

1.1 Your First Java Program

[Intro, Video 3A] Hello World (2017 version)



The classic first program when introducing any new language is **Hello World**, or a program that prints `Hello World` to the console. In Java, **Hello World** can be written as such:

```
public class HelloWorld {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println("Hello world!");  
    }  
}
```

As compared to other languages like Python, this may seem needlessly verbose. However, there are several reasons for the verbosity of Java, which will be covered in the next few chapters. For now, notice some key syntactical features of the code snippet above:

- The **class declaration** `public class HelloWorld`: in Java, all code lives within classes.
- The **main** function: all the code that runs must be inside of a method declared as `public static void main(String[] args)`. Future chapters will cover the exact meaning of this declaration.

- **Curly braces** `{ }` enclose sections of code (functions, classes, and other types of code that will be covered in future chapters).
- All statements must end with a **semi-colon**.



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