* modifier for finalizing the implementations of classes, methods, and variables.
- The *abstract* modifier for creating abstract classes and methods.
- The *synchronized* and *volatile* modifiers, which are used for threads.

To use a modifier, you include its keyword in the definition of a class, method, or variable. The modifier precedes the rest of the statement, as in the following examples (Italic ones):

```
public class className {  
    // ...  
}  
private boolean myFlag;  
static final double weeks =9.5;  
protected static final int BOXWIDTH =42;  
public static void main(String[] arguments){  
    // body of method  
}
```

Access Control Modifiers:

Java provides a number of access modifiers to set access levels for classes, variables, methods and constructors. The four access levels are:

- Visible to the package. the default. No modifiers are needed.
- Visible to the class only (private).
- Visible to the world (public).
- Visible to the package and all subclasses (protected).

Non Access Modifiers:

Java provides a number of non-access modifiers to achieve many other functionality.

- The *static* modifier for creating class methods and variables
- The *final* modifier for finalizing the implementations of classes, methods, and variables.
- The *abstract* modifier for creating abstract classes and methods.
- The *synchronized* and *volatile* modifiers, which are used for threads.

Java Basic Operators

Java provides a rich set of operators to manipulate variables. We can divide all the Java operators into the following groups:

- Arithmetic Operators
- Relational Operators
- Bitwise Operators
- Logical Operators
- Assignment Operators
- Misc Operators

The Arithmetic Operators:

Arithmetic operators are used in mathematical expressions in the same way that they are used in algebra. The following table lists the arithmetic operators:

Assume integer variable A holds 10 and variable B holds 20, then:

Operator	Description	Example
+	Addition - Adds values on either side of the operator	A + B will give 30
-	Subtraction - Subtracts right hand operand from left hand operand	A - B will give -10
*	Multiplication - Multiplies values on either side of the operator	A * B will give 200
/	Division - Divides left hand operand by right hand operand	B / A will give 2
%	Modulus - Divides left hand operand by right hand operand and returns remainder	B % A will give 0
++	Increment - Increases the value of operand by 1	B++ gives 21
--	Decrement - Decreases the value of operand by 1	B-- gives 19

Example

The following simple example program demonstrates the arithmetic operators. Copy and paste the following Java program in Test.java file and compile and run this program:

```
public class Test{

    public static void main(String args[]){
        int a =10;
        int b =20;
        int c =25;
        int d =25;
        System.out.println("a + b = "+(a + b));
        System.out.println("a - b = "+(a - b));
        System.out.println("a * b = "+(a * b));
        System.out.println("b / a = "+(b / a));
        System.out.println("b % a = "+(b % a));
        System.out.println("c % a = "+(c % a));
        System.out.println("a++ = "+(a++));
        System.out.println("b-- = "+(a--));
        // Check the difference in d++ and ++d
        System.out.println("d++ = "+(d++));
        System.out.println("++d = "+(++d));
    }
}
```

This would produce the following result:

```
a + b =30
a - b =-10
a * b =200
b / a =2
b % a =0
c % a =5
a++=10
b--=11
d++=25
++d  =27
```

The Relational Operators:

There are following relational operators supported by Java language:

Assume variable A holds 10 and variable B holds 20, then:

Operator	Description	Example
==	Checks if the values of two operands are equal or not, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A == B) is not true.
!=	Checks if the values of two operands are equal or not, if values are not equal then condition becomes true.	(A != B) is true.
>	Checks if the value of left operand is greater than the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A > B) is not true.
<	Checks if the value of left operand is less than the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A < B) is true.
>=	Checks if the value of left operand is greater than or equal to the value	(A >= B) is not true.