



Collections Framework

By Rahul Barve



Objectives

- Introduction to Collections Framework.
- Understand the Need for Collections.
- Arrays Vs. Collections
- Simple Example
- Performing Iterations
- Type Safe Collections
- Types of Collections
- Working with Sorted Collections



Introduction to Collections Framework

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Introduction to Collections Framework

- A collection is a data structure that contains different types of objects.
- The framework provides interfaces that have some contract or behavior which is applicable to the relevant collection.



Array

Vs.

Collection



Array

Vs.

Collection

- Contains elements of similar types.
- Has a fixed dimension. Cannot be resized.
- Can work upon primitives as well as object types.

- Can contain elements of different types.
- Grows dynamically as elements are added.
- Works only upon object types.



Legacy Classes

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Legacy Classes

- Java library provides several predefined classes right from the first version to handle collection specific functionalities.
- Collection specific APIs belong to a package `java.util`.



Legacy Classes

- Stack
- Vector
- Dictionary
- Hashtable
- Properties