- It stores elements in the form of key-value pairs.
- For every key, there is a value associated.

- The key has to be unique, but values may be duplicates.
- Hence, the key specific class must override hashCode() and equals().

- It has several Implementations:
  - Hashtable
  - HashMap
  - Properties

### **Sorted Collections**

#### **Sorted Collections**

• Whenever a collection is holding multiple data values, it is a very common requirement to perform sorting on those values.

#### **Sorted Collections**

- Collections Framework provides 2 APIs to perform sorting.
- SortedSet and SortedMap

#### SortedSet

- It is an extension to Set.
- Does not permit duplicate values, but stores elements in a sorted order.
- It is implemented by TreeSet.

### SortedMap

- It is an extension to Map.
- Stores elements in the form of key-value pairs.

### SortedMap

- Performs sorting on the basis of keys.
- It is implemented by TreeMap.

# **Sorting Customization**

# **Sorting Customization**

- Collection Framework also provides a mechanism to customize the sorting algorithm.
- It is especially required in case of user defined objects.

# **Sorting Customization**

- To customize the sorting algorithm, there are 2 APIs provided:
  - java.lang.Comparable
  - Java.util.Comparator

## Comparable

- Implemented by a class of which objects are to be sorted.
- Useful to provide a default sorting algorithm.

## Comparator

- Implemented by a class that provides the sorting algorithm.
- Used to customize the sorting algorithm.