# JVM, JRE, JDK, and JIT – Explained with a Real-Life Example #

Imagine you want to watch a movie on Netflix.

- You have a movie file (Java program).
- You need something to play the movie (Java runtime).
- You might also need tools to edit movies (Java development).

Now, let's map this idea to JVM, JRE, JDK, and JIT:

# $\blacksquare$ JVM (Java Virtual Machine) $\rightarrow$ The Movie Player

Think of JVM as a movie player (like VLC or Netflix).

★ It doesn't **create movies**, but it can **play** them.

- **♦ JVM's Job:**
- $\checkmark$  Reads the movie file (**Java Bytecode = Movie file**)
- ✓ Plays it on the screen (Converts Bytecode to Machine Code)
- **∀** Works on any device (**Platform-independent**)

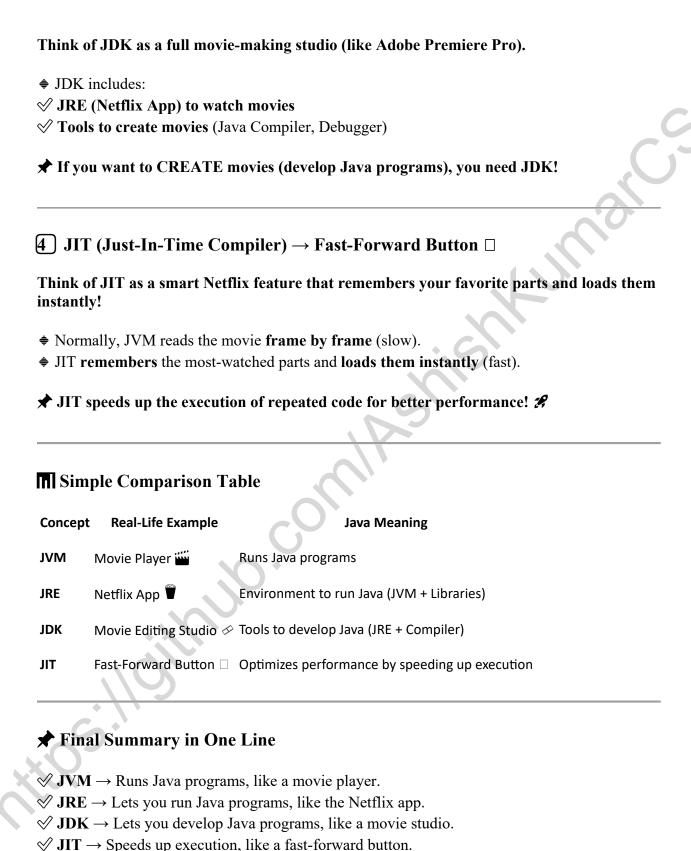
Without a movie player (JVM), you can't watch the movie (run Java programs).

# **2** JRE (Java Runtime Environment) → Netflix App

Think of JRE as the Netflix App that lets you watch movies.

- **♦** JRE includes:
- **∜ JVM (Movie Player)**
- ✓ Necessary files to play movies (Java Libraries)
- 🖈 If you only want to watch movies (run Java programs), JRE is enough! 🏜

# $\fill$ JDK (Java Development Kit) $\rightarrow$ Movie Editing Studio $\fill$



# JVM, JRE, JDK, and JIT in Java – Detailed Explanation with Examples & Diagrams

Java follows the "Write Once, Run Anywhere" (WORA) principle. This is possible due to the Java Virtual Machine (JVM). Let's break down the key components:

#### 1. What is JVM (Java Virtual Machine)?

- **♦ JVM is an abstract machine that runs Java programs.** It converts **Java bytecode into machine code** that the OS can execute.
- ♦ It is platform-dependent (Windows, Linux, macOS have different JVM implementations).
- ♦ The JVM also manages memory, garbage collection, and security.

### **JVM Working Process**

 $\forall$  Java Code (.java)  $\rightarrow$  Compiled by Java Compiler  $\rightarrow$  Bytecode (.class)  $\rightarrow$  Executed by JVM

## **Diagram of JVM Architecture:**

#### 2. What is JRE (Java Runtime Environment)?

- **♦** JRE = JVM + Libraries + Other Utilities
- ♦ It provides an environment to run Java applications.
- ♦ If you only need to **run Java programs** (not develop them), JRE is enough.

#### **JRE Contains:**

- **⊘** JVM
- **⊘** Supporting files

# Diagram of JRE:

```
+-----+
| Java Runtime Environment (JRE) |
+-----+
| JVM + Libraries + Utilities |
+-----+
```

#### 3. What is JDK (Java Development Kit)?

- **♦** JDK = **JRE** + **Development Tools**
- ♦ It is used for developing Java applications.
- ♦ Includes everything in JRE plus compiler (javac), debugger (jdb), Javadoc (javadoc), and other tools.

#### **JDK Contains:**

# Diagram of JDK:

```
+-----+
| Java Development Kit (JDK)
+-----+
| JRE + Compiler + Debugger |
+-----+
```

# 4. What is JIT (Just-In-Time) Compiler?

- **♦** JIT is a part of the **JVM's Execution Engine** that improves performance.
- **♦** Instead of interpreting bytecode line by line, JIT compiles **frequently used code into native machine code** for faster execution.

# **How JIT Works?**

- $\forall$  Bytecode  $\rightarrow$  Machine Code (on-the-fly)
- ✓ Improves performance by reducing interpretation overhead.

# **JIT Compilation Example:**

```
public class JITExample {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        long start = System.nanoTime();
        for (int i = 0; i < 1_000_000; i++) {
            Math.sqrt(i); // Frequently used method
        }
        long end = System.nanoTime();
        System.out.println("Execution Time: " + (end - start));
    }
}</pre>
```

#### ★ JIT optimizes the Math.sqrt() function for faster execution!

#### 5. JVM vs JRE vs JDK vs JIT – Key Differences

Feature	JVM (Java Virtual Machine)	JRE (Java Runtime Environment)	JDK (Java Development Kit)	JIT (Just-In-Time Compiler)
Purpose	Runs Java programs	environment to run	Used for Java development	Optimizes performance
Contains	Execution engine	IIVM + Libraries	JRE + Compiler + Tools	Part of JVM
Needed for Running Java?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Needed for Development?	No	No	Yes	No
Compilation Type	Interprets Bytecode		Compiles Java code to Bytecode	Converts Bytecode to Machine Code

#### 6. Final Summary

- **✓ JVM**: Runs Java programs, converts Bytecode to Machine Code.
- **∀ JRE**: Provides an environment to run Java programs (JVM + Libraries).
- **✓ JDK**: Used for developing Java programs (JRE + Compiler + Debugger).
- **IJIT**: Optimizes performance by compiling bytecode into native code at runtime.