

Collection Classes

1- What is Collection in java?

- in generally Programming term A **collection** is an object that groups multiple elements into a single unit.

2- What is Collection Framework in java?

- Collection Framework in java like a toolbox that helps you to store, organize and manage the group of multiple Objects. It is a Data Structure in java it implemented by using java.util Package.

3- Why Collection Born?

- Before the Collection framework was introduced in Java, arrays were the primary way to store multiple elements in a single unit. However, arrays have some significant limitations:
- **Fixed Size:** Once an array is created, its size cannot be changed.
- **Lack of Built-in Methods:** Arrays do not provide built-in methods for common operations like searching, sorting, insertion, or deletion.
- **No Standard Data Structures:** Arrays do not support different types of data structures like lists, sets, or maps.
- To overcome these limitations, the **Collection framework** was introduced in Java.
- **Advantages of the Collection Framework:**
 - Collection is **dynamically growable**.
 - It provides different **data structures** (like List, Set, Map).
 - It supports many **in-built methods** for **insertion, deletion, searching, and storing**.

4- Collection Framework Provided Interfaces?

- Collection Framework means **working with single or group of objects**.
- To work with a single object collection, we use the **Collection interface**.
- To work with group of objects as key-value pairs, we use the **Map interface**.
- The main interfaces provided by the Collection Framework are:

- 1. **List** –
 - Allows **duplicate elements**
 - Maintains **insertion order**
 - Examples: `ArrayList` , `LinkedList`
 2. **Set** –
 - Doesn't allow **duplicates**
 - No **guaranteed order** (unless using `LinkedHashSet` or `TreeSet`)
 - Examples: `HashSet` , `TreeSet`
 3. **Queue** –
 - Follows **FIFO (First-In, First-Out)** order
 - Useful for tasks like processing orders, messages, etc.
 - Example: `PriorityQueue` , `ArrayDeque`
 4. **Map** –
 - Stores data in **key-value pairs**
 - Doesn't allow **duplicate keys**, but can have duplicate values
 - Examples: `HashMap` , `TreeMap`

- The framework also provides algorithms like sorting and searching, and it supports generics, which makes the collections type-safe. It's widely used in real-world Java development for storing, retrieving, and manipulating data efficiently."

Collection Classes

5- What are the Legacy Classes in java?

- Legacy classes and interfaces refer to those which were **introduced before the Collection Framework**, i.e., before **JDK 1.2**.
- They are now considered **outdated**, but still **supported for backward compatibility**.
- Example: **Vector, Stack, Hashtable, Enumeration**.

6- What is fail-Safe and Fail-Fast in java Collections?

- **Fail-Fast** is a mechanism in Java Collections where **iterator throws ConcurrentModificationException** if the collection is **structurally modified during iteration** (like adding or removing elements directly from the collection while using a loop or iterator).
- We will not get this Exception if you modify iterator own method like add, remove or if you work on copy of collection it allows to safe Modification (using `copyOnWriteArrayList ()` method) known as fail-Safe iterator
- **Fail-safe:** If we **modify the collection using iterator's own methods** like `iterator.remove()`, it will **not throw an exception**.
- Also, if we **work on a copy of the collection**, then it's safe.

Example: Using `CopyOnWriteArrayList` — this is called a **Fail-Safe iterator**.

7- What is push and pop Operation?

- Inserting an element into a stack is push Operation where extracting an element from the top of stack is known as pop Operation

8- List Interface (I) in java?

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- List is a sub-interface of Sequence Collection It extends from the **Collection interface**.
 - It is used to store a group of elements in a proper **sequence (order) based on indexes** because it internally uses Array Concept it allows Duplicate and Null value.
 - We use **List interface** when we want to **Store elements in order, allow duplicates Access elements by index Perform sorting and searching Operation because it Use different types of Lists**
 - **ArrayList** – Best for searching and random access
 - **LinkedList** – Best for insertion and deletion

9- How many Ways we can fetch or retrieve the Object from the Collections?

- We fetch so many Ways the Collections Comonly We use.
- 1) By using traditional for-Loop/Ordinary For-Loop [1.0V]
- 2) by using foreach Loop [1.5V]
- 3) by using `toString` method.
- 4) by using Enumeration interface (`hasMoreElements()`) [1.0V]
- 5) by using iterator [1.2]
- 6) by using listIterator [1.2V]
- 7) by using foreach (Consumer) method [1.8V]
- 8) by using splitIterator [1.8]
- 9) by using method reference [1.8]
- 10) by using Stream Api [1.8]

10- What is Enumeration in java?

- It is a predefined interface available in `java.util` package from JDK 1.0 onwards (Legacy interface).

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- We can use Enumeration interface to fetch or retrieve the Objects one by one from the Collection because it is a cursor. (`hasMoreElements ()`, `nextElement ()`).
- It will only work with legacy Collections classes.

11- Iterator (I)?

- It is a predefined interface available in `java.util` package available from 1.2 version.
- is used to fetch/retrieve the elements from the Collection in forward direction only because it is also a cursor. (`iterator ()`).

12- ListIterator<E> interface?

- It is a predefined interface available in `java.util` package and it is the sub interface of Iterator available from JDK 1.2v.
- it is used to retrieve the Collection object in both the direction i.e. in forward direction as well as in backward direction `listIterator ()`;

13- ArrayList <E> in java?

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- **ArrayList** is a **predefined class** in Java, available in the **java.util package**, and it **implements the List interface**.
- It **accepts null and duplicate values** It can store both **homogeneous** (same type) and **heterogeneous** (different types) elements.
- **ArrayList** is **dynamically growable**, which means the size increases automatically when needed.
- It stores elements in **order**, based on **index**, just like an **array**, so it's also called a **dynamic array**.

14- Uses Of ArrayList and capacity?

- Best for **retrieving or fetching data when duplicate allow and Thread Sefty is not Required**
- Initial capacity is **10**, same as Vector.

15- Time Complicity of ArrayList?

- The time complicity of ArrayList to insertion and deletion of an element from the middle or first would be $O(n)$ because n number of elements are relocating her index position it take time so it not good choice for modification.
- On the Other hand, time Complicity of ArrayList for retrieving the element from the collection is always (1) Because it using `get ()` method you get the object randomly or ArrayList implements Random Access so you can fetch the element randomly.

16- Different Between Vector and ArrayList?

- Both are **implementation classes of the List interface**, which is part of the Collection Framework.
- Both allow null and duplicate values.
- **Both store elements based on index**, because **internally they use array**
- **Both are dynamically growable, but their capacity growth is different:**
 - in case of **Vector**, when the list is full, its **capacity becomes double**.
 - **In case of ArrayList, when the list is full, its capacity increases by 50%.**
 - Formula: $(currentCapacity * 3) / 2 + 1$
 - We should go with Vector when Thread Sefty is Require on the other hand we should go with ArrayList When Thread Sefty not Require but Collections class provide method called `Collections.synchronizedList(null)`which is create Thread same List.

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17- What is O(n) and O(1)?

- **O(n)** and **O(1)** are part of **Time Complexity**, which tells us **how much time a program or operation will take** based on the size of data.
- **O(n)** – means linear Time: means the **time taken increases with the number of elements (n)**.
- If elements increase, time also increases.
- **O(1)** -means Constant time: means the **time taken is always the same**, no matter how many elements are there.

18- LinkedList <E>

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- LinkedList is an **implementation class of the List interface**, which is under the **Collection interface**, and available in **java.util package** from **JDK 1.2 version**.
- It stores data in **non-contiguous memory locations**.
- LinkedList uses a **Doubly Linked List** Internally That means LinkedList is a **collection of nodes**, where each node is **interlinked** with each other. Means One node contains **reference of next and previous node**, along with the **data**.
- It **doesn't have any default capacity** like ArrayList or Vector.
- LinkedList is **suitable for modifying data**, especially in the **middle or at the beginning**.
- because there is **no shifting**, insertion and deletion are very fast —
 - Time Complexity is **O(1)**.

19- Different Between ArrayList and LinkedList in java?

- Both are **implementation classes of List interface**, which is part of the **Collection interface**.
- In case of **ArrayList**, elements are stored in **contiguous memory locations**.
- **(All elements are placed side by side in memory.)**
- On the other hand, **LinkedList** stores elements in **nodes**, which are placed in **non-contiguous memory locations**.
- **(Each node is connected to the next and previous one using references.)**
- **ArrayList** is **suitable for fetching or retrieving elements**. Time complexity is **O(1)** using index.
- **LinkedList** is **suitable for modifying data**, especially in the **middle or beginning**. time complexity is **O(1)** for insertion/deletion (if pointer is already available).

20- Set <E> interface

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- Set is a sub interface of the Collection interface, available in the **java.util package** since **JDK 1.2**.
- **It does not allow duplicate elements**, unlike ArrayList and LinkedList which can store duplicates.
- **It does not maintain any specific order** of elements because internally It does not use Array concept, Actually It uses hashing algorithm). **Or/**
- Set interface does not maintain any specific order of elements because **internally it does not use the Array concept**.
- Actually, it uses a **hashing algorithm**, through which elements are stored in **buckets** using the **hashing technique**.
- Because of this, the **time complexity** for inserting and deleting elements is usually **O(1)** — which makes it very efficient.

21- Why we use Set interface in java?

- We use the **Set interface** when we want to **store a group of unique elements** meaning, **no duplicates are allowed**.

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- Internally, most Set classes (like HashSet) use **hashing algorithm**, which makes them **fast** for operations like **adding, removing, and searching**. (**Unique Email Addresses for Event**)

22- What is Hashing Algorithm in java?

- **Hashing algorithm** is a technique through which we can **search, insert, and delete** elements in a **more efficient way** compared to our traditional indexing methods.
- Hashing algorithm, internally uses Hashtable data structure, Hashtable data structure internally uses Bucket data structure.
- When we insert an element, the **hashing algorithm** calculates a **hash code** using a **hash function**.
- Hash function is mainly used to find the bucket location in the hash table data structure
- Hash function using a formula to find the bucket Location (**Hash table = key% table length=bucket Location**)

23- HashSet <E>

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- HashSet is a **predefined class** available in the **java.util package**, and it is part of the **Set interface**.
- It is an **unordered** and **unsorted** set.
- It **doesn't allow duplicate elements** or **doesn't maintain any order** of elements (not insertion order or sorting order).
- It allows **both homogeneous and heterogeneous** data types.
- Internally, it uses a **Hashtable data structure**.
- The **default capacity is 16** and **load Factor or Fill Ratio is 0.75**.
- HashSet is **best used for fast searching operations**, because hashing is very efficient.

24- Map <Key, Value>

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- In Java, **Map** is an interface available in the **java.util package**, introduced in **JDK 1.2** as part of the **Java Collections Framework**.
- In the entire Collection Framework, we work with **single objects** and **groups of objects**:
- **Single:** To work with **single elements**, Java provides the **Collection** interface and its subtypes like List, Set, and Queue.
- **Group Of Object:** On the other hand, it provides the **Map** interface to work with a **group of objects in the form of key and value pairs**.
- The Map interface is used to represent a collection of **key-value pairs**, where **Keys must be unique** (no duplicates allowed), **Values can be duplicated**. (**Student Roll Numbers and Names**)

25- Different between Map and Set Interface?

- Both are part of the Collections Framework, available in **java.util package**.

Map

- We work with a group of objects in the form of key and value pairs
- Here, **key must be unique**, but **value can be duplicate**
- Can have **one null key and multiple null values**
- We use **Map** when we want to associate **unique keys with values** (like a dictionary or lookup table)

Set

- We work with **single objects**
- **No duplicate values allowed**

26- HashMap<K, V> [UNORDERED, UNSORTED, NO DUPLICATE KEY]

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- We use the **Set interface** when we want to **store a group of unique elements** (like **HashMap** is a **predefined class** available in the **java.util package** and implements the **Map interface**, introduced in **JDK 1.2**)

- **HashMap** is an **unordered and unsorted** map means it does not guarantee any specific order of elements.

Collection Classes

- It works with **multiple objects** in the form of **key and value pairs**.
- It inserts elements based on the **hashCode()** of the key by using **hashing algorithm** and stores them in **buckets**.
- **It does not allow duplicate keys**, but **duplicate values are allowed**.
- To avoid duplicate keys and to manage keys properly, we must follow the **hashCode () == op and equals () method contract**.
- Default Capacity is 16 and load factor is 0.75 Recio.

27- How HashMap internally Work?

- While working with HashSet or HashMap, every key object must be checked because duplicate keys are not allowed.
- When we **add a new key**, internally it uses:
- **hashCode ()** method – to generate a hash code.
- **== operator** – to check if both objects are the same (reference).
- **equals ()** method – to check if both objects are same (content).
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- **First**, it calls the **hashCode ()** method on the key to calculate the **hash value**.
- Based on the hash, it finds the **bucket index** (location) where the entry might be stored.
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- Then it checks if any **existing key** is already present in that bucket:
- If **no key** is present → the new key-value pair is directly inserted.
- If **key is present**, it means **hash collision** has happened.
- When hash collision happens (same bucket), it does this:
- First it uses **== operator** to check if both keys are the same object (same memory).
- If yes → new value will **replace the old value**.
- If not same → it uses **equals(Object obj)** method.
- → keys are **same (duplicate)** → value is **updated**.
- If **equals ()** return false → keys are different → new key-value is added in the same bucket using Singly LinkedList

28- equals () and hashCode () method contract:

- Both the methods are working together to find out the duplicate objects in the Map.
- If **equals ()** method invoked on two objects and it returns true then hashcode of both the objects must be same.
- IF TWO OBJECTS ARE HAVING SAME HASH CODE THEN IT MAY BE SAME OR DIFFERENT BUT IF EQUALS (OBJECT OBJ) METHOD RETURNS TRUE THEN BOTH OBJECTS MUST RETURN SAME HASHCODE.

29- LinkedHashSet<E> [It is the order version of HashSet]

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LinkedHashSet

- **LinkedHashSet** is a predefined class available in the `java.util` package.
- It is the **ordered version of HashSet**.
- It maintains the **insertion order** of elements.
- It stores only **unique elements** (like `HashSet`).
- Internally, it uses a `LinkedHashMap`.

30- LinkedHashMap<E> [It is the order version of HashMap]

• `LinkedHashMap` internally uses a `hash table + linked list` data structure to maintain

LinkedHashMap

- **LinkedHashMap** is a predefined class available in the `java.util` package.
- It is the **ordered version of HashMap**.
- It maintains the **insertion order of key-value pairs**.
- It stores only **unique keys** (like `HashMap`) in the form of **key and value pairs**.

Collection Classes

31- SortedSet<Set<E>

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- **SortedSet<E> Interface**
 - As we know, we can't sort a `HashSet` directly using `collections.sort()`, because `HashSet` is **unordered**.
 - To get **automatic sorting**, Java provides the `SortedSet<E>` interface.
 - `SortedSet` maintains elements in **sorted order**.
 - It provides two types of sorting:
 - **Default order using Comparable**
 - **Custom order using Comparator**
 - The most common implementation of `SortedSet` is `Treeset`.

32- Comparable/ Comparator

- **Comparable**
 - It is a **predefined interface** available in the `java.lang` package.
 - Method name: `compareTo(T t)`
 - It provides **natural sorting order**.
 - You **need to modify** the BLC class (Business Logic Class) to implement `Comparable`.
- **Comparator**
 - It is a **predefined functional interface** available in the `java.util` package.
 - Method name: `compare(T o1, T o2)`
 - It provides **custom sorting order**.
 - You **do not need to modify** the BLC class.
 - You can write **multiple sorting logic** using different `Comparator` implementations.

33- TreeSet<E>

- `public class TreeSet<E> extends AbstractSet<E> implements NavigableSet<E>, Clonable, Serializable`