

✿ What is a Vector in Java?

A `Vector` is a class in Java that stores a group of elements (objects), similar to an `ArrayList`. It's part of the **Collection Framework**, and it can hold data like numbers, strings, or any kind of objects.

⚙ Package:

The `vector` class is located in:

```
java
```

[Copy code](#)

```
import java.util.Vector;
```

💡 How it works:

A `Vector` works almost the same as an `ArrayList`, but there are two main differences:

1. It is **synchronized**, meaning it is **thread-safe** (safe to use in multi-threaded environments).
2. When it becomes full, it **automatically doubles its capacity** instead of creating a new array manually.

VS Difference between Vector and ArrayList :

Feature	Vector	ArrayList
Synchronization	Synchronized (Thread-safe)	Not synchronized
Performance	Slower (because of synchronization)	Faster
Capacity Growth	Grows by 100% (doubles)	Grows by 50%

✿ What is a PriorityQueue (Simple Idea)

A PriorityQueue in Java is a special type of queue where each element has a priority, and the element with the highest priority is always served first, not necessarily the one that was added first.

⚙ Quick Example

java

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```
import java.util.PriorityQueue;

public class Main {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        PriorityQueue<Integer> queue = new PriorityQueue<>();

        queue.add(30);
        queue.add(10);
        queue.add(20);

        System.out.println(queue.poll()); // 10 → smallest has highest priority
        System.out.println(queue.poll()); // 20
        System.out.println(queue.poll()); // 30
    }
}
```

⚙️ You can also define your own priority

For example, if you want bigger numbers to have higher priority:

java

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```
PriorityQueue<Integer> queue = new PriorityQueue<>(Comparator.reverseOrder());
```

🎯 In simple words:

A `PriorityQueue` is like a smart queue that decides who goes first based on importance, not based on who came first.

✖ What is an `ArrayDeque` ?

`ArrayDeque` stands for:

Array Double-Ended Queue


That means it's a **queue** where you can **add** and **remove** elements from **both ends** — from the **front** and from the **back**.

So, it can act as either:

- a **Queue** → first in, first out (FIFO)
- or a **Stack** → last in, first out (LIFO)

◆ Using it as a Stack

java

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```
ArrayDeque<Integer> stack = new ArrayDeque<>();

stack.push(10);
stack.push(20);
stack.push(30);

System.out.println(stack.pop()); // 30 → last in, first out
```

◆ Using it as a Queue

java

 Copy code

```
ArrayDeque<Integer> queue = new ArrayDeque<>();

queue.offer(10);
queue.offer(20);
queue.offer(30);

System.out.println(queue.poll()); // 10 → first in, first out
```



1 What is a Map?

A Map is a collection of key → value pairs.

- Key = unique identifier
- Value = data for that key

Example:

java

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```
Map<String, Integer> map = new HashMap<>();  
map.put("Eslam", 25);  
map.put("Ahmed", 30);  
map.put("Sara", 19);
```


No duplicate keys are allowed. If you add the same key again, the old value replaces the new one.

2 How HashMap stores values

Step 1: Buckets (Array)

Imagine an array of **boxes** (buckets) where the data will be stored:

css

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```
[0] [1] [2] [3] [4] [5] [6] [7]
```

Each **bucket** can store one or more key-value pairs.

Step 2: Hash function

When you insert a key, the map calculates a **hash** to decide which bucket to store it in:

bash

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```
hash("Eslam") → 3
```

```
hash("Ahmed") → 5
```

```
hash("Sara") → 7
```

Step 3: Store in bucket

The key-value pair goes into the bucket at that index:

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Bucket 3: ("Eslam", 25)

Bucket 5: ("Ahmed", 30)


Bucket 7: ("Sara", 19)

✓ No duplicates allowed: If you try `map.put("Eslam", 40)`, it replaces 25 with 40.

3 How operations work $O(1)$

Add/Update:


java

 Copy code

```
map.put("Ali", 22); // computes hash, finds bucket, stores it
```

Get value:


java

 Copy code

```
map.get("Ahmed"); // computes hash → bucket 5 → returns 30
```

Remove:

java

 Copy code

```
map.remove("Sara"); // goes to bucket 7 → removes the pair
```


Why $O(1)$?

- You **compute the bucket directly** using the hash → no need to check all elements.
- Access is **direct**, very fast.

3 How operations work $O(1)$

Add/Update:


java

 Copy code

```
map.put("Ali", 22); // computes hash, finds bucket, stores it
```

Get value:


java

 Copy code

```
map.get("Ahmed"); // computes hash → bucket 5 → returns 30
```

Remove:

java

 Copy code

```
map.remove("Sara"); // goes to bucket 7 → removes the pair
```

Why $O(1)$?


- You **compute the bucket directly** using the hash → no need to check all elements.
- Access is **direct**, very fast.

1 HashMap

- **Type:** Non-synchronized → **not thread-safe**
- **Allows null:** Yes, **key can be null**, **value can be null**
- **Order:** Not guaranteed → **elements may not appear in insertion order**
- **Performance:** Very fast because no synchronization
- **Use case:** When thread-safety is **not required**

Example:

java

 Copy code


```
HashMap<String, Integer> map = new HashMap<>();  
map.put("Eslam", 25);  
map.put("Ahmed", 30);  
System.out.println(map); // Order may differ from insertion order
```

2 Hashtable

- Type: Synchronized → **thread-safe**
- Allows null: No, neither key nor value can be null
- Order: Not guaranteed → like HashMap
- Performance: Slower than HashMap due to synchronization
- Use case: When you need **thread-safe operations**

Example:

java

 Copy code


```
Hashtable<String, Integer> table = new Hashtable<>();  
table.put("Eslam", 25);  
table.put("Ahmed", 30);
```

3 LinkedHashMap

- **Type:** Like HashMap, **non-synchronized**
- **Allows null:** Yes, key and value can be null
- **Order:** Maintains insertion order
- **Extra feature:** Can maintain access-order (order changes when accessed)
- **Use case:** When you need to preserve order

Example:

java

 Copy code

```
LinkedHashMap<String, Integer> linkedMap = new LinkedHashMap<>();  
linkedMap.put("Eslam", 25);  
linkedMap.put("Ahmed", 30);  
linkedMap.put("Sara", 19);  
System.out.println(linkedMap);  
// Output: {Eslam=25, Ahmed=30, Sara=19}
```


◆ Quick Comparison

Type	Synchronized	Allows null	Maintains order	Performance
HashMap	No	Yes	No	Very fast
Hashtable	Yes	No	No	Slower
LinkedHashMap	No	Yes	Yes (insertion order)	Fast

1 What is a Set?

A Set is a collection that stores unique elements only.


- No duplicates – each element appears only once
- Order usually doesn't matter
- Ideal when you just need a collection of unique items

2 HashSet

- Type: Unordered set
- Allows null: Yes
- Order: Not guaranteed → elements can appear in any order
- Performance: Very fast → add, remove, and contains are $O(1)$ on average

Example:

java

 Copy code

```
HashSet<String> hashSet = new HashSet<>();  
hashSet.add("Eslam");  
hashSet.add("Ahmed");  
hashSet.add("Sara");  
System.out.println(hashSet); // Order not guaranteed
```

3 LinkedHashMap

- **Type:** Maintains insertion order
- **Allows null:** Yes
- **Order:** Elements appear in the same order they were added
- **Performance:** Almost as fast as HashSet, slightly slower due to order tracking

Example:

java

 Copy code

```
LinkedHashSet<String> linkedSet = new LinkedHashMap<>();  
linkedSet.add("Eslam");  
linkedSet.add("Ahmed");  
linkedSet.add("Sara");  
System.out.println(linkedSet); // Output: [Eslam, Ahmed, Sara]
```

Summary:

- Use `HashSet` if order doesn't matter
- Use `LinkedHashSet` if you want to preserve insertion order


Set is built on HashMap

1 The truth: Set is built on HashMap

In Java, most Set implementations (like HashSet) store their elements internally using a HashMap.

Inside `HashSet`, you'll see something like:


java

 Copy code

```
private transient HashMap<E,Object> map;
```

- Each element in the Set becomes a **key** in the **HashMap**.
- The value (`object`) is **not important**, usually a dummy object:

java

 Copy code

```
private static final Object PRESENT = new Object();
```

2 Why use a HashMap?


The Set needs:

1. **Unique elements only** → HashMap ensures keys are unique
2. **Fast operations (O(1))** → HashMap gives fast add/remove/contains

So basically: every element in the Set is a key in the HashMap, and the value is just a placeholder.

3 Example

java

 Copy code

```
HashSet<String> set = new HashSet<>();  
set.add("Eslam");  
set.add("Ahmed");  
set.add("Sara");  
  
// Internally, it's like having a HashMap:  
map = {  
    "Eslam" -> PRESENT,  
    "Ahmed" -> PRESENT,  
    "Sara"  -> PRESENT  
}
```

- If you try to add "Eslam" again → HashMap prevents duplicates
- That's why Set never allows duplicate elements

4 Summary

Point	Explanation
Why HashMap?	Ensures unique keys and fast operations
What is stored as value?	A dummy object like <code>PRESENT</code> because the value itself is not important
How duplicates are prevented?	HashMap does not allow duplicate keys , so every Set element is unique