

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