Constructor in Java

Constructor in java is a *special type of method* that is used to initialize the object.

Java constructor is *invoked at the time of object creation*. It constructs the values i.e. provides data for the object that is why it is known as constructor.

Rules for creating java constructor

There are basically two rules defined for the constructor.

1. Constructor name must be same as its class name
2. Constructor must have no explicit return type

Types of java constructors

There are two types of constructors:

1. Default constructor (no-arg constructor)
2. Parameterized constructor

Types of Java Constructor

Default Constructor   Parameterized Constructor
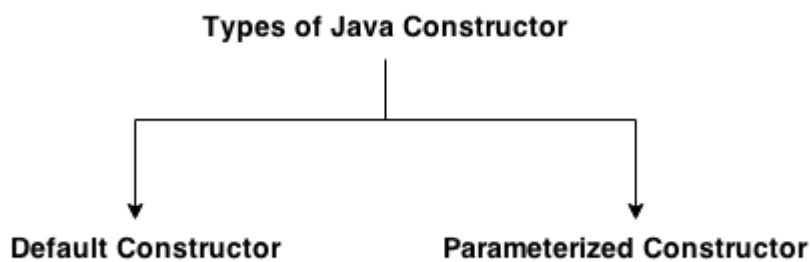
Java Default Constructor

A constructor that has no parameter is known as default constructor.

Syntax of default constructor:
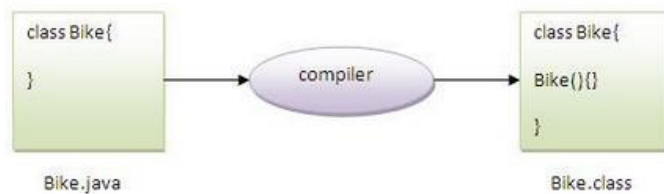
```
<class_name>(){}
```

Example of default constructor

In this example, we are creating the no-arg constructor in the Bike class. It will be invoked at the time of object creation.

```
class Bike1{
Bike1(){System.out.println("Bike is created");}
public static void main(String args[]){
Bike1 b=new Bike1();
}
}
```

Rule: If there is no constructor in a class, compiler automatically creates a default constructor.

What is the purpose of default constructor?

Default constructor provides the default values to the object like 0, null etc. depending on the type.

Example of default constructor that displays the default values

```
class Student3{
int id;
String name;

void display(){System.out.println(id+" "+name);}

public static void main(String args[]){
Student3 s1=new Student3();
Student3 s2=new Student3();
s1.display();
s2.display();
}
}
```

Explanation: In the above class, you are not creating any constructor so compiler provides you a default constructor.Here 0 and null values are provided by default constructor.

Java parameterized constructor

A constructor that has parameters is known as parameterized constructor.

Why use parameterized constructor?

Parameterized constructor is used to provide different values to the distinct objects.

Example of parameterized constructor

In this example, we have created the constructor of Student class that have two parameters.
We can have any number of parameters in the constructor.

```java
class Student4{
    int id;
    String name;

    Student4(int i,String n){
    id = i;
    name = n;
    }
    void display(){System.out.println(id+" "+name);}

    public static void main(String args[]){
    Student4 s1 = new Student4(111,"Karan");
    Student4 s2 = new Student4(222,"Aryan");
    s1.display();
    s2.display();
    }
}
```

Constructor Overloading in Java

Constructor overloading is a technique in Java in which a class can have any number of
constructors that differ in parameter lists. The compiler differentiates these constructors by
taking into account the number of parameters in the list and their type.

Example of Constructor Overloading

```java
class Student5{
    int id;
    String name;
    int age;
    Student5(int i,String n){
    id = i;
    name = n;
    }
    Student5(int i,String n,int a){
    id = i;
    name = n;
    age=a;
    }
    void display(){System.out.println(id+" "+name+" "+age);}

    public static void main(String args[]){
    Student5 s1 = new Student5(111,"Karan");
    Student5 s2 = new Student5(222,"Aryan",25);
    s1.display();
    s2.display();
    }
}
```

Difference between constructor and method in java

There are many differences between constructors and methods. They are given below.

Java Constructor	Java Method
Constructor is used to initialize the state of an object.	Method is used to expose behaviour of an object.
Constructor must not have return type.	Method must have return type.
Constructor is invoked implicitly.	Method is invoked explicitly.
The java compiler provides a default constructor if you don't have any constructor.	Method is not provided by compiler in any case.
Constructor name must be same as the class name.	Method name may or may not be same as class name.

Java Copy Constructor

There is no copy constructor in java. But, we can copy the values of one object to another like copy constructor in C++.

There are many ways to copy the values of one object into another in java. They are:

- By constructor
- By assigning the values of one object into another
- By clone() method of Object class

In this example, we are going to copy the values of one object into another using java constructor.

```java
class Student6{
    int id;
    String name;
    Student6(int i,String n){
    id = i;
    name = n;
    }

    Student6(Student6 s){
    id = s.id;
    name =s.name;
    }
    void display(){System.out.println(id+" "+name);}

    public static void main(String args[]){
    Student6 s1 = new Student6(111,"Karan");
    Student6 s2 = new Student6(s1);
    s1.display();
    s2.display();
    }
}
```

Copying values without constructor

We can copy the values of one object into another by assigning the objects values to another object. In this case, there is no need to create the constructor.

```
class Student7{
    int id;
    String name;
    Student7(int i,String n){
    id = i;
    name = n;
    }
    Student7(){}
    void display(){System.out.println(id+" "+name);}

    public static void main(String args[]){
    Student7 s1 = new Student7(111,"Karan");
    Student7 s2 = new Student7();
    s2.id=s1.id;
    s2.name=s1.name;
    s1.display();
    s2.display();
  }
}
```

Does constructor return any value?

Yes, that is current class instance (You cannot use return type yet it returns a value).