

Conditionals in java (If Else Ladder, Switch Statement's)

What are Conditionals?

- Conditional statements are constructs that evaluate a boolean expression (true/false) and direct the flow of execution accordingly.
- They help in making decisions such as:
 - Executing a block if a condition is true.
 - Choosing between two alternative paths.
 - Handling multiple conditions.

Types of Conditionals in Java

1. The if Statement

- Simplest form of conditional.
- Executes a block of code if the given condition evaluates to true.

Syntax:

```
if (condition) {
   // code block if condition is true
}
```

Example:

```
int age = 20;
if (age >= 18) {
    System.out.println("Eligible to vote");
}
```

Key Points:

- The condition must return a boolean (true or false).
- If condition is false, the block is skipped.

2. The if-else Statement

- Provides two-way decision-making.
- If the if condition is false, else block runs.

Syntax:

```
if (condition) {
   // code if true
} else {
   // code if false
}
```

Example:

```
int number = 7;
if (number % 2 == 0) {
    System.out.println("Even number");
} else {
    System.out.println("Odd number");
}
```

3. The if-else-if Ladder

- Used when multiple conditions need to be checked sequentially.
- Program checks each condition from top to bottom; executes the first true block, then skips the rest.

Syntax:

```
if (condition1) {
   // code block 1
} else if (condition2) {
   // code block 2
} else if (condition3) {
   // code block 3
} else {
   // default case
}
```

Example:

```
int marks = 85;
if (marks >= 90) {
```

```
System.out.println("Grade A");
} else if (marks >= 75) {
    System.out.println("Grade B");
} else if (marks >= 50) {
    System.out.println("Grade C");
} else {
    System.out.println("Failed");
}
```

4. Nested if Statements

- An if inside another if.
- Useful when one condition depends on another.

Example:

```
int age = 25;
if (age >= 18) {
    if (age >= 21) {
        System.out.println("Eligible for marriage");
    } else {
        System.out.println("Eligible to vote but not for marriage");
    }
}
```

5. The switch Statement

- Used when multiple possible values of a single variable need different execution paths.
- Cleaner than multiple if-else statements for discrete values.

Syntax:

```
switch (variable) {
  case value1:
    // code block 1
    break;
  case value2:
    // code block 2
    break;
  default:
    // default block
}
```

Example:

```
int day = 5;
switch (day) {
  case 1: System.out.println("Monday");
  case 2: System.out.println("Tuesday");
  break;
  case 3: System.out.println("Wednesday");
  break;
  case 4: System.out.println("Thursday");
  break;
  case 5: System.out.println("Friday");
  break;
  case 6: System.out.println("Saturday");
  break;
  case 7: System.out.println("Sunday");
  break;
  default: System.out.println("Invalid day");
}
```

Notes:

- break; prevents fall-through to the next case.
- default in switch is optional but recommended.
- Valid with int , char , String , and enum in Java.

Switch Expressions (Morden Java 12+)

- A modern upgrade of switch.
- Uses > and can return values directly.

Example:

```
String day = switch (5) {
    case 1 → "Monday";
    case 2 → "Tuesday";
    case 3 → "Wednesday";
    case 4 → "Thursday";
    case 5 → "Friday";
    case 6 → "Saturday";
    case 7 → "Sunday";
    default → "Invalid";
};
System.out.println(day);
```

6. The Ternary Operator (?:)

- A shorthand version of an if-else.
- Evaluates a condition and chooses one of two values.

Syntax:

```
javavariable = (condition) ? valueIfTrue : valueIfFalse;
```

Example:

```
int number = 10;
String result = (number % 2 == 0) ? "Even" : "Odd";
System.out.println(result);
```

Quick Recap

- if → simple decision
- if-else → two-way decision
- if-else-if → multiple decisions
- **Nested if** → decision inside a decision
- switch → cleaner choice among fixed values
- Switch expressions (Java 12+) → modern and concise
- **Ternary** ?: → compact one-line conditional