| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/PrivateKey.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/security/Principal.html)   [**NEXT CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/java/security/PrivilegedAction.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?java/security/PrivateKey.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/PrivateKey.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |
| SUMMARY: NESTED | [FIELD](#3znysh7) | CONSTR | METHOD | DETAIL: [FIELD](#3dy6vkm) | CONSTR | METHOD |

## **java.security**

Interface PrivateKey

**All Superinterfaces:** [Key](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Key.html), [Serializable](http://docs.google.com/java/io/Serializable.html) **All Known Subinterfaces:** [DHPrivateKey](http://docs.google.com/javax/crypto/interfaces/DHPrivateKey.html), [DSAPrivateKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/DSAPrivateKey.html), [ECPrivateKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/ECPrivateKey.html), [RSAMultiPrimePrivateCrtKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/RSAMultiPrimePrivateCrtKey.html), [RSAPrivateCrtKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/RSAPrivateCrtKey.html), [RSAPrivateKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/RSAPrivateKey.html)

public interface **PrivateKey**extends [Key](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Key.html)

A private key. This interface contains no methods or constants. It merely serves to group (and provide type safety for) all private key interfaces. Note: The specialized private key interfaces extend this interface. See, for example, the DSAPrivateKey interface in java.security.interfaces.

**See Also:**[Key](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Key.html), [PublicKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/PublicKey.html), [Certificate](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Certificate.html), [Signature.initVerify(java.security.PublicKey)](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Signature.html#initVerify(java.security.PublicKey)), [DSAPrivateKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/DSAPrivateKey.html), [RSAPrivateKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/RSAPrivateKey.html), [RSAPrivateCrtKey](http://docs.google.com/java/security/interfaces/RSAPrivateCrtKey.html)

| **Field Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| static long | [**serialVersionUID**](http://docs.google.com/java/security/PrivateKey.html#serialVersionUID)            The class fingerprint that is set to indicate serialization compatibility with a previous version of the class. |

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |

| **Methods inherited from interface java.security.**[**Key**](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Key.html) |
| --- |
| [getAlgorithm](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Key.html#getAlgorithm()), [getEncoded](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Key.html#getEncoded()), [getFormat](http://docs.google.com/java/security/Key.html#getFormat()) |

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

### serialVersionUID

static final long **serialVersionUID**

The class fingerprint that is set to indicate serialization compatibility with a previous version of the class.

**See Also:**[Constant Field Values](http://docs.google.com/constant-values.html#java.security.PrivateKey.serialVersionUID)

| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/PrivateKey.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/security/Principal.html)   [**NEXT CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/java/security/PrivilegedAction.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?java/security/PrivateKey.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/PrivateKey.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |
| SUMMARY: NESTED | [FIELD](#3znysh7) | CONSTR | METHOD | DETAIL: [FIELD](#3dy6vkm) | CONSTR | METHOD |

[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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