

Java Switch

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Java Switch Statements

Use the **switch** statement to select one of many code blocks to be executed.

Syntax

```
switch(expression) {  
    case x:  
        code block  
        break;  
    case y:  
        code block  
        break;  
    default:  
        code block
```

This is how it works:

- The **switch** expression is evaluated once.
- The value of the expression is compared with the values of each case.
- If there is a match, the associated block of code is executed.
- The **break** and **default** keywords are optional, and will be described later in this chapter

This example below uses the weekday number to calculate the weekday name:

Example

```
int day = 4;  
switch (day) {  
    case 1:
```

```
        System.out.println("Monday");
        break;
    case 2:
        System.out.println("Tuesday");
        break;
    case 3:
        System.out.println("Wednesday");
        break;
    case 4:
        System.out.println("Thursday");
        break;
    case 5:
        System.out.println("Friday");
        break;
    case 6:
        System.out.println("Saturday");
        break;
    case 7:
        System.out.println("Sunday");
        break;
}
// Outputs "Thursday" (day 4)
```

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The break Keyword

When Java reaches a **break** keyword, it breaks out of the switch block.

This will stop the execution of more code and case testing inside the block.

When a match is found, and the job is done, it's time for a break. There is no need for more testing.

A break can save a lot of execution time because it "ignores" the execution of all the rest of the code in the switch block.

The default Keyword

The **default** keyword specifies the code to run if there is no case match:

Example

```
int day = 4;
switch (day) {
    case 6:
        System.out.println("Saturday");
        break;
    case 7:
        System.out.println("Sunday");
        break;
    default:
        System.out.println("Weekend");
}
// Outputs "Weekend"
```

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The **default** keyword does not need a break, because it's always the last statement in a switch block.

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