

➤ **What is a Package in Java:**

Java packages are a key organizational tool that allows you to group related classes, interfaces, and sub-packages together to structure your code efficiently. They help manage large projects, avoid naming conflicts, and control access. Let's dive into the details step-by-step:

1. What Are Java Packages?

A **package** in Java is essentially a namespace that organizes classes, interfaces, and sub-packages into logical groups. It acts like a folder structure for your Java code.

Benefits of Packages:

1. **Avoid Name Conflicts:** Two classes with the same name can coexist in different packages.
2. **Organize Code:** Group related classes and interfaces together for better readability.
3. **Access Control:** Packages help define access levels with protected and default visibility.
4. **Reusability:** Reuse classes and interfaces in multiple programs.

Types of Packages:

1. **Built-in Packages:** Provided by Java (e.g., `java.util`, `java.io`, `java.lang`).
2. **User-defined Packages:** Created by the programmer.

2. How to Create a Package?

1. Syntax for Declaring a Package:

At the top of your Java file, use the package keyword to declare the package:

java code:

➤ `package mypackage;`

2. Steps to Create a Package:

1. **Create a Directory:**
 - The directory name should match the package name.
 - For example, if your package is `mypackage`, create a folder named `mypackage`.
1. **Write Your Class:**
 - Place your Java file in the directory.
 - Declare the package at the top of the file:

➤ **Java code for creating the java package:**

➤ package mypackage;

```
public class MyClass {  
    public void displayMessage() {  
        System.out.println("Hello from MyClass in mypackage!");  
    }  
}
```

3. Compile the Class:

- Use the javac command with the -d option to specify the base directory for the package:

CODE:

➤ javac -d . MyClass.java

3. How to Import Packages?

Importing an Entire Package:

To use all classes in a package, use the `import` keyword followed by the package name:

java code:

➤ `import mypackage.*;`

Importing a Specific Class:

To import only one class:

Java code:

➤ `import mypackage.MyClass;`

Using Fully Qualified Names (Without Import):

You can use a class from a package without importing it by specifying its fully qualified name:

➤ `mypackage.MyClass obj = new mypackage.MyClass();`

4. How to Use Functions or Methods from Packages?

Example:

1. Create a Package:

➤ Java code:

```
package utilities;
```

```
public class MathUtils {  
    public static int add(int a, int b) {  
        return a + b;  
    }  
}
```

2. Use a Method in Another Class:

➤ Java code:

```
import utilities.MathUtils;
```

```
public class Main {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int result = MathUtils.add(5, 3);  
        System.out.println("Result: " + result);  
    }  
}
```

5. Package Hierarchy

Packages can have a hierarchy, like a directory structure.

Example:

If you have the package `com.example.myapp`:

- **Root Package:** `com`
- **Sub-Package:** `example`
- **Sub-Sub-Package:** `myapp`

Directory Structure:

```
com/  
  
  example/  
  
    myapp/  
  
      MyAppClass.java
```

- Defining a Class in a Hierarchical Package:

```
package com.example.myapp;  
  
public class MyAppClass {  
    public void display() {  
        System.out.println("Hello from MyAppClass!");  
    }  
}
```

6. Access Control in Packages

Access Modifiers in Relation to Packages:

Modifier	Same Class	Same Package	Subclass (Other Package)	World (Other Packages)
public	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
protected	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
default	Yes	Yes	No	No
private	Yes	No	No	No

7. Built-In Packages

Some commonly used built-in packages:

1. **java.lang**: Contains classes like String, Math, Integer, etc. (Automatically imported).
2. **java.util**: Contains utility classes like ArrayList, HashMap, Scanner, etc.
3. **java.io**: Contains classes for input and output, like File, BufferedReader, etc.
4. **java.net**: Contains classes for networking, like Socket, URL, etc.
5. **java.sql**: Contains classes for database access.

8. Interfaces and Classes in Packages

Classes in Packages:

A package can contain one or more classes. Classes within a package are related in functionality.

Interfaces in Packages:

An interface can also belong to a package and is used for defining a contract that implementing classes must follow.

Example:

➤ Code:

```
package mypackage;

public interface MyInterface {

    void sayHello();

}
```

Implementation in Another Class:

➤ Code:

```
package mypackage;

public class MyImplementation implements MyInterface {

    @Override

    public void sayHello() {

        System.out.println("Hello from MyImplementation!");

    }

}
```

