

# Lab KeyValuePair<K,V> - Part 2

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## Description:

- Implement the interface `Comparable<KeyValuePair<K,V>>`  
Notice how we substituted a generic type `KeyValuePair<K,V>` for the type parameter `E` in `Comparable<E>`.  
Have Eclipse generate the method stub for the interface method `compareTo`.  
The method `compareTo` will be used to compare two instances of `KeyValuePair<K,V>`.  
Don't implement it quite yet though.  
First let's do a bit more planning: how should we implement `compareTo` ?
- What is it, that makes an instance of a `KeyValuePair<K,V>` smaller or greater than another?  
For our implementation we say that an instance of a `KeyValuePair<K,V>` is smaller if and only if the key value is smaller.  
Similarly an instance of a `KeyValuePair<K,V>` is greater than another if and only if the key value is greater.
- Now we shifted the problem: how can we tell whether a key value is smaller or greater?  
It would be helpful if `K` (the type of the key) implemented the `Comparable<K>` interface. In that case we could just use the `compareTo` method of `K` to find out whether a key value is smaller or greater.
- To allow us to do that we will modify class `KeyValuePair<K,V>` so that it restricts the possible types that can be used as a type argument for `K`. We will only allow types that implement `Comparable<K>`
- How can that be done?  
Change the unbounded type parameter `K` in `KeyValuePair<K,V>` to a bounded type parameter `K extends Comparable<K>`.  
like this: `KeyValuePair<K extends Comparable<K>, V>`
- The header of your class declarations should look now like this:  

```
public class KeyValuePair<K extends Comparable<K>, V>  
    implements Comparable< KeyValuePair <K, V>>
```

  
Notice that you specify the restriction on type `K` only once - when you first introduce the type parameter.
- Now you are ready to implement the method `compareTo`.  
Make sure that two `KeyValuePairs` are greater / smaller based on the value of the key.
- In main do the following:
  - Create 2 more `KeyValuePairs` for  
LA .. 3819702  
SF .. 812826
  - Create a generic List, call it cities, and initialize it with the 4 `KeyValuePairs` that we have created
  - Print the list – one item per line (label the output)
  - Sort the list
  - Print the now sorted list – one item per line

## Output:

Original List:

SLC: 189899

NY: 8244910

LA: 3819702

SF: 812826

Sorted List:

LA: 3819702

NY: 8244910

SF: 812826

SLC: 189899