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# HashMaps

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## Overview

HashMaps are a type of *collection* in Java.

You may have already encountered several different *collections* in Java, such as *Arrays*, *Lists*, and *ArrayLists* - all of which contain data which is accessed by an *index*.

*HashMaps* work differently because they allow you to *map* information *from an index* (key) *to the data you want* (value).

## HashMaps in action

Let's look at a **HashMap** to see how they work in practice.

Here, we'll create a **HashMap** object which stores capital cities.

Remember to *code to an interface* - we'll use the interface **Map** to generate a new **HashMap** implementation:

### ► HashMaps

Just like other collection types, **HashMap** contains useful methods for adding and removing stuff from the collection.

Let's add some cities to our **HashMap** by using the **put()** method:

### ► Add to a HashMap

We can also see these by using **get()** - but for a **HashMap** we pass in a key rather than some pre-defined index:

### ► Get from a HashMap

Other methods, like **remove()**, **clear()** and **size()**, all work in the same way that they do for other collection types:

### ► HashMap methods

We can loop through a **HashMap** in 3 different ways:

- through the *keys* (on the left side) using **keySet()**
- through the *values* (on the right side) using **values()**
- through the *entire entry* (both sides) using **entrySet()**

### ► keySet

### ► values

### ► entrySet

Because keys and values inside a **HashMap** are both objects, we can define a **HashMap** for other object types too.

Let's define a **HashMap** object called **people** that maps names to ages:

### ► People

## Tutorial

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Selenium
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There is no tutorial for this module.

## Exercises

### Morse Code Translator

Consider the following class, which takes in a new `MorseTranslator` object and uses its `translate()` function on a String passed into it:

```
public class Runner {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        MorseTranslator translator = new MorseTranslator();
        System.out.println(translator.translate(".--- .- ...- .- / .. ... / -.-.
--- --- ... / --- -.-"));
    }
}
```

Write the `MorseTranslator` class, using a `HashMap`, to complete this exercise.

► Show solution