| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/ElementVisitor.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/javax/lang/model/element/ElementKind.html)   [**NEXT CLASS**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ExecutableElement.html) | [**FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/index.html?javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html)    [**NO FRAMES**](http://docs.google.com/ElementVisitor.html)     [**All Classes**](http://docs.google.com/allclasses-noframe.html) |
| SUMMARY: NESTED | FIELD | CONSTR | [METHOD](#3znysh7) | DETAIL: FIELD | CONSTR | [METHOD](#2et92p0) |

## **javax.lang.model.element**

Interface ElementVisitor<R,P>

**Type Parameters:**R - the return type of this visitor's methods. Use [Void](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/Void.html) for visitors that do not need to return results.P - the type of the additional parameter to this visitor's methods. Use Void for visitors that do not need an additional parameter. **All Known Implementing Classes:** [AbstractElementVisitor6](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/util/AbstractElementVisitor6.html), [ElementKindVisitor6](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/util/ElementKindVisitor6.html), [ElementScanner6](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/util/ElementScanner6.html), [SimpleElementVisitor6](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/util/SimpleElementVisitor6.html)

public interface **ElementVisitor<R,P>**

A visitor of program elements, in the style of the visitor design pattern. Classes implementing this interface are used to operate on an element when the kind of element is unknown at compile time. When a visitor is passed to an element's [accept](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/Element.html#accept(javax.lang.model.element.ElementVisitor,%20P)) method, the visit*XYZ* method most applicable to that element is invoked.

Classes implementing this interface may or may not throw a NullPointerException if the additional parameter p is null; see documentation of the implementing class for details.

**WARNING:** It is possible that methods will be added to this interface to accommodate new, currently unknown, language structures added to future versions of the Java™ programming language. Therefore, visitor classes directly implementing this interface may be source incompatible with future versions of the platform. To avoid this source incompatibility, visitor implementations are encouraged to instead extend the appropriate abstract visitor class that implements this interface. However, an API should generally use this visitor interface as the type for parameters, return type, etc. rather than one of the abstract classes.

**Since:** 1.6 **See Also:**[AbstractElementVisitor6](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/util/AbstractElementVisitor6.html)

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visit**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visit(javax.lang.model.element.Element))([Element](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/Element.html) e)            A convenience method equivalent to v.visit(e, null). |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visit**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visit(javax.lang.model.element.Element,%20P))([Element](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/Element.html) e, [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)            Visits an element. |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visitExecutable**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visitExecutable(javax.lang.model.element.ExecutableElement,%20P))([ExecutableElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ExecutableElement.html) e, [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)            Visits an executable element. |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visitPackage**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visitPackage(javax.lang.model.element.PackageElement,%20P))([PackageElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/PackageElement.html) e, [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)            Visits a package element. |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visitType**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visitType(javax.lang.model.element.TypeElement,%20P))([TypeElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/TypeElement.html) e, [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)            Visits a type element. |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visitTypeParameter**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visitTypeParameter(javax.lang.model.element.TypeParameterElement,%20P))([TypeParameterElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/TypeParameterElement.html) e, [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)            Visits a type parameter element. |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visitUnknown**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visitUnknown(javax.lang.model.element.Element,%20P))([Element](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/Element.html) e, [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)            Visits an unknown kind of element. |
| [R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) | [**visitVariable**](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html#visitVariable(javax.lang.model.element.VariableElement,%20P))([VariableElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/VariableElement.html) e, [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)            Visits a variable element. |

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

### visit

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visit**([Element](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/Element.html) e,  
 [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)

Visits an element.

**Parameters:**e - the element to visitp - a visitor-specified parameter **Returns:**a visitor-specified result

### visit

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visit**([Element](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/Element.html) e)

A convenience method equivalent to v.visit(e, null).

**Parameters:**e - the element to visit **Returns:**a visitor-specified result

### visitPackage

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visitPackage**([PackageElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/PackageElement.html) e,  
 [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)

Visits a package element.

**Parameters:**e - the element to visitp - a visitor-specified parameter **Returns:**a visitor-specified result

### visitType

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visitType**([TypeElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/TypeElement.html) e,  
 [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)

Visits a type element.

**Parameters:**e - the element to visitp - a visitor-specified parameter **Returns:**a visitor-specified result

### visitVariable

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visitVariable**([VariableElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/VariableElement.html) e,  
 [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)

Visits a variable element.

**Parameters:**e - the element to visitp - a visitor-specified parameter **Returns:**a visitor-specified result

### visitExecutable

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visitExecutable**([ExecutableElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ExecutableElement.html) e,  
 [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)

Visits an executable element.

**Parameters:**e - the element to visitp - a visitor-specified parameter **Returns:**a visitor-specified result

### visitTypeParameter

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visitTypeParameter**([TypeParameterElement](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/TypeParameterElement.html) e,  
 [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)

Visits a type parameter element.

**Parameters:**e - the element to visitp - a visitor-specified parameter **Returns:**a visitor-specified result

### visitUnknown

[R](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) **visitUnknown**([Element](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/Element.html) e,  
 [P](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/ElementVisitor.html) p)

Visits an unknown kind of element. This can occur if the language evolves and new kinds of elements are added to the Element hierarchy.

**Parameters:**e - the element to visitp - a visitor-specified parameter **Returns:**a visitor-specified result **Throws:** [UnknownElementException](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/element/UnknownElementException.html) - a visitor implementation may optionally throw this exception

| | [**Overview**](http://docs.google.com/overview-summary.html) | [**Package**](http://docs.google.com/package-summary.html) | **Class** | [**Use**](http://docs.google.com/class-use/ElementVisitor.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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