# Access Modifiers in Java

The access modifiers in Java specifies the accessibility or scope of a field, method, constructor, or class. We can change the access level of fields, constructors, methods, and class by applying the access modifier on it.

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There are four types of Java access modifiers:

1. **Private**: The access level of a private modifier is only within the class. It cannot be accessed from outside the class.
2. **Default**: The access level of a default modifier is only within the package. It cannot be accessed from outside the package. If you do not specify any access level, it will be the default.
3. **Protected**: The access level of a protected modifier is within the package and outside the package through child class. If you do not make the child class, it cannot be accessed from outside the package.
4. **Public**: The access level of a public modifier is everywhere. It can be accessed from within the class, outside the class, within the package and outside the package.

There are many non-access modifiers, such as static, abstract, synchronized, native, volatile, transient, etc. Here, we are going to learn the access modifiers only.

### Understanding Java Access Modifiers

Let's understand the access modifiers in Java by a simple table.

| **Access Modifier** | **within class** | **within package** | **outside package by subclass only** | **outside package** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Private** | Y | N | N | N |
| **Default** | Y | Y | N | N |
| **Protected** | Y | Y | Y | N |
| **Public** | Y | Y | Y | Y |