

Java toString() method

If you want to represent any object as a string, **toString() method** comes into existence.

The toString() method returns the string representation of the object.

If you print any object, java compiler internally invokes the toString() method on the object. So overriding the toString() method, returns the desired output, it can be the state of an object etc. depends on your implementation.

Advantage of Java toString() method

By overriding the toString() method of the Object class, we can return values of the object, so we don't need to write much code.

Understanding problem without toString() method

Let's see the simple code that prints reference.

```
class Student{
    int rollNo;
    String name;
    String city;

    Student(int rollNo, String name, String city){
        this.rollNo=rollNo;
        this.name=name;
        this.city=city;
    }

    public static void main(String args[]){
        Student s1=new Student(101,"Raj","lucknow");
        Student s2=new Student(102,"Vijay","ghaziabad");
```

```
System.out.println(s1);//compiler writes here s1.toString()  
System.out.println(s2);//compiler writes here s2.toString()  
}  
}
```

```
Output:Student@1fee6fc  
        Student@1eed786
```

As you can see in the above example, printing s1 and s2 prints the hashcode values of the objects but I want to print the values of these objects. Since java compiler internally calls toString() method, overriding this method will return the specified values. Let's understand it with the example given below:

Example of Java toString() method

Now let's see the real example of toString() method.

```
class Student{  
    int rollNo;  
    String name;  
    String city;  
  
    Student(int rollNo, String name, String city){  
        this.rollNo=rollNo;  
    }  
}
```

```
this.name=name;
this.city=city;
}

public String toString(){//overriding the toString() method
    return rollno+" "+name+" "+city;
}

public static void main(String args[]){
    Student s1=new Student(101,"Raj","lucknow");
    Student s2=new Student(102,"Vijay","ghaziabad");

    System.out.println(s1);//compiler writes here s1.toString()
    System.out.println(s2);//compiler writes here s2.toString()
}
}
```

download this example of toString method

```
Output:101 Raj lucknow
       102 Vijay ghaziabad
```

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