

this Reference Variable#

The `this` reference variable exists for every class. It refers to the class object itself. We use the `this` when we have an argument which has the same name as a data member. `this.memberName` specifies that we are accessing the `memberName` variable of the particular class.

Let’s see it in action:

```
1 class Date {
2
3     private int day;
4     private int month;
5     private int year;
6
7
8     // Default constructor
9     public Date() {
10         // We must define the default values for day, month, and year
11         this.day = 0;
12         this.month = 0;
13         this.year = 0;
14     }
15
16     // Parameterized constructor
17     public Date(int day, int month, int year){
18         // The arguments are used as values
19         this.day = day;
20         this.month = month;
21         this.year = year;
22     }
23
24     // A simple print function
25     public void printDate(){
26         System.out.println("Date: " + day + "/" + month + "/" + year);
27     }
28 }
```

Run

Save

Reset

Calling a Constructor from a Constructor#

In Java, we can call a constructor from a constructor. When you call a constructor from another constructor, you use the `this` keyword to refer to the constructor.

Let’s see it in action:

```
1 class Date {
2
3     private int day;
4     private int month;
5     private int year;
6     private String event;
7
8
9     // Default constructor
10    public Date() {
11        // We must define the default values for day, month, and year
12        this.day = 0;
13        this.month = 0;
14        this.year = 0;
15    }
16
17    // Parameterized constructor
18    public Date(int day, int month, int year){
19        // The arguments are used as values
20        this.day = day;
21        this.month = month;
22        this.year = year;
23    }
24
25    // Parameterized constructor
26    public Date(int day, int month, int year, String event){
27        this(day, month, year); // calling the constructor
28        this.event = event;
29    }
30 }
```

Run

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Reset

The `this` keyword followed by parentheses means that another constructor in the same Java class is being called. At line 27 the second constructor in the class is being called.