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

## **javax.tools**

Interface Tool

**All Known Subinterfaces:** [JavaCompiler](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/JavaCompiler.html)

public interface **Tool**

Common interface for tools that can be invoked from a program. A tool is traditionally a command line program such as a compiler. The set of tools available with a platform is defined by the vendor.

Tools can be located using [ServiceLoader.load(Class)](http://docs.google.com/java/util/ServiceLoader.html#load(java.lang.Class)).

**Since:** 1.6

| **Method Summary** | |
| --- | --- |
| [Set](http://docs.google.com/java/util/Set.html)<[SourceVersion](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/SourceVersion.html)> | [**getSourceVersions**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/Tool.html#getSourceVersions())()            Gets the source versions of the Java™ programming language supported by this tool. |
| int | [**run**](http://docs.google.com/javax/tools/Tool.html#run(java.io.InputStream,%20java.io.OutputStream,%20java.io.OutputStream,%20java.lang.String...))([InputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/InputStream.html) in, [OutputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/OutputStream.html) out, [OutputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/OutputStream.html) err, [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html)... arguments)            Run the tool with the given I/O channels and arguments. |

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

### run

int **run**([InputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/InputStream.html) in,  
 [OutputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/OutputStream.html) out,  
 [OutputStream](http://docs.google.com/java/io/OutputStream.html) err,  
 [String](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/String.html)... arguments)

Run the tool with the given I/O channels and arguments. By convention a tool returns 0 for success and nonzero for errors. Any diagnostics generated will be written to either out or err in some unspecified format.

**Parameters:**in - "standard" input; use System.in if nullout - "standard" output; use System.out if nullerr - "standard" error; use System.err if nullarguments - arguments to pass to the tool **Returns:**0 for success; nonzero otherwise **Throws:** [NullPointerException](http://docs.google.com/java/lang/NullPointerException.html) - if the array of arguments contains any null elements.

### getSourceVersions

[Set](http://docs.google.com/java/util/Set.html)<[SourceVersion](http://docs.google.com/javax/lang/model/SourceVersion.html)> **getSourceVersions**()

Gets the source versions of the Java™ programming language supported by this tool.

**Returns:**a set of supported source versions

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

[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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