

# Text Processing and Wrapper Classes

Lecture 11a

# Topics

- Introduction to Wrapper Classes
- Character Testing and Conversion with the Character Class
- More `String` Methods
- Tokenizing Strings
- Wrapper Classes for the Numeric Data Types
- The `StringBuilder` Class

# Introduction to Wrapper Classes

- Java provides 8 primitive data types.
- They are called “primitive” because they are not created from classes.
- Java provides wrapper classes for all the primitive data types.
- A *wrapper class* is a class that is “wrapped around” a primitive data type, containing not only a value but also methods that perform operations related to the type.
- The wrapper classes are part of `java.lang`, so to use them, there is no `import` statement required.

# Wrapper Classes

- Wrapper classes allow you to create objects to represent a primitive instead of variables.
- Wrapper classes are immutable, which means that once you create an object, you cannot change the object's value.
- To get the value stored in an object you must call a method.
- Wrapper classes provide static methods that perform useful operations on primitive values.

# Character Testing and Conversion With The Character Class

- The `Character` class allows a `char` data type to be *wrapped* in an object.
- The `Character` class provides methods that allow easy testing, processing, and conversion of character data.

# The Character Class

Method	Description
<code>boolean isDigit(char ch)</code>	Returns true if the argument passed into <i>ch</i> is a digit from 0 through 9. Otherwise returns false.
<code>boolean isLetter(char ch)</code>	Returns true if the argument passed into <i>ch</i> is an alphabetic letter. Otherwise returns false.
<code>boolean isLetterOrDigit(char ch)</code>	Returns true if the character passed into <i>ch</i> contains a digit (0 through 9) or an alphabetic letter. Otherwise returns false.
<code>boolean isLowerCase(char ch)</code>	Returns true if the argument passed into <i>ch</i> is a lowercase letter. Otherwise returns false.
<code>boolean isUpperCase(char ch)</code>	Returns true if the argument passed into <i>ch</i> is an uppercase letter. Otherwise returns false.
<code>boolean isSpaceChar(char ch)</code>	Returns true if the argument passed into <i>ch</i> is a space character. Otherwise returns false.

# Character Testing and Conversion With The `Character` Class (1 of 2)

- Example:  
[CharacterTest.java](#)  
[CustomerNumber.java](#)
- The `Character` class provides two methods that will change the case of a character.

Method	Description
<code>char toLowerCase(char ch)</code>	Returns the lowercase equivalent of the argument passed to <i>ch</i> .
<code>char toUpperCase(char ch)</code>	Returns the uppercase equivalent of the argument passed to <i>ch</i> .

# Character Testing and Conversion With The Character Class (2 of 2)

- Example:

```
System.out.println(Character.toLowerCase('A'));  a
System.out.println(Character.toUpperCase('a'));  A
```

- Any non-letter argument passed to `toLowerCase` or `toUpperCase` is returned as it is. Each of the following statements displays the method argument without any change:

```
System.out.println(Character.toLowerCase('*')); *
System.out.println(Character.toLowerCase('$')); $
System.out.println(Character.toUpperCase('&')); &
System.out.println(Character.toUpperCase('%')); %
```



# More `String` Methods

- The `String` class provides several methods that search for a string inside of a string.
- A *substring* is a string that is part of another string.
- Some of the substring searching methods provided by the `String` class:

```
boolean startsWith(String str)
```

```
boolean endsWith(String str)
```

```
boolean regionMatches(int start, String str, int start2, int n)
```

```
boolean regionMatches(boolean ignoreCase, int start, String str,  
                        int start2, int n)
```

# Searching Strings (1 of 6)

- The `startsWith` method determines whether a string begins with a specified substring.

```
String str = "Four score and seven years ago";  
if (str.startsWith("Four"))  
    System.out.println("The string starts with Four.");  
else  
    System.out.println("The string does not start with Four.");
```

- `str.startsWith("Four")` returns `true` because `str` does begin with “Four”.
- `startsWith` is a case sensitive comparison.

# Searching Strings (2 of 6)

- The `endsWith` method determines whether a string ends with a specified substring.

```
String str = "Four score and seven years ago";  
if (str.endsWith("ago"))  
    System.out.println("The string ends with ago.");  
else  
    System.out.println("The string does not end with ago.");
```

- The `endsWith` method also performs a case sensitive comparison.
- Example: [PersonSearch.java](#)

# Searching Strings (3 of 6)

- The `regionMatches` method determines whether specified regions of two strings match.

```
String str = "Four score and seven years ago";  
String str2 = "Those seven years passed quickly";  
if (str.regionMatches(15, str2, 6, 11))  
    System.out.println("The regions match.");  
else  
    System.out.println("The regions do not match.");
```

- This code will display “The regions match.” The specified region of the `str` string begins at position 15, and the specified region of the `str2` string begins at position 6. Both regions consist of 11 characters forming “seven years”.

# Searching Strings (4 of 6)

- An overloaded version of the `regionMatches` method accepts an additional argument indicating whether to perform a case-insensitive comparison.

```
String str = "Four score and seven years ago";  
String str2 = "THOSE SEVEN YEARS PASSED QUICKLY";  
if (str.regionMatches(true, 15, str2, 6, 11))  
    System.out.println("The regions match.");  
else  
    System.out.println("The regions do not match.");
```

- This code will display “The regions match.”

# Searching Strings (5 of 6)

- The `String` class also provides methods that will locate the position of a substring.
  - `indexOf`
    - returns the first location of a substring or character in the calling `String` Object.
  - `lastIndexOf`
    - returns the last location of a substring or character in the calling `String` Object.
- If the item being searched is not found, `-1` is returned.

# Searching Strings (6 of 6)

```
String str = "Four score and seven years ago";
int first, last;
first = str.indexOf('r');
last = str.lastIndexOf('r');
System.out.println("The letter r first appears at "
                  + "position " + first);
System.out.println("The letter r last appears at "
                  + "position " + last);
```

3  
24

---

```
String str = "and a one and a two and a three";
int position;
System.out.println("The word and appears at the "
                  + "following locations.");
```

```
position = str.indexOf("and");
while (position != -1)
{
    System.out.print(position + " ");
    position = str.indexOf("and", position + 1);
}
```

0 10 20

# String Methods For Getting Character Or Substring Location

Method	Description
<code>int indexOf(char <i>ch</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the character passed into <i>ch</i> . If the character is found, the position of its first occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.
<code>int indexOf(char <i>ch</i>, int <i>start</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the character passed into <i>ch</i> , beginning at the position passed into <i>start</i> and going to the end of the string. If the character is found, the position of its first occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.
<code>int indexOf(String <i>str</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the string passed into <i>str</i> . If the string is found, the beginning position of its first occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.
<code>int indexOf(String <i>str</i>, int <i>start</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the string passed into <i>str</i> . The search begins at the position passed into <i>start</i> and goes to the end of the string. If the string is found, the beginning position of its first occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.



# String Methods For Getting Character Or Substring Location

Method	Description
<code>int lastIndexOf(char <i>ch</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the character passed into <i>ch</i> . If the character is found, the position of its last occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.
<code>int lastIndexOf(char <i>ch</i>, int <i>start</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the character passed into <i>ch</i> , beginning at the position passed into <i>start</i> . The search is conducted backward through the string, to position 0. If the character is found, the position of its last occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.
<code>int lastIndexOf(String <i>str</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the string passed into <i>str</i> . If the string is found, the beginning position of its last occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.
<code>int lastIndexOf(String <i>str</i>, int <i>start</i>)</code>	Searches the calling String object for the string passed into <i>str</i> , beginning at the position passed into <i>start</i> . The search is conducted backward through the string, to position 0. If the string is found, the beginning position of its last occurrence is returned. Otherwise, -1 is returned.

# Extracting Substrings (1 of 3)

- The `String` class provides methods to extract substrings in a `String` object.
- The `substring` method returns a substring beginning at a start location and an optional ending location.

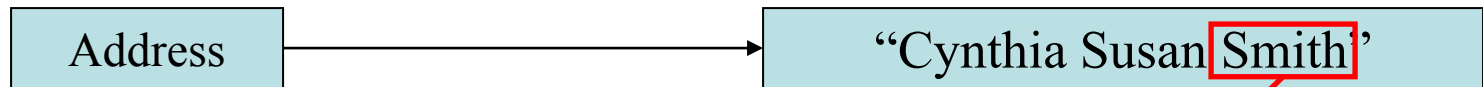
```
String fullName = "Cynthia Susan Smith";  
String lastName = fullName.substring(14);  
System.out.println("The full name is " + fullName);  
System.out.println("The last name is " + lastName);
```

- This code will display:

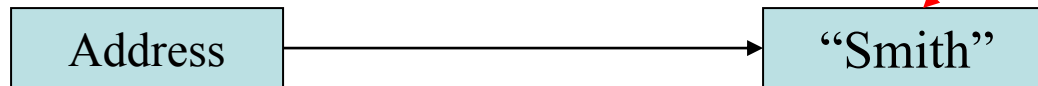
The full name is Cynthia Susan Smith  
The last name is Smith

# Extracting Substrings (2 of 3)

The `fullName` variable holds  
the address of a `String` object.



The `lastName` variable holds  
the address of a `String` object.



# Extracting Substrings (3 of 3)

- The second version of the method accepts two int arguments. The first specifies the substring's starting position (inclusive) and the second specifies the substring's ending position (exclusive).

```
String fullName = "Cynthia Susan Smith";  
String middleName = fullName.substring(8, 13);  
System.out.println("The full name is " + fullName);  
System.out.println("The middle name is " + middleName);
```

- This code will display:

The full name is Cynthia Susan Smith  
The middle name is Susan

# Extracting Characters to Arrays

- The `String` class provides methods to extract substrings in a `String` object and store them in `char` arrays.
  - `getChars`
    - Stores a substring in a `char` array
  - `toCharArray`
    - Returns the entire string contents in a `char` array.
- Example: [StringAnalyzer.java](#)

# Returning Modified Strings

- The `String` class provides methods to return modified `String` objects.

- `concat`

- Returns a `String` object that is the concatenation of two `String` objects.

```
System.out.println("John".concat(" Williams")); John Williams
```

- `replace`

- Returns a `String` object with all occurrences of one character being replaced by another character.

```
System.out.println("Hello-World".replace("-", " ")); Hello World
```

- `trim`

- Returns a `String` object with all leading and trailing whitespace characters removed.

```
System.out.println("    Hello World! ".trim()); Hello World
```

# The `valueOf` Methods (1 of 3)

- The `String` class provides several overloaded `valueOf` methods.
- They return a `String` object representation of
  - a primitive value or
  - a character array.

`String.valueOf(true)` will return `"true"`.

`String.valueOf(5.0)` will return `"5.0"`.

`String.valueOf('C')` will return `"C"`.

# The `valueOf` Methods (2 of 3)

```
boolean b = true;
char [] letters = { 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e' };
double d = 2.4981567;
int i = 7;
System.out.println(String.valueOf(b));
System.out.println(String.valueOf(letters));
System.out.println(String.valueOf(letters, 1, 3));
System.out.println(String.valueOf(d));
System.out.println(String.valueOf(i));
```

- Produces the following output:

**true**

**abcde**

**bcd**

**2.4981567**

**7**



# The `valueOf` Methods (3 of 3)

Method	Description
<code>String valueOf(boolean <i>b</i>)</code>	If the <code>boolean</code> argument passed to <i>b</i> is <code>true</code> , the method returns the string <code>"true"</code> . If the argument is <code>false</code> , the method returns the string <code>"false"</code> .
<code>String valueOf(char <i>c</i>)</code>	This method returns a <code>String</code> containing the character passed into <i>c</i> .
<code>String valueOf(char[] <i>array</i>)</code>	This method returns a <code>String</code> that contains all of the elements in the <code>char</code> array passed into <i>array</i> .
<code>String valueOf(char[] <i>array</i>,                   int <i>subscript</i>,                   int <i>count</i>)</code>	This method returns a <code>String</code> that contains part of the elements in the <code>char</code> array passed into <i>array</i> . The argument passed into <i>subscript</i> is the starting subscript and the argument passed into <i>count</i> is the number of elements.
<code>String valueOf(double <i>number</i>)</code>	This method returns the <code>String</code> representation of the <code>double</code> argument passed into <i>number</i> .
<code>String valueOf(float <i>number</i>)</code>	This method returns the <code>String</code> representation of the <code>float</code> argument passed into <i>number</i> .
<code>String valueOf(int <i>number</i>)</code>	This method returns the <code>String</code> representation of the <code>int</code> argument passed into <i>number</i> .
<code>String valueOf(long <i>number</i>)</code>	This method returns the <code>String</code> representation of the <code>long</code> argument passed into <i>number</i> .

# Tokenizing Strings (1 of 3)

- Process of breaking a string down into its components, which are called tokens.
- The character that separates tokens is known as a delimiter. Commonly used characters: ',', ' ', '/', ' ', '-', etc.
- The String class's split method can be used to tokenize strings.
- For instance:

```
String str = "one two three four";  
// Get the tokens, using a space delimiter.  
String[] tokens = str.split(" ");  
// Display the tokens.  
for (String s : tokens)  
    System.out.println(s);
```

- Output:

```
One  
Two  
Three  
four
```

- Example: [SplitDemo1.java](#)

# Tokenizing Strings (2 of 3)

- The `split` method also allows you to use multi-character delimiters.
- For instance:

```
// Create a string to tokenize.  
String str = "one and two and three and four";  
// Get the tokens, using " and " as the delimiter.  
String[] tokens = str.split(" and ");  
// Display the tokens.  
for (String s : tokens)  
    System.out.println(s);
```

- Output:

```
one  
two  
three  
four
```

- Example: [SplitDemo2.java](#)

# Tokenizing Strings (3 of 3)

- You can also specify a series of characters where each individual character is a delimiter by enclosing them in brackets.
- For instance:

```
// Create a string to tokenize.  
String str = "joe@gaddisbooks.com";  
// Get the tokens, using @ and . as delimiters.  
String[] tokens = str.split("[@.]");  
// Display the tokens.  
for (String s : tokens)  
    System.out.println(s);
```

- Output:

```
joe  
gaddisbooks  
com
```

- Example: [SplitDemo3.java](#)

# Text Processing and Wrapper Classes

Lecture 11b

# Topics

- Introduction to Wrapper Classes
- Character Testing and Conversion with the Character Class
- Tokenizing Strings
- More `String` Methods
- Wrapper Classes for the Numeric Data Types
- **The `StringBuilder` Class**

# Numeric Data Type Wrappers

- Java provides wrapper classes for all of the primitive data types.
- The numeric primitive wrapper classes are:

Wrapper Class	Numeric Primitive Type It Applies To
Byte	byte
Double	double
Float	float
Integer	int
Long	long
Short	short

# The Parse Methods (1 of 2)

- We can convert `String` containing numbers, such as “127.89”, into a numeric data type.
- Each of the numeric wrapper classes has a static method that converts a string to a number.
  - The `Integer` class has a method that converts a `String` to an `int`,
  - The `Double` class has a method that converts a `String` to a `double`,
  - etc.
- These methods are known as *parse methods* because their names begin with the word “parse.”



# The Parse Methods (2 of 2)

## Examples:

```
// Store 1 in bVar.  
byte bVar = Byte.parseByte("1");
```

```
// Store 2599 in iVar.  
int iVar = Integer.parseInt("2599");
```

```
// Store 10 in sVar.  
short sVar = Short.parseShort("10");
```

```
// Store 15908 in lVar.  
long lVar = Long.parseLong("15908");
```

```
// Store 12.3 in fVar.  
float fVar = Float.parseFloat("12.3");
```

```
// Store 7945.6 in dVar.  
double dVar = Double.parseDouble("7945.6");
```

- **The parse methods all throw a `NumberFormatException` if the `String` object does not represent a numeric value.**

# The toString Methods

- Each of the numeric wrapper classes has a static `toString` method that converts a number to a string.
- The method accepts the number as its argument and returns a string representation of that number.

```
int i = 12;  
double d = 14.95;  
String str1 = Integer.toString(i);  
String str2 = Double.toString(d);
```

# The toBinaryString, toHexString, and toOctalString Methods

- The Integer and Long classes have three additional methods:
  - toBinaryString, toHexString, and toOctalString

```
int number = 14;  
System.out.println(Integer.toBinaryString(number));  
System.out.println(Integer.toHexString(number));  
System.out.println(Integer.toOctalString(number));
```

- This code will produce the following output:

```
1110  
E  
16
```

# MIN\_VALUE and MAX\_VALUE (1 of 2)

- The numeric wrapper classes each have a set of static final variables
  - MIN\_VALUE and
  - MAX\_VALUE.
- These variables hold the minimum and maximum values for a particular data type.

```
System.out.println("The minimum value for an "  
                    + "int is "  
                    + Integer.MIN_VALUE);  
System.out.println("The maximum value for an "  
                    + "int is "  
                    + Integer.MAX_VALUE);
```

## MIN\_VALUE and MAX\_VALUE (2 of 2)

- Point to ponder #1:

Where the instruction `Integer.MAX_VALUE` can be useful for instance?

When initializing the variable `min` that will later have the smallest value in an array.

# Creating a Wrapper Object

- It is possible to create objects from the wrapper classes passing a value to the constructor:

```
Integer    number    =    new    Integer(7) ;
```

- This creates an Integer object initialized with the value 7, referenced by the variable number.

# Autoboxing and Unboxing (1 of 2)

- Another way is to simply declare a wrapper class variable, and then assign a primitive value to it. For example, look at the following code:

```
Integer number;  
number = 7;
```

- The first statement declares an Integer variable (not an object) named number.
- The second statement is a simple assignment statement. It assigns the primitive value 7 to the variable.
- You may think this is an error, but because number is a wrapper class variable, *autoboxing* occurs. Autoboxing is Java's process of automatically "boxing up" a value inside an object.

# Autoboxing and Unboxing (2 of 2)

- *Unboxing* does the opposite with wrapper class variables. It is the process of converting a wrapper class object to a primitive type.

```
Integer myInt = 5;           // Autoboxes the value 5
int primitiveNumber;
primitiveNumber = myInt;     // unboxing
```



# Wrapper classes and ArrayLists (1 of 2)

- An ArrayList is an array-like object that can be used to store other objects.
- You cannot, directly, store primitive values in an ArrayList. It is intended for objects only. If you try to compile the following statement, an error will occur:

```
ArrayList<int> list = new ArrayList<int>(); // ERROR!
```

- However, you can store wrapper class objects in an ArrayList. If we need to store `int` values in an ArrayList, we have to specify that the ArrayList will hold `Integer` objects. Here is an example:

```
ArrayList<Integer> list = new ArrayList<Integer>(); // OK!
```

# Wrapper classes and ArrayLists (2 of 2)

- To store an `int` value in an `ArrayList`, we need to instantiate an `Integer` object, initialize it with the desired `int` value, and then pass the `Integer` object to the `ArrayList`'s `add` method.

```
ArrayList<Integer> list = new ArrayList<Integer>();  
Integer myInt = 5;  
list.add(myInt);
```

- However, Java's autoboxing and unboxing features make it unnecessary to create the `Integer` object. If you add an `int` value to the `ArrayList`, Java will autobox the value. The following code works without any problems:

```
ArrayList<Integer> list = new ArrayList<Integer>();  
list.add(5);  
int primitiveNumber = list.get(0);
```

- The last statement in this code retrieves the item at index 0. Because the item is being assigned to an `int` variable, Java unboxes it and stores the primitive value in the `int` variable.

# Other uses of the `valueOf` Methods

- It can be used for the other wrapper classes.  
Example:

`Integer.valueOf("5")` will return 5.

`Double.valueOf("5.5")` will return 5.5.

- Point to ponder #2:

What is the difference between `Integer.valueOf("5")` and `Integer.parseInt("5")`?

**`parseInt` returns a primitive int while `valueOf` returns a new `Integer()`.**

# The `StringBuilder` Class

- The `StringBuilder` class is similar to the `String` class.
- However, you may change the contents of `StringBuilder` objects.
  - You can change specific characters,
  - insert characters,
  - delete characters, and
  - perform other operations.
- A `StringBuilder` object will grow or shrink in size, as needed, to accommodate the changes.

# StringBuilder Constructors (1 of 2)

- `StringBuilder()`
  - This constructor gives the object enough storage space to hold 16 characters.
- `StringBuilder(int length)`
  - This constructor gives the object enough storage space to hold *length* characters.
- `StringBuilder(String str)`
  - This constructor initializes the object with the string in *str*.
  - The object will have at least enough storage space to hold the string in *str* plus 16.

# StringBuilder Constructors (2 of 2)

- Example of use:

```
StringBuilder city = new StringBuilder("Charleston");  
System.out.println(city);
```

- One limitation of the StringBuilder class is that you cannot use the assignment operator to assign strings to StringBuilder objects:

```
StringBuilder city = "Charleston"; //ERROR!!!
```

# Other StringBuilder Methods

- The `String` **and** `StringBuilder` **also have common methods:**

```
char charAt(int position)
```

```
void getChars(int start, int end, char[] array, int arrayStart)
```

```
int indexOf(String str)
```

```
int indexOf(String str, int start)
```

```
int lastIndexOf(String str)
```

```
int lastIndexOf(String str, int start)
```

```
int length()
```

```
String substring(int start)
```

```
String substring(int start, int end)
```

# Appending to a `StringBuilder` Object (1 of 4)

- The `StringBuilder` class has several overloaded versions of a method named `append`.
- They append a string representation of their argument to the calling object's current contents.
- The general form of the `append` method is:

```
object.append(item);
```

- where *object* is an instance of the `StringBuilder` class and *item* is:
  - a primitive literal or variable.
  - a `char` array, or
  - a `String` literal or object.



# Appending to a `StringBuilder` Object (2 of 4)

- After the `append` method is called, a string representation of *item* will be appended to *object*'s contents.

```
StringBuilder str = new StringBuilder();

str.append("We sold ");           // Append a String object.
str.append(12);                   // Append an int.
str.append(" doughnuts for $");  // Append another String.
str.append(15.95);                // Append a double.

System.out.println(str);
```

- This code will produce the following output:  
We sold 12 doughnuts for \$15.95

# Appending to a `StringBuilder` Object (3 of 4)

- The `StringBuilder` class also has several overloaded versions of a method named `insert`
- These methods accept two arguments:
  - an `int` that specifies the position to begin insertion, and
  - the value to be inserted.
- The value to be inserted may be
  - a primitive literal or variable.
  - a `char` array, or
  - a `String` literal or object.

# Appending to a `StringBuilder` Object (4 of 4)

- The general form of a typical call to the `insert` method.

- `object.insert(start, item);`
  - where `object` is an instance of the `StringBuilder` class, `start` is the insertion location, and `item` is:
    - a primitive literal or variable.
    - a `char` array, or
    - a `String` literal or object.

- Example:

```
StringBuilder str = new StringBuilder("New City");  
str.insert(4, "York ");  
System.out.println(str);
```

- This code will produce the following output:

```
New York City
```

# Replacing a Substring in a `StringBuilder` Object (1 of 2)

- The `StringBuilder` class has a `replace` method that replaces a specified substring with a string.
- The general form of a call to the method:
  - `object.replace(start, end, str);`
    - `start` is an `int` that specifies the starting position of a substring in the calling object, and
    - `end` is an `int` that specifies the ending position of the substring. (The starting position is included in the substring, but the ending position is not.)
    - The `str` parameter is a `String` object.
  - After the method executes, the substring will be replaced with `str`.

# Replacing a Substring in a `StringBuilder` Object (2 of 2)

- The `replace` method in this code replaces the word “Chicago” with “New York”.

```
StringBuilder str = new StringBuilder("We moved from Chicago to Atlanta.");  
str.replace(14, 21, "New York");  
System.out.println(str);
```

- The code will produce the following output:  
We moved from New York to Atlanta.

# Other StringBuilder Methods (1 of 3)

- The `StringBuilder` class also provides methods to set and delete characters in an object.

Method	Description
<code>StringBuilder delete(int <i>start</i>, int <i>end</i>)</code>	The <i>start</i> parameter is an <code>int</code> that specifies the starting position of a substring in the calling object, and the <i>end</i> parameter is an <code>int</code> that specifies the ending position of the substring. (The starting position is included in the substring, but the ending position is not.) The method will delete the substring.
<code>StringBuilder deleteCharAt (int <i>position</i>)</code>	The <i>position</i> parameter specifies the location of a character that will be deleted.
<code>void setCharAt(int <i>position</i>, char <i>ch</i>)</code>	This method changes the character at <i>position</i> to the value passed into <i>ch</i> .

# Other StringBuilder Methods (2 of 3)

- **Example.**

```
StringBuilder str = new StringBuilder("I ate 100 blueberries!");  
// Display the StringBuilder object.  
System.out.println(str);           //I ate 100 blueberries!  
// Delete the '0'.  
str.deleteCharAt(8);  
System.out.println(str);           //I ate 10 blueberries!  
// Delete "blue".  
str.delete(9, 13);  
System.out.println(str);           //I ate 10 berries!  
// Change the '1' to '5'  
str.setCharAt(6, '5');  
System.out.println(str);           //I ate 50 berries!
```

# Other StringBuilder Methods (3 of 3)

- The `toString` method
  - You can call a `StringBuilder`'s `toString` method to convert that `StringBuilder` object to a regular `String`

```
StringBuilder strb = new StringBuilder("This is a test.");  
String str = strb.toString();
```

[See Telephone.java](#), [TelephoneTester.java](#)



# Other `StringBuilder` Methods (3 of 3)

- Point to ponder #3:

Overall, when we should use `StringBuilder` instead of `String` class?

When the program needs to make a lot of changes to one or more strings. This will improve the program's efficiency by reducing the number of `String` objects that must be created and then removed by the garbage collector.