

Type Casting in Java – Complete Theory Notes

1. What is Type Casting?

➡ **Type Casting** in Java is the process of converting one data type into another.

Java supports this because different data types occupy different memory sizes.

Example:

Convert `int` → `double`

Convert `double` → `int`

2. Two Types of Type Casting

Java supports 2 types of type casting:

✓ 1. Widening (Automatic Type Casting)

- ➡ Happens automatically
- ➡ Smaller data type → Larger data type
- ➡ No data loss
- ➡ Also called Implicit Casting / Upcasting

`byte` → `short` → `int` → `long` → `float` → `double`

✓ 2. Narrowing (Manual Type Casting)

- ➡ Performed **manually**
 - ➡ Larger data type → Smaller data type
 - ➡ Possible data loss
 - ➡ Also called **Explicit Casting / Downcasting**

`double` → `float` → `long` → `int` → `short` → `byte`

Why Widening is Safe?

- **No data is lost**
- **Smaller data fits safely into a larger container**
- **Java handles the conversion internally**

Why Narrowing is Risky?

- Data might be **lost**
- Overflow may occur
- Manual type casting is required

Type Casting Between `char` and `int`

```
char c = 'A';  
int ascii = c;
```

Type Casting Between String and Numbers

```
String s = "100";  
int num = Integer.parseInt(s);
```

Important Notes & Rules

- ✓ Widening is automatic
- ✓ Narrowing must be done manually
- ✓ Narrowing may cause data loss
- ✓ `char` stores ASCII values internally
- ✓ `String` cannot be directly cast → must use wrapper classes
- ✓ Boolean cannot be type cast to any type