Java - The Dictionary Class

Dictionary is an abstract class that represents a key/value storage repository and operates much like Map.

Given a key and value, you can store the value in a Dictionary object. Once the value is stored, you can retrieve it by using its key. Thus, like a map, a dictionary can be thought of as a list of key/value pairs.

The abstract methods defined by Dictionary are listed below −

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| **Sr.No.** | **Method & Description** |
| 1 | **Enumeration elements( )**  Returns an enumeration of the values contained in the dictionary. |
| 2 | **Object get(Object key)**  Returns the object that contains the value associated with the key. If the key is not in the dictionary, a null object is returned. |
| 3 | **boolean isEmpty( )**  Returns true if the dictionary is empty, and returns false if it contains at least one key. |
| 4 | **Enumeration keys( )**  Returns an enumeration of the keys contained in the dictionary. |
| 5 | **Object put(Object key, Object value)**  Inserts a key and its value into the dictionary. Returns null if the key is not already in the dictionary; returns the previous value associated with the key if the key is already in the dictionary. |
| 6 | **Object remove(Object key)**  Removes the key and its value. Returns the value associated with the key. If the key is not in the dictionary, a null is returned. |
| 7 | **int size( )**  Returns the number of entries in the dictionary. |

The Dictionary class is obsolete. You should implement the [Map interface](https://www.tutorialspoint.com/java/java_map_interface.htm) to obtain key/value storage functionality.