| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/ObjectStreamClass.html) | [**Tree**](http://docs.google.com/package-tree.html) | [**Deprecated**](http://docs.google.com/deprecated-list.html) | [**Index**](http://docs.google.com/index-files/index-1.html) | [**Help**](http://docs.google.com/help-doc.html) | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | | ***Java™ Platform***  ***Standard Ed. 6*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [**PREV CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectOutputStream.PutField.html)   [**NEXT CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamConstants.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/ObjectStreamClass.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |
| SUMMARY: NESTED | [FIELD](#3znysh7) | CONSTR | [METHOD](#2et92p0) | DETAIL: [FIELD](#3dy6vkm) | CONSTR | [METHOD](#4d34og8) |

## **java.io**

Class ObjectStreamClass

[java.lang.Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html)  
 **java.io.ObjectStreamClass**

**All Implemented Interfaces:** [Serializable](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Serializable.html)

public class **ObjectStreamClass**extends [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html)implements [Serializable](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Serializable.html)

Serialization's descriptor for classes. It contains the name and serialVersionUID of the class. The ObjectStreamClass for a specific class loaded in this Java VM can be found/created using the lookup method.

The algorithm to compute the SerialVersionUID is described in [Object Serialization Specification, Section 4.6, Stream Unique Identifiers](http://docs.google.com/platform/serialization/spec/class.html#4100).

**Since:** JDK1.1 **See Also:**[ObjectStreamField](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamField.html), [Object Serialization Specification, Section 4, Class Descriptors](http://docs.google.com/platform/serialization/spec/class.html), [Serialized Form](http://docs.google.com/serialized-form.html#java.io.ObjectStreamClass)

| **Field Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| static [ObjectStreamField](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamField.html)[] | [**NO\_FIELDS**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#NO_FIELDS)            serialPersistentFields value indicating no serializable fields |

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [Class](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Class.html)<?> | [**forClass**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#forClass())()            Return the class in the local VM that this version is mapped to. |
| [ObjectStreamField](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamField.html) | [**getField**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#getField(java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) name)            Get the field of this class by name. |
| [ObjectStreamField](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamField.html)[] | [**getFields**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#getFields())()            Return an array of the fields of this serializable class. |
| [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**getName**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#getName())()            Returns the name of the class described by this descriptor. |
| long | [**getSerialVersionUID**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#getSerialVersionUID())()            Return the serialVersionUID for this class. |
| static [ObjectStreamClass](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html) | [**lookup**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#lookup(java.lang.Class))([Class](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Class.html)<?> cl)            Find the descriptor for a class that can be serialized. |
| static [ObjectStreamClass](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html) | [**lookupAny**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#lookupAny(java.lang.Class))([Class](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Class.html)<?> cl)            Returns the descriptor for any class, regardless of whether it implements [Serializable](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Serializable.html). |
| [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**toString**](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html#toString())()            Return a string describing this ObjectStreamClass. |

| **Methods inherited from class java.lang.**[**Object**](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html) |
| --- |
| [clone](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#clone()), [equals](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#equals(java.lang.Object)), [finalize](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#finalize()), [getClass](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#getClass()), [hashCode](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#hashCode()), [notify](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#notify()), [notifyAll](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#notifyAll()), [wait](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#wait()), [wait](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#wait(long)), [wait](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#wait(long,%20int)) |

| **Field Detail** |
| --- |

### NO\_FIELDS

public static final [ObjectStreamField](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamField.html)[] **NO\_FIELDS**

serialPersistentFields value indicating no serializable fields

| **Method Detail** |
| --- |

### lookup

public static [ObjectStreamClass](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html) **lookup**([Class](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Class.html)<?> cl)

Find the descriptor for a class that can be serialized. Creates an ObjectStreamClass instance if one does not exist yet for class. Null is returned if the specified class does not implement java.io.Serializable or java.io.Externalizable.

**Parameters:**cl - class for which to get the descriptor **Returns:**the class descriptor for the specified class

### lookupAny

public static [ObjectStreamClass](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamClass.html) **lookupAny**([Class](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Class.html)<?> cl)

Returns the descriptor for any class, regardless of whether it implements [Serializable](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Serializable.html).

**Parameters:**cl - class for which to get the descriptor **Returns:**the class descriptor for the specified class**Since:** 1.6

### getName

public [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **getName**()

Returns the name of the class described by this descriptor. This method returns the name of the class in the format that is used by the [Class.getName()](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Class.html#getName()) method.

**Returns:**a string representing the name of the class

### getSerialVersionUID

public long **getSerialVersionUID**()

Return the serialVersionUID for this class. The serialVersionUID defines a set of classes all with the same name that have evolved from a common root class and agree to be serialized and deserialized using a common format. NonSerializable classes have a serialVersionUID of 0L.

**Returns:**the SUID of the class described by this descriptor

### forClass

public [Class](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Class.html)<?> **forClass**()

Return the class in the local VM that this version is mapped to. Null is returned if there is no corresponding local class.

**Returns:**the Class instance that this descriptor represents

### getFields

public [ObjectStreamField](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamField.html)[] **getFields**()

Return an array of the fields of this serializable class.

**Returns:**an array containing an element for each persistent field of this class. Returns an array of length zero if there are no fields.**Since:** 1.2

### getField

public [ObjectStreamField](http://docs.google.com/java/io/ObjectStreamField.html) **getField**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) name)

Get the field of this class by name.

**Parameters:**name - the name of the data field to look for **Returns:**The ObjectStreamField object of the named field or null if there is no such named field.

### toString

public [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **toString**()

Return a string describing this ObjectStreamClass.

**Overrides:**[toString](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#toString()) in class [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html) **Returns:**a string representation of the object.

| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/ObjectStreamClass.html) | [**Tree**](http://docs.google.com/package-tree.html) | [**Deprecated**](http://docs.google.com/deprecated-list.html) | [**Index**](http://docs.google.com/index-files/index-1.html) | [**Help**](http://docs.google.com/help-doc.html) | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | | ***Java™ Platform***  ***Standard Ed. 6*** |
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[Submit a bug or feature](http://bugs.sun.com/services/bugreport/index.jsp)

For further API reference and developer documentation, see [Java SE Developer Documentation](http://docs.google.com/webnotes/devdocs-vs-specs.html). That documentation contains more detailed, developer-targeted descriptions, with conceptual overviews, definitions of terms, workarounds, and working code examples.

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