

UNIT II

Inheritance :

Inheritance in Java is a mechanism in which one object acquires all the properties and behaviors of a parent object. It is an important part of OOPs (Object Oriented programming system).

The idea behind inheritance in Java is that you can create new classes that are built upon existing classes. When you inherit from an existing class, you can reuse methods and fields of the parent class. Moreover, you can add new methods and fields in your current class also.

Inheritance represents the **IS-A relationship** which is also known as a *parent-child* relationship.

Why use inheritance in java

- For Method Overriding (so runtime polymorphism can be achieved).
- For Code Reusability.

Terms used in Inheritance

- **Class:** A class is a group of objects which have common properties. It is a template or blueprint from which objects are created.
- **Sub Class/Child Class:** Subclass is a class which inherits the other class. It is also called a derived class, extended class, or child class.
- **Super Class/Parent Class:** Superclass is the class from where a subclass inherits the features. It is also called a base class or a parent class.
- **Reusability:** As the name specifies, reusability is a mechanism which facilitates you to reuse the fields and methods of the existing class when you create a new class. You can use the same fields and methods already defined in the previous class.

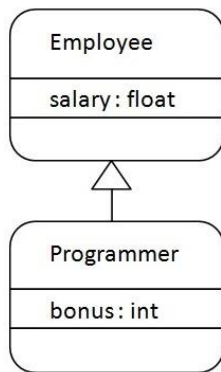
The syntax of Java Inheritance

1. **class** Subclass-name **extends** Superclass-name

2. {
3. //methods and fields
4. }

The **extends keyword** indicates that you are making a new class that derives from an existing class. The meaning of "extends" is to increase the functionality. In the terminology of Java, a class which is inherited is called a parent or superclass, and the new class is called child or subclass. In the terminology of Java, a class which is inherited is called a parent or superclass, and the new class is called child or subclass.

Java Inheritance Example



As displayed in the above figure, Programmer is the subclass and Employee is the superclass. The relationship between the two classes is **Programmer IS-A Employee**. It means that Programmer is a type of Employee.

1. **class** Employee{
2. **float** salary=40000;
3. }
4. **class** Programmer **extends** Employee{
5. **int** bonus=10000;
6. **public static void** main(String args[]){
7. Programmer p=**new** Programmer();
8. System.out.println("Programmer salary is:"+p.salary);
9. System.out.println("Bonus of Programmer is:"+p.bonus);
- 10.}
- 11.}

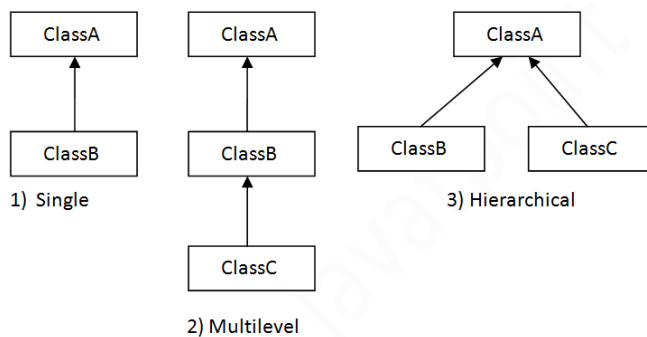
Programmer salary is:40000.0
Bonus of programmer is:10000

In the above example, Programmer object can access the field of own class as well as of Employee class i.e. code reusability.

Types of inheritance in java

On the basis of class, there can be three types of inheritance in java: single, multilevel and hierarchical.

In java programming, multiple and hybrid inheritance is supported through interface only. We will learn about interfaces later.



Note: Multiple inheritance is not supported in Java through class.

When one class inherits multiple classes, it is known as multiple inheritance. For Example:

Single Inheritance Example

When a class inherits another class, it is known as a *single inheritance*. In the example given below, Dog class inherits the Animal class, so there is the single inheritance.

File: TestInheritance.java

```
1. class Animal{
2. void eat(){System.out.println("eating...");}
3. }
4. class Dog extends Animal{
5. void bark(){System.out.println("barking...");}
```

```
6. }
7. class TestInheritance{
8. public static void main(String args[]){
9. Dog d=new Dog();
10.d.bark();
11.d.eat();
12.}}
```

Output:

```
barking...
eating...
```

Multilevel Inheritance Example

When there is a chain of inheritance, it is known as *multilevel inheritance*. As you can see in the example given below, BabyDog class inherits the Dog class which again inherits the Animal class, so there is a multilevel inheritance.

File: TestInheritance2.java

```
1. class Animal{
2. void eat(){System.out.println("eating...");}
3. }
4. class Dog extends Animal{
5. void bark(){System.out.println("barking...");}
6. }
7. class BabyDog extends Dog{
8. void weep(){System.out.println("weeping...");}
9. }
10.class TestInheritance2{
11.public static void main(String args[]){
12.BabyDog d=new BabyDog();
13.d.weep();
14.d.bark();
15.d.eat();
16.}}
```

Output:

```
weeping...  
barking...  
eating...
```

Hierarchical Inheritance Example

When two or more classes inherits a single class, it is known as *hierarchical inheritance*. In the example given below, Dog and Cat classes inherits the Animal class, so there is hierarchical inheritance.

File: TestInheritance3.java

```
1. class Animal{  
2. void eat(){System.out.println("eating...");}  
3. }  
4. class Dog extends Animal{  
5. void bark(){System.out.println("barking...");}  
6. }  
7. class Cat extends Animal{  
8. void meow(){System.out.println("meowing...");}  
9. }  
10.class TestInheritance3{  
11.public static void main(String args[]){  
12.Cat c=new Cat();  
13.c.meow();  
14.c.eat();  
15.//c.bark();//C.T.Error  
16.}}
```

Output:

```
meowing...  
eating...
```

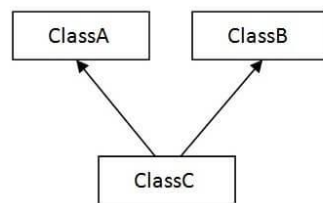
Q) Why multiple inheritance is not supported in java?

To reduce the complexity and simplify the language, multiple inheritance is not supported in java.

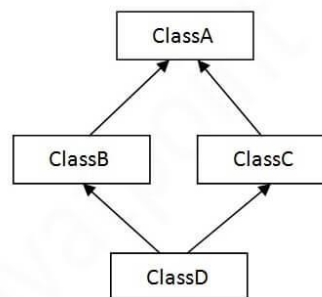
Consider a scenario where A, B, and C are three classes. The C class inherits A and B classes. If A and B classes have the same method and you call it from child class object, there will be ambiguity to call the method of A or B class.

Since compile-time errors are better than runtime errors, Java renders compile-time error if you inherit 2 classes. So whether you have same method or different, there will be compile time error.

```
1. class A{
2. void msg(){System.out.println("Hello");}
3. }
4. class B{
5. void msg(){System.out.println("Welcome");}
6. }
7. class C extends A,B{//suppose if it were
8.
9. public static void main(String args[]){
10. C obj=new C();
11. obj.msg();//Now which msg() method would be invoked?
12.}
13.}
```



4) Multiple



5) Hybrid

Compile Time Error

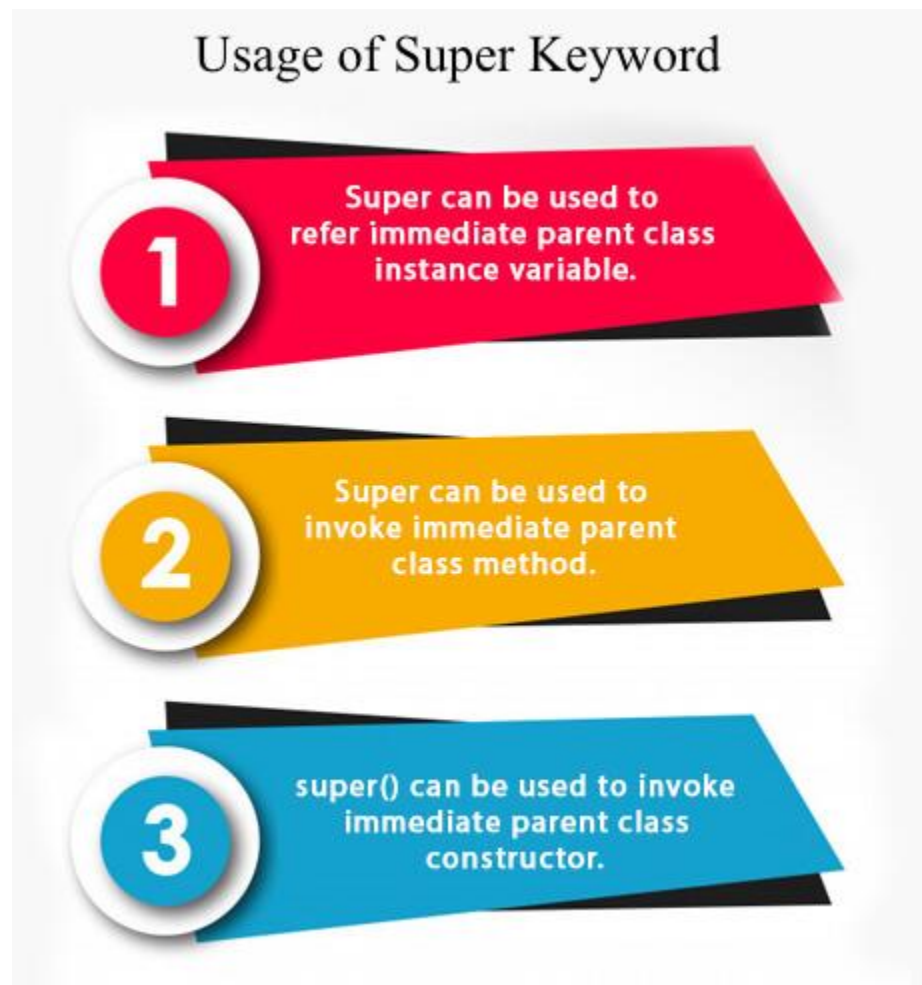
Super Keyword in Java

The **super** keyword in Java is a reference variable which is used to refer immediate parent class object.

Whenever you create the instance of subclass, an instance of parent class is created implicitly which is referred by super reference variable.

Usage of Java super Keyword

1. super can be used to refer immediate parent class instance variable.
2. super can be used to invoke immediate parent class method.
3. super() can be used to invoke immediate parent class constructor.



1) super is used to refer immediate parent class instance variable.

We can use super keyword to access the data member or field of parent class. It is used if parent class and child class have same fields.

```
1. class Animal{
2. String color="white";
3. }
4. class Dog extends Animal{
5. String color="black";
6. void printColor(){
7. System.out.println(color);//prints color of Dog class
8. System.out.println(super.color);//prints color of Animal class
9. }
10.}
11.class TestSuper1{
12.public static void main(String args[]){
13.Dog d=new Dog();
14.d.printColor();
15.}}
```

Output:

```
black
white
```

In the above example, Animal and Dog both classes have a common property color. If we print color property, it will print the color of current class by default. To access the parent property, we need to use super keyword.

2) super can be used to invoke parent class method

The super keyword can also be used to invoke parent class method. It should be used if subclass contains the same method as parent class. In other words, it is used if method is overridden.

```
1. class Animal{
2. void eat(){System.out.println("eating...");}
3. }
4. class Dog extends Animal{
```



```
5. void eat(){System.out.println("eating bread...");}
6. void bark(){System.out.println("barking...");}
7. void work(){
8. super.eat();
9. bark();
10.}
11.}
12.class TestSuper2{
13.public static void main(String args[]){
14.Dog d=new Dog();
15.d.work();
16.}}
```

```
eating...
barking...
```

In the above example Animal and Dog both classes have eat() method if we call eat() method from Dog class, it will call the eat() method of Dog class by default because priority is given to local.

To call the parent class method, we need to use super keyword.

3) super is used to invoke parent class constructor.

The super keyword can also be used to invoke the parent class constructor. Let's see a simple example:

```
1. class Animal{
2. Animal(){System.out.println("animal is created");}
3. }
4. class Dog extends Animal{
5. Dog(){
6. super();
7. System.out.println("dog is created");
8. }
9. }
10.class TestSuper3{
11.public static void main(String args[]){
```

```
12.Dog d=new Dog();
```

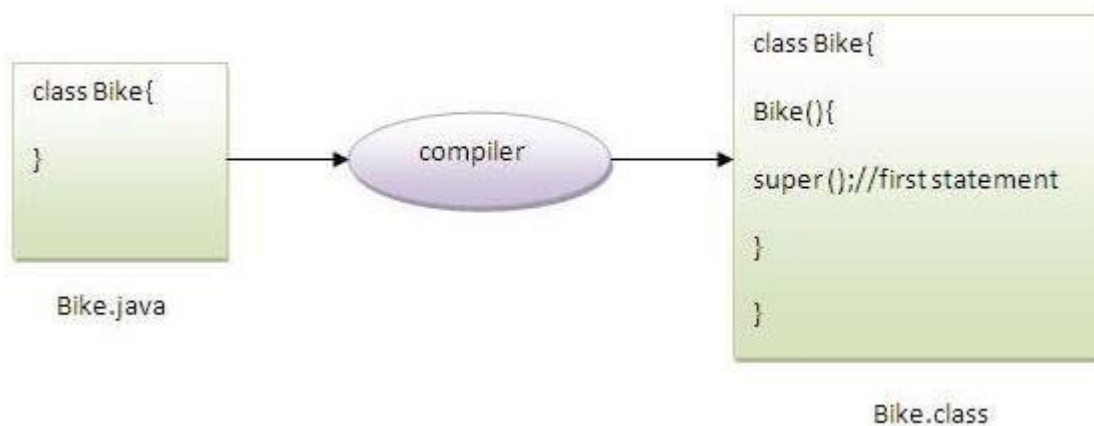
```
13.}}
```

Output:

```
animal is created
```

```
dog is created
```

Note: `super()` is added in each class constructor automatically by compiler if there is no `super()` or `this()`.



As we know well that default constructor is provided by compiler automatically if there is no constructor. But, it also adds `super()` as the first statement.

Another example of `super` keyword where `super()` is provided by the compiler implicitly.

```
1. class Animal{
2. Animal(){System.out.println("animal is created");}
3. }
4. class Dog extends Animal{
5. Dog(){
6. System.out.println("dog is created");
7. }
8. }
9. class TestSuper4{
10. public static void main(String args[]){
11. Dog d=new Dog();
```

12.}}

Output:

```
animal is created  
dog is created
```

super example: real use

Let's see the real use of super keyword. Here, Emp class inherits Person class so all the properties of Person will be inherited to Emp by default. To initialize all the property, we are using parent class constructor from child class. In such way, we are reusing the parent class constructor.

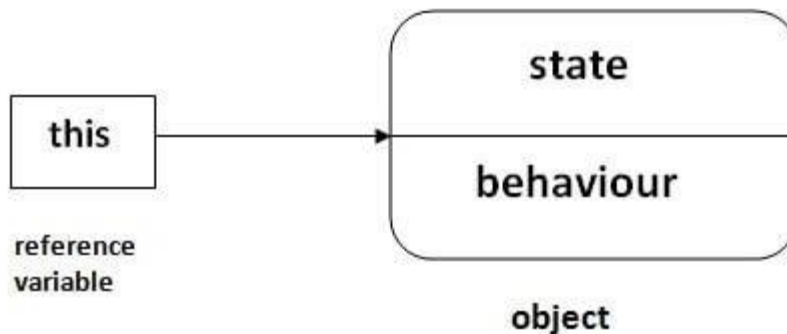
```
1. class Person{  
2. int id;  
3. String name;  
4. Person(int id,String name){  
5. this.id=id;  
6. this.name=name;  
7. }  
8. }  
9. class Emp extends Person{  
10.float salary;  
11.Emp(int id,String name,float salary){  
12.super(id,name);//reusing parent constructor  
13.this.salary=salary;  
14.}  
15.void display(){System.out.println(id+" "+name+" "+salary);}  
16.}  
17.class TestSuper5{  
18.public static void main(String[] args){  
19.Emp e1=new Emp(1,"ankit",45000f);  
20.e1.display();  
21.}}
```

Output:

```
1 ankit 45000
```

this keyword in Java

There can be a lot of usage of **Java this keyword**. In Java, this is a **reference variable** that refers to the current object.



Usage of Java this keyword

Here is given the 6 usage of java this keyword.

1. this can be used to refer current class instance variable.
2. this can be used to invoke current class method (implicitly)
3. this() can be used to invoke current class constructor.
4. this can be passed as an argument in the method call.
5. this can be passed as argument in the constructor call.
6. this can be used to return the current class instance from the method.

Suggestion: If you are beginner to java, lookup only three usages of this keyword.

Usage of Java this Keyword

There can be a lot of usage of java this keyword. In java, this is a reference variable that refers to the current object.

01

this can be used to refer current class instance variable.

04

this can be passed as an argument in the method call.

02

this can be used to invoke current class method (implicitly)

05

this can be passed as argument in the constructor call.

03

this() can be used to invoke current class Constructor.

06

this can be used to return the current class instance from the method

1) **this**: to refer current class instance variable

The **this** keyword can be used to refer current class instance variable. If there is ambiguity between the instance variables and parameters, this keyword resolves the problem of ambiguity.

Understanding the problem without this keyword

Let's understand the problem if we don't use this keyword by the example given below:

1. **class** Student{
2. **int** rollno;
3. String name;
4. **float** fee;
5. Student(**int** rollno,String name,**float** fee){
6. rollno=rollno;
7. name=name;

```
8. fee=fee;
9. }
10. void display(){System.out.println(rollno+" "+name+" "+fee);}
11.}
12. class TestThis1{
13. public static void main(String args[]){
14. Student s1=new Student(111,"ankit",5000f);
15. Student s2=new Student(112,"sumit",6000f);
16. s1.display();
17. s2.display();
18.}}
```

Output:

```
0 null 0.0
0 null 0.0
```

In the above example, parameters (formal arguments) and instance variables are same. So, we are using this keyword to distinguish local variable and instance variable.

Solution of the above problem by this keyword

```
1. class Student{
2. int rollno;
3. String name;
4. float fee;
5. Student(int rollno,String name,float fee){
6. this.rollno=rollno;
7. this.name=name;
8. this.fee=fee;
9. }
10. void display(){System.out.println(rollno+" "+name+" "+fee);}
11.}
```

```
12.  
13.class TestThis2{  
14.public static void main(String args[]){  
15.Student s1=new Student(111,"ankit",5000f);  
16.Student s2=new Student(112,"sumit",6000f);  
17.s1.display();  
18.s2.display();  
19.}}
```

Output:

```
111 ankit 5000.0  
112 sumit 6000.0
```

If local variables(formal arguments) and instance variables are different, there is no need to use this keyword like in the following program:

Program where this keyword is not required

```
1. class Student{  
2. int rollno;  
3. String name;  
4. float fee;  
5. Student(int r,String n,float f){  
6. rollno=r;  
7. name=n;  
8. fee=f;  
9. }  
10.void display(){System.out.println(rollno+" "+name+" "+fee);}  
11.}  
12.  
13.class TestThis3{  
14.public static void main(String args[]){  
15.Student s1=new Student(111,"ankit",5000f);  
16.Student s2=new Student(112,"sumit",6000f);  
17.s1.display();  
18.s2.display();
```

19.}}

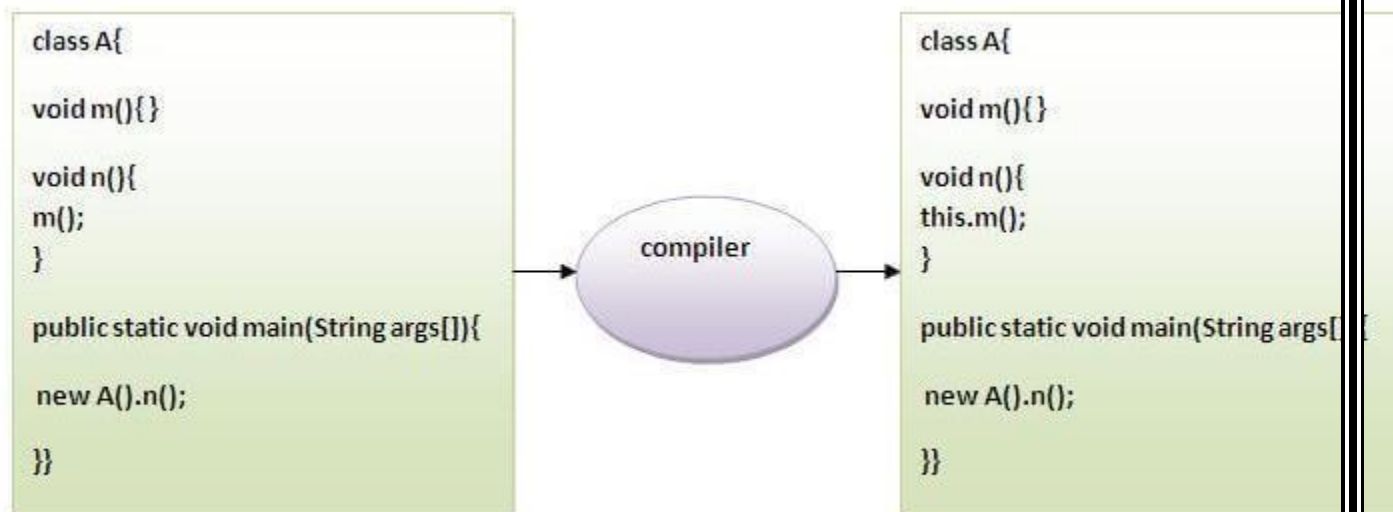
Output:

```
111 ankit 5000.0
112 sumit 6000.0
```

It is better approach to use meaningful names for variables. So we use same name for instance variables and parameters in real time, and always use this keyword.

2) this: to invoke current class method

You may invoke the method of the current class by using the this keyword. If you don't use the this keyword, compiler automatically adds this keyword while invoking the method. Let's see the example



1. **class** A{
2. **void** m(){System.out.println("hello m");}
3. **void** n(){
4. System.out.println("hello n");
5. //m();//same as this.m()
6. **this.m()**;
7. }
8. }
9. **class** TestThis4{


```
10.public static void main(String args[]){  
11.A a=new A();  
12.a.n();  
13.}}
```

Output:

```
hello n  
hello m
```

3) this() : to invoke current class constructor

The this() constructor call can be used to invoke the current class constructor. It is used to reuse the constructor. In other words, it is used for constructor chaining.

Calling default constructor from parameterized constructor:

```
1. class A{  
2. A(){System.out.println("hello a");}  
3. A(int x){  
4. this();  
5. System.out.println(x);  
6. }  
7. }  
8. class TestThis5{  
9. public static void main(String args[]){  
10.A a=new A(10);  
11.}}
```

Output:

```
hello a  
10
```

Calling parameterized constructor from default constructor:

```
1. class A{
2. A(){
3. this(5);
4. System.out.println("hello a");
5. }
6. A(int x){
7. System.out.println(x);
8. }
9. }
10.class TestThis6{
11.public static void main(String args[]){
12.A a=new A();
13.}}
```

Output:

```
5
hello a
```

4) this: to pass as an argument in the method

The this keyword can also be passed as an argument in the method. It is mainly used in the event handling. Let's see the example:

```
1. class S2{
2. void m(S2 obj){
3. System.out.println("method is invoked");
4. }
5. void p(){
6. m(this);
7. }
8. public static void main(String args[]){
9. S2 s1 = new S2();
10. s1.p();
11. }
12.}
```

Output:

```
method is invoked
```

Abstract Class :

A class which is declared with the abstract keyword is known as an abstract class in Java. It can have abstract and non-abstract methods (method with the body).

Before learning the Java abstract class, let's understand the abstraction in Java first.

Abstraction in Java

Abstraction is a process of hiding the implementation details and showing only functionality to the user.

Another way, it shows only essential things to the user and hides the internal details, for example, sending SMS where you type the text and send the message. You don't know the internal processing about the message delivery.

Abstraction lets you focus on what the object does instead of how it does it.

Ways to achieve Abstraction

There are two ways to achieve abstraction in java

1. Abstract class (0 to 100%)
2. Interface (100%)

Abstract class in Java

A class which is declared as abstract is known as an **abstract class**. It can have abstract and non-abstract methods. It needs to be extended and its method implemented. It cannot be instantiated.

Points to Remember

- An abstract class must be declared with an abstract keyword.
- It can have abstract and non-abstract methods.
- It cannot be instantiated.
- It can have constructors and static methods also.
- It can have final methods which will force the subclass not to change the body of the method.

Rules for Java Abstract class



Example of abstract class

1. **abstract class A{**

Abstract Method in Java

A method which is declared as abstract and does not have implementation is known as an abstract method.

Example of abstract method

1. **abstract void** printStatus();//no method body and abstract
-

Example of Abstract class that has an abstract method

In this example, Bike is an abstract class that contains only one abstract method run. Its implementation is provided by the Honda class.

1. **abstract class** Bike{
2. **abstract void** run();
3. }
4. **class** Honda4 **extends** Bike{
5. **void** run(){System.out.println("running safely");}
6. **public static void** main(String args[]){
7. Bike obj = **new** Honda4();
8. obj.run();
9. }
10. }

running safely

Understanding the real scenario of Abstract class

In this example, Shape is the abstract class, and its implementation is provided by the Rectangle and Circle classes.

Mostly, we don't know about the implementation class (which is hidden to the end user), and an object of the implementation class is provided by the **factory method**.

A **factory method** is a method that returns the instance of the class. We will learn about the factory method later.

In this example, if you create the instance of Rectangle class, draw() method of Rectangle class will be invoked.

File: TestAbstraction1.java

```
1. abstract class Shape{
2. abstract void draw();
3. }
4. //In real scenario, implementation is provided by others i.e. unknown by end user
5. class Rectangle extends Shape{
6. void draw(){System.out.println("drawing rectangle");}
7. }
8. class Circle1 extends Shape{
9. void draw(){System.out.println("drawing circle");}
10.}
11.//In real scenario, method is called by programmer or user
12.class TestAbstraction1{
13.public static void main(String args[]){
14.Shape s=new Circle1();//In a real scenario, object is provided through method, e.g.,
    getShape() method
15.s.draw();
16.}
17.}
```

Another example of Abstract class in java

```
1. abstract class Bank{
2. abstract int getRateOfInterest();
3. }
4. class SBI extends Bank{
5. int getRateOfInterest(){return 7;}
6. }
7. class PNB extends Bank{
8. int getRateOfInterest(){return 8;}
9. }
10.
11.class TestBank{
12.public static void main(String args[]){
13.Bank b;
14.b=new SBI();
```

```
15.System.out.println("Rate of Interest is: "+b.getRateOfInterest()+" %");
16.b=new PNB();
17.System.out.println("Rate of Interest is: "+b.getRateOfInterest()+" %");
18.}}
```

Rate of Interest is: 7 %
Rate of Interest is: 8 %

Interface :

An **interface in Java** is a blueprint of a class. It has static constants and abstract methods.

The interface in Java is *a mechanism to achieve abstraction*. There can be only abstract methods in the Java interface, not method body. It is used to achieve abstraction and multiple inheritance in Java.

In other words, you can say that interfaces can have abstract methods and variables. It cannot have a method body.

Java Interface also **represents the IS-A relationship**.

It cannot be instantiated just like the abstract class.

Since Java 8, we can have **default and static methods** in an interface.

Since Java 9, we can have **private methods** in an interface.

Why use Java interface?

There are mainly three reasons to use interface. They are given below.

- It is used to achieve abstraction.
- By interface, we can support the functionality of multiple inheritance.
- It can be used to achieve loose coupling.



How to declare an interface?

An interface is declared by using the interface keyword. It provides total abstraction; means all the methods in an interface are declared with the empty body, and all the fields are public, static and final by default. A class that implements an interface must implement all the methods declared in the interface.

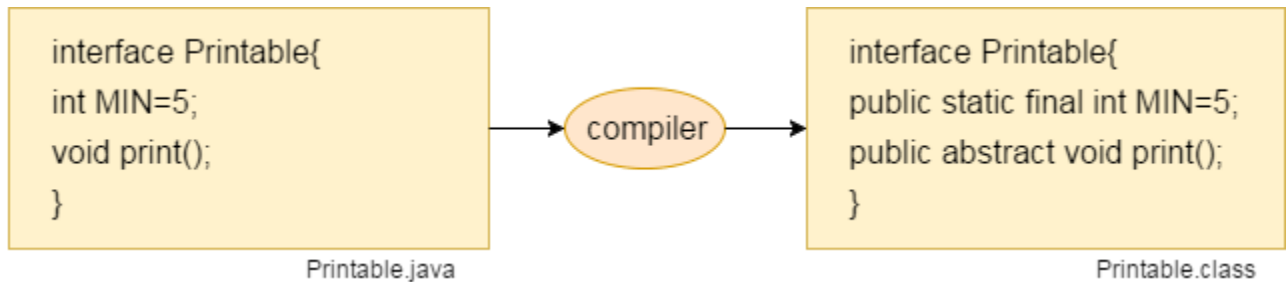
Syntax:

1. **interface** <interface_name>{
- 2.
3. // declare constant fields
4. // declare methods that abstract
5. // by default.
6. }

Internal addition by the compiler

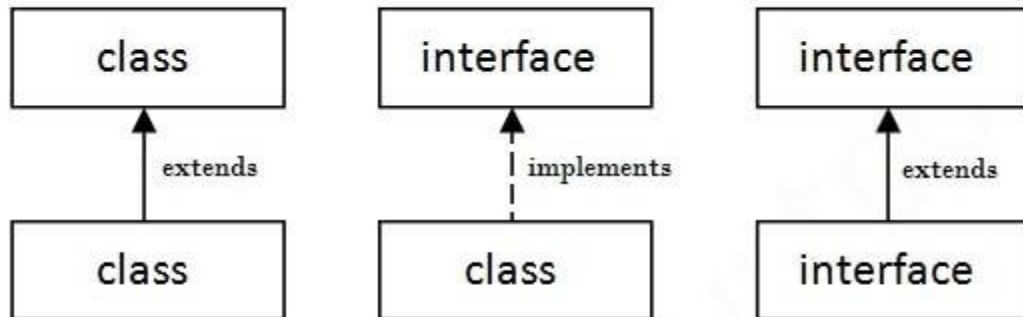
The Java compiler adds public and abstract keywords before the interface method. Moreover, it adds public, static and final keywords before data members.

In other words, Interface fields are public, static and final by default, and the methods are public and abstract.



The relationship between classes and interfaces

As shown in the figure given below, a class extends another class, an interface extends another interface, but a **class implements an interface**.



Java

Interface Example

In this example, the Printable interface has only one method, and its implementation is provided in the A6 class.

1. **interface** printable{
2. **void** print();
3. }

```
4. class A6 implements printable{
5. public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}
6.
7. public static void main(String args[]){
8. A6 obj = new A6();
9. obj.print();
10. }
11.}
```

Output:

```
Hello
```

Java Interface Example: Drawable

In this example, the Drawable interface has only one method. Its implementation is provided by Rectangle and Circle classes. In a real scenario, an interface is defined by someone else, but its implementation is provided by different implementation providers. Moreover, it is used by someone else. The implementation part is hidden by the user who uses the interface.

File: TestInterface1.java

```
1. //Interface declaration: by first user
2. interface Drawable{
3. void draw();
4. }
5. //Implementation: by second user
6. class Rectangle implements Drawable{
7. public void draw(){System.out.println("drawing rectangle");}
8. }
9. class Circle implements Drawable{
10.public void draw(){System.out.println("drawing circle");}
11.}
12.//Using interface: by third user
13.class TestInterface1{
14.public static void main(String args[]){
```

```
15. Drawable d=new Circle();//In real scenario, object is provided by method e.g. getDrawable()
16. d.draw();
17.}}
```

Output:

drawing circle

Java Interface Example: Bank

Let's see another example of java interface which provides the implementation of Bank interface.

File: TestInterface2.java

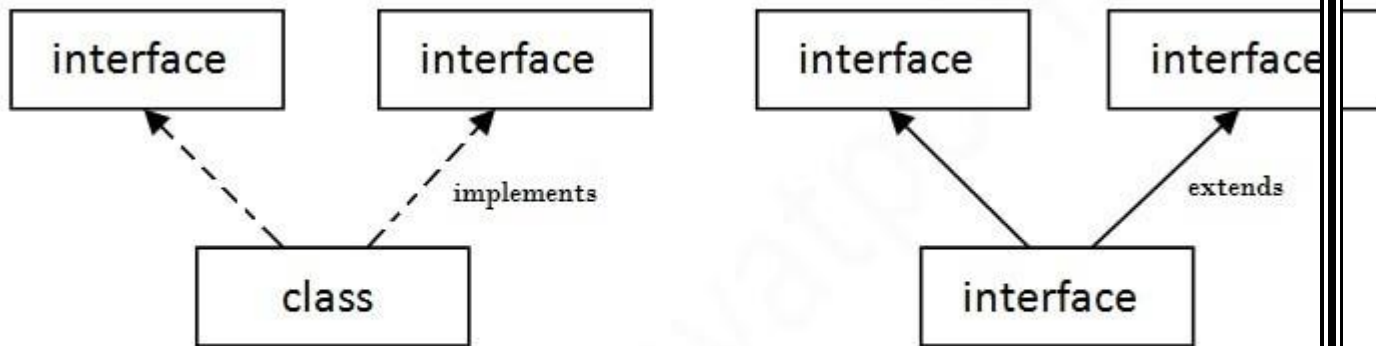
```
1. interface Bank{
2. float rateOfInterest();
3. }
4. class SBI implements Bank{
5. public float rateOfInterest(){return 9.15f;}
6. }
7. class PNB implements Bank{
8. public float rateOfInterest(){return 9.7f;}
9. }
10. class TestInterface2{
11. public static void main(String[] args){
12. Bank b=new SBI();
13. System.out.println("ROI: "+b.rateOfInterest());
14.}}
```

Output:

ROI: 9.15

Multiple inheritance in Java by interface

If a class implements multiple interfaces, or an interface extends multiple interfaces, it is known as multiple inheritance.



Multiple Inheritance in Java

```
1. interface Printable{
2. void print();
3. }
4. interface Showable{
5. void show();
6. }
7. class A7 implements Printable,Showable{
8. public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}
9. public void show(){System.out.println("Welcome");}
10.
11. public static void main(String args[]){
12. A7 obj = new A7();
13. obj.print();
14. obj.show();
15. }
16. }
```

Output:Hello
Welcome

Q) Multiple inheritance is not supported through class in java, but it is possible by an interface, why?

As we have explained in the inheritance chapter, multiple inheritance is not supported in the case of class because of ambiguity. However, it is supported in case of an interface because there is no ambiguity. It is because its implementation is provided by the implementation class. For example:

```
1. interface Printable{
2. void print();
3. }
4. interface Showable{
5. void print();
6. }
7.
8. class TestInterface3 implements Printable, Showable{
9. public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}
10.public static void main(String args[]){
11.TestInterface3 obj = new TestInterface3();
12.obj.print();
13. }
14.}
```

Output:

```
Hello
```

As you can see in the above example, Printable and Showable interface have same methods but its implementation is provided by class TestTnterface1, so there is no ambiguity.

Interface inheritance

A class implements an interface, but one interface extends another interface.

```
1. interface Printable{
2. void print();
3. }
4. interface Showable extends Printable{
5. void show();
```

```
6. }
7. class TestInterface4 implements Showable{
8. public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}
9. public void show(){System.out.println("Welcome");}
10.
11.public static void main(String args[]){
12.TestInterface4 obj = new TestInterface4();
13.obj.print();
14.obj.show();
15. }
16.}
```

Hello
Welcome

Difference between abstract class and interface

Abstract class and interface both are used to achieve abstraction where we can declare the abstract methods. Abstract class and interface both can't be instantiated.

But there are many differences between abstract class and interface that are given below.

Abstract class	Interface
1) Abstract class can have abstract and non-abstract methods.	Interface can have only abstract methods. Since Java 8, it can have default and static methods also.
2) Abstract class doesn't support multiple inheritance .	Interface supports multiple inheritance .
3) Abstract class can have final, non-final, static and non-static variables .	Interface has only static and final variables .
4) Abstract class can provide the implementation of interface .	Interface can't provide the implementation of abstract class .
5) The abstract keyword is used to declare abstract class.	The interface keyword is used to declare interface.
6) An abstract class can extend another Java class and implement multiple Java interfaces.	An interface can extend another Java interface only.
7) An abstract class can be extended using keyword "extends".	An interface can be implemented using keyword "implements".
8) A Java abstract class can have class members like private, protected, etc.	Members of a Java interface are public by default.
9) Example: <pre>public abstract class Shape{ public abstract void draw(); }</pre>	Example: <pre>public interface Drawable{ void draw(); }</pre>