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**Programming with Java Operators and Strings**

**Understand Fundamental Operators**

Java operators are used to return a result from an expression using one, two, or three operands. Operands are the values placed to the right or left side of the operators. Prefix- and postfix-increment and prefix- and postfix-decrement operators use one operand. The conditional ternary operator (?:) uses three operands. All other operators use two operands.

The following topics will be covered in these pages:

* Assignment operators
* Arithmetic operators
* Relational operators
* Logical operators
* Operator precedence

**Assignment Operators**

Assignment operators are used to assign values to variables.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| = | Assignment operator |

**Compound Assignment Operators**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| + = | Assignment by addition operator |
| * = | Assignment by subtraction operator |

Although the use of compound assignment operators cuts down on keystrokes, it is generally good practice to use the “longhand” approach since the code is clearly more readable.