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Object Oriented Programming



Searching Strings

➤ The **String** class provides two methods that allow you to search a string for a specified character or substring:

- **indexOf()** Searches for the first occurrence of a character or substring.
- **lastIndexOf()** Searches for the last occurrence of a character or substring.

→ These two methods are overloaded in several different ways. In all cases, the methods return the index at which the character or substring was found, or -1 on failure.

➤ To search for the first occurrence of a character, use

```
int indexOf(int ch)
```

➤ To search for the last occurrence of a character, use

```
int lastIndexOf(int ch)
```

Here, *ch* is the character being sought.

➤ To search for the first or last occurrence of a substring, use

```
int indexOf(String str)
```

```
int lastIndexOf(String str)
```

Searching Strings

Here, *str* specifies the substring. You can specify a starting point for the search using these forms:

```
int indexOf(int ch, int startIndex)
int lastIndexOf(int ch, int startIndex)
int indexOf(String str, int startIndex)
int lastIndexOf(String str, int startIndex)
```

→ Here, *startIndex* specifies the index at which point the search begins.
For **indexOf()**, the search runs from *startIndex* to the end of the string.
For **lastIndexOf()**, the search runs from *startIndex* to zero.

Searching Strings

```
// Demonstrate indexOf() and lastIndexOf().
class indexOfDemo {
public static void main(String args[]) {
String s = "Now is the time for all good men "+
"to come to the aid of their country.";
System.out.println(s);
System.out.println("indexOf(t) = " + s.indexOf('t'));
System.out.println("lastIndexOf(t) = " + s.lastIndexOf('t'));
System.out.println("indexOf(the) = " + s.indexOf("the"));
System.out.println("lastIndexOf(the) = " + s.lastIndexOf("the"));
System.out.println("indexOf(t, 10) = " + s.indexOf('t', 10));
System.out.println("lastIndexOf(t, 60) = " + s.lastIndexOf('t', 60));
System.out.println("indexOf(the, 10) = " + s.indexOf("the", 10));
System.out.println("lastIndexOf(the, 60) = " + s.lastIndexOf("the", 60));
}
}
```

Modifying a String: substring()

- Because **String** objects are immutable, whenever you want to modify a **String**, you must either copy it into a **StringBuffer** or **StringBuilder**, or use a **String** method that constructs a new copy of the string with your modifications complete.
- You can extract a substring using **substring()**. It has two forms. The first is

```
String substring(int startIndex)
```

→ Here, *startIndex* specifies the index at which the substring will begin. This form returns a copy of the substring that begins at *startIndex* and runs to the end of the invoking string. The second form of **substring()** allows you to specify both the beginning and ending index of the substring:

```
String substring(int startIndex, int endIndex)
```

→ Here, *startIndex* specifies the beginning index, and *endIndex* specifies the stopping point. The string returned contains all the characters from the beginning index, up to, but not including, the ending index.

Modifying a String: substring()

```
// Substring replacement.
class StringReplace {
public static void main(String args[]) {
String org = "This is a test. This is, too.";
String search = "is";
String sub = "was";
String result = "";
int i;
do { // replace all matching substrings
System.out.println(org);
i = org.indexOf(search);
if(i != -1) {
result = org.substring(0, i);
result = result + sub;
result = result + org.substring(i + search.length());
org = result; } } while(i != -1);
}
}
```

Output :

This is a test. This is, too.
Thwas is a test. This is, too.
Thwas was a test. This is, too.
Thwas was a test. Thwas is, too.
Thwas was a test. Thwas was, too.

Modifying a String: concat()

You can concatenate two strings using **concat()**, shown here:

```
String concat(String str)
```

→ This method creates a new object that contains the invoking string with the contents of *str* appended to the end. **concat()** performs the same function as **+**. For example,

```
String s1 = "one";  
String s2 = s1.concat("two");
```

puts the string "onetwo" into **s2**. It generates the same result as the following sequence:

```
String s1 = "one";  
String s2 = s1 + "two";
```


Modifying a String: `replace()`

- The **`replace()`** method has two forms. The first replaces all occurrences of one character in the invoking string with another character. It has the following general form:

```
String replace(char original, char replacement)
```

→ Here, *original* specifies the character to be replaced by the character specified by *replacement*. The resulting string is returned. For example,

```
String s = "Hello".replace('l', 'w');
```

puts the string "Hewwo" into **s**.

- The second form of **`replace()`** replaces one character sequence with another. It has this general form:

```
String replace(CharSequence original, CharSequence replacement)
```

Modifying a String: trim()

- The **trim()** method returns a copy of the invoking string from which any leading and trailing whitespace has been removed. It has this general form:

```
String trim()
```

Here is an example:

```
String s = " Hello World ".trim();
```

This puts the string "Hello World" into **s**.

Data Conversion Using `valueOf()`

- The **`valueOf()`** method converts data from its internal format into a human-readable form.
- It is a static method that is overloaded within **`String`** for all of Java's built-in types so that each type can be converted properly into a `String`.
- **`valueOf()`** is also overloaded for type **`Object`**, so an object of any class type you create can also be used as an argument.

```
static String valueOf(double num)
```

```
static String valueOf(long num)
```

```
static String valueOf(Object ob)
```

```
static String valueOf(char chars[ ])
```

- **`valueOf()`** is called when a string representation of some other type of data is needed—for example, during concatenation operations.

Data Conversion Using `valueOf()`

- For most arrays, **`valueOf()`** returns a rather cryptic string, which indicates that it is an array of some type.
- For arrays of **`char`**, however, a **`String`** object is created that contains the characters in the **`char`** array.
- There is a special version of **`valueOf()`** that allows you to specify a subset of a **`char`** array. It has this general form:

```
static String valueOf(char chars[ ], int startIndex, int numChars)
```

→ Here, *chars* is the array that holds the characters, *startIndex* is the index into the array of characters at which the desired substring begins, and *numChars* specifies the length of the substring.

Data Conversion Using valueOf()

```
public class valueOfDemo {  
  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        double d = 102939939.939;  
        boolean b = true;  
        long l = 1232874;  
        char[] arr = {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g' };  
  
        System.out.println("Return Value : " + String.valueOf(d) );  
        System.out.println("Return Value : " + String.valueOf(b) );  
        System.out.println("Return Value : " + String.valueOf(l) );  
        System.out.println("Return Value : " + String.valueOf(arr)  
    );  
    }  
}
```

Changing the Case of Characters Within a String

- The method **toLowerCase()** converts all the characters in a string from uppercase to lowercase.
- The **toUpperCase()** method converts all the characters in a string from lowercase to uppercase. Nonalphabetical characters, such as digits, are unaffected. Here are the simplest forms of these methods:

```
String toLowerCase( )
```

```
String toUpperCase( )
```

→ Both methods return a **String** object that contains the uppercase or lowercase equivalent of the invoking **String**.

Changing the Case of Characters Within a String

// Demonstrate toUpperCase() and toLowerCase().

```
class ChangeCase {  
    public static void main(String args[])  
    {  
        String s = "This is a test.";  
        System.out.println("Original: " + s);  
        String upper = s.toUpperCase();  
        String lower = s.toLowerCase();  
        System.out.println("Uppercase: " + upper);  
        System.out.println("Lowercase: " + lower);  
    }  
}
```

Output:

Original: This is a test.

Uppercase: THIS IS A TEST.

Lowercase: this is a test.

Joining Strings

- JDK 8 adds a new method to **String** called **join()**.
- It is used to concatenate two or more strings, separating each string with a delimiter, such as a space or a comma.
- It has two forms. Its first is shown here:

```
static String join(CharSequence delim, CharSequence . . .  
strs)
```

→ Here, *delim* specifies the delimiter used to separate the character sequences specified by *strs*. Because **String** implements the **CharSequence** interface, *strs* can be a list of strings.

Joining Strings

// Demonstrate the join() method defined by String.

```
class StringJoinDemo {  
    public static void main(String args[]) {  
        String result = String.join(" ", "Alpha", "Beta", "Gamma");  
        System.out.println(result);  
        result = String.join(", ", "John", "ID#: 569", "E-mail: John@HerbSchildt.com");  
        System.out.println(result);  
    }  
}
```

Additional String Methods

Method	Description
<code>int codePointAt(int i)</code>	Returns the Unicode code point at the location specified by <i>i</i> .
<code>int codePointBefore(int i)</code>	Returns the Unicode code point at the location that precedes that specified by <i>i</i> .
<code>int codePointCount(int start, int end)</code>	Returns the number of code points in the portion of the invoking String that are between <i>start</i> and <i>end</i> -1.
<code>boolean contains(CharSequence str)</code>	Returns true if the invoking object contains the string specified by <i>str</i> . Returns false otherwise.
<code>boolean contentEquals(CharSequence str)</code>	Returns true if the invoking string contains the same string as <i>str</i> . Otherwise, returns false .
<code>boolean contentEquals(StringBuffer str)</code>	Returns true if the invoking string contains the same string as <i>str</i> . Otherwise, returns false .
<code>static String format(String fmtstr, Object ... args)</code>	Returns a string formatted as specified by <i>fmtstr</i> . (See Chapter 19 for details on formatting.)
<code>static String format(Locale loc, String fmtstr, Object ... args)</code>	Returns a string formatted as specified by <i>fmtstr</i> . Formatting is governed by the locale specified by <i>loc</i> . (See Chapter 19 for details on formatting.)
<code>boolean isEmpty()</code>	Returns true if the invoking string contains no characters and has a length of zero.
<code>boolean matches(string regExp)</code>	Returns true if the invoking string matches the regular expression passed in <i>regExp</i> . Otherwise, returns false .
<code>int offsetByCodePoints(int start, int num)</code>	Returns the index within the invoking string that is <i>num</i> code points beyond the starting index specified by <i>start</i> .
<code>String replaceFirst(String regExp, String newStr)</code>	Returns a string in which the first substring that matches the regular expression specified by <i>regExp</i> is replaced by <i>newStr</i> .
<code>String replaceAll(String regExp, String newStr)</code>	Returns a string in which all substrings that match the regular expression specified by <i>regExp</i> are replaced by <i>newStr</i> .
<code>String[] split(String regExp)</code>	Decomposes the invoking string into parts and returns an array that contains the result. Each part is delimited by the regular expression passed in <i>regExp</i> .

Additional String Methods

Method	Description
<code>String[] split(String <i>regExp</i>, int <i>max</i>)</code>	Decomposes the invoking string into parts and returns an array that contains the result. Each part is delimited by the regular expression passed in <i>regExp</i> . The number of pieces is specified by <i>max</i> . If <i>max</i> is negative, then the invoking string is fully decomposed. Otherwise, if <i>max</i> contains a nonzero value, the last entry in the returned array contains the remainder of the invoking string. If <i>max</i> is zero, the invoking string is fully decomposed, but no trailing empty strings will be included.
<code>CharSequence subSequence(int <i>startIndex</i>, int <i>stopIndex</i>)</code>	Returns a substring of the invoking string, beginning at <i>startIndex</i> and stopping at <i>stopIndex</i> . This method is required by the <code>CharSequence</code> interface, which is implemented by <code>String</code> .

References

Schildt, H. (2014). *Java: the complete reference*. McGraw-Hill Education Group.