

# Java's type erasure

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Here is some knowledge that i gathered how Java's typing system works. Don't know which version. But it's an older one. Somewhere around Java 6 to Java 8. Maybe it changed now.

Consider that generics was added to Java, and it was not a default of the language. When Java would have started with Generics, it might have evolved different.

So a common problem you have is storing data in an Array. That's also basically when you start C. You not only want to store one thing. But many. But in C an array is of fixed-size. You cannot grow and shrink it.

In Perl we use

```
push @array, $x;
```

to push one element to an array. But Perl is written in C. So how does C solve that problem? Well here are things you can do.

- Allocate an array of the size of the element you already have + 1
- Double the size. When you have an array with 4 entries. Allocate 8. And so on.

So which one do we pick?

The first solution has the advantage of being very memory efficient. No extra space is wasted. Back in the old days that was very important. My first computer had 4 MiB of RAM. Now 16 GiB are the "normal" even for consumer PC.