| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/URLDecoder.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/net/URLConnection.html)   [**NEXT CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/java/net/URLEncoder.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?java/net/URLDecoder.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/URLDecoder.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |
| SUMMARY: NESTED | FIELD | [CONSTR](#3znysh7) | [METHOD](#2et92p0) | DETAIL: FIELD | [CONSTR](#3dy6vkm) | [METHOD](#4d34og8) |

## **java.net**

Class URLDecoder

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

public class **URLDecoder**extends [Object](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html)

Utility class for HTML form decoding. This class contains static methods for decoding a String from the application/x-www-form-urlencoded MIME format.

To conversion process is the reverse of that used by the URLEncoder class. It is assumed that all characters in the encoded string are one of the following: "a" through "z", "A" through "Z", "0" through "9", and "-", "\_", ".", and "\*". The character "%" is allowed but is interpreted as the start of a special escaped sequence.

The following rules are applied in the conversion:

* The alphanumeric characters "a" through "z", "A" through "Z" and "0" through "9" remain the same.
* The special characters ".", "-", "\*", and "\_" remain the same.
* The plus sign "+" is converted into a space character " " .
* A sequence of the form "%*xy*" will be treated as representing a byte where *xy* is the two-digit hexadecimal representation of the 8 bits. Then, all substrings that contain one or more of these byte sequences consecutively will be replaced by the character(s) whose encoding would result in those consecutive bytes. The encoding scheme used to decode these characters may be specified, or if unspecified, the default encoding of the platform will be used.

There are two possible ways in which this decoder could deal with illegal strings. It could either leave illegal characters alone or it could throw an [IllegalArgumentException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/IllegalArgumentException.html). Which approach the decoder takes is left to the implementation.

**Since:** 1.2

| **Constructor Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [**URLDecoder**](http://docs.google.com/java/net/URLDecoder.html#URLDecoder())() |

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| static [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**decode**](http://docs.google.com/java/net/URLDecoder.html#decode(java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) s)  **Deprecated.** *The resulting string may vary depending on the platform's default encoding. Instead, use the decode(String,String) method to specify the encoding.* |
| static [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) | [**decode**](http://docs.google.com/java/net/URLDecoder.html#decode(java.lang.String,%20java.lang.String))([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) s, [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) enc)            Decodes a application/x-www-form-urlencoded string using a specific encoding scheme. |

| **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()), [toString](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Object.html#toString()), [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)) |

| **Constructor Detail** |
| --- |

### URLDecoder

public **URLDecoder**()

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

### decode

[@Deprecated](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Deprecated.html)  
public static [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **decode**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) s)

**Deprecated.** *The resulting string may vary depending on the platform's default encoding. Instead, use the decode(String,String) method to specify the encoding.*

Decodes a x-www-form-urlencoded string. The platform's default encoding is used to determine what characters are represented by any consecutive sequences of the form "%*xy*".

**Parameters:**s - the String to decode **Returns:**the newly decoded String

### decode

public static [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) **decode**([String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) s,  
 [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html) enc)  
 throws [UnsupportedEncodingException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/UnsupportedEncodingException.html)

Decodes a application/x-www-form-urlencoded string using a specific encoding scheme. The supplied encoding is used to determine what characters are represented by any consecutive sequences of the form "%*xy*".

***Note:*** *The*  [*World Wide Web Consortium Recommendation*](http://www.w3.org/TR/html40/appendix/notes.html#non-ascii-chars) *states that UTF-8 should be used. Not doing so may introduce incompatibilites.*

**Parameters:**s - the String to decodeenc - The name of a supported [character encoding](http://docs.google.com/lang/package-summary.html#charenc). **Returns:**the newly decoded String **Throws:** [UnsupportedEncodingException](http://docs.google.com/java/io/UnsupportedEncodingException.html) - If character encoding needs to be consulted, but named character encoding is not supported**Since:** 1.4 **See Also:**[URLEncoder.encode(java.lang.String, java.lang.String)](http://docs.google.com/java/net/URLEncoder.html#encode(java.lang.String,%20java.lang.String))

| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/URLDecoder.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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| SUMMARY: NESTED | FIELD | [CONSTR](#3znysh7) | [METHOD](#2et92p0) | DETAIL: FIELD | [CONSTR](#3dy6vkm) | [METHOD](#4d34og8) |

[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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