

# Two-Dimensional Arrays

#### **Nested Iteration Statements**

In Java, nested iteration statements are iteration statements that appear in the body of another iteration statement. When a loop is nested inside another loop, the inner loop must complete all its iterations before the outer loop can continue.

#### **Declaring 2D Arrays**

In Java, 2D arrays are stored as arrays of arrays. Therefore, the way 2D arrays are declared is similar 1D array objects. 2D arrays are declared by defining a data type followed by two sets of square brackets.

#### **Accessing 2D Array Elements**

In Java, when accessing the element from a 2D array using <code>arr[first][second]</code>, the <code>first</code> index can be thought of as the desired row, and the <code>second</code> index is used for the desired column. Just like 1D arrays, 2D arrays are indexed starting at <code>0</code>.

```
for(int outer = 0; outer < 3; outer++){
    System.out.println("The outer index is: "
+ outer);
    for(int inner = 0; inner < 4; inner++){
        System.out.println("\tThe inner index is: "
+ inner);
    }
}</pre>
```

```
int[][] twoDIntArray;
String[][] twoDStringArray;
double[][] twoDDoubleArray;
```

#### **Initializer Lists**

In Java, initializer lists can be used to quickly give initial values to 2D arrays. This can be done in two different ways.

- If the array has not been declared yet, a new array can be declared and initialized in the same step using curly brackets.
- 2. If the array has already been declared, the <a href="new">new</a> keyword along with the data type must be used in order to use an initializer list

#### **Modify 2D Array Elements**

In Java, elements in a 2D array can be modified in a similar fashion to modifying elements in a 1D array. Setting <code>arr[i][j]</code> equal to a new value will modify the element in row <code>i</code> column <code>j</code> of the array <code>arr</code>.

#### **Row-Major Order**

"Row-major order" refers to an ordering of 2D array elements where traversal occurs across each row - from the top left corner to the bottom right. In Java, row major ordering can be implemented by having nested loops where the outer loop variable iterates through the rows and the inner loop variable iterates through the columns. Note that inside these loops, when accessing elements, the variable used in the outer loop will be used as the first index, and the inner loop variable will be used as the second index.

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```
// Method one: declaring and intitializing at the
same time
double[][] doubleValues = {{1.5, 2.6, 3.7}, {7.5,
6.4, 5.3}, {9.8, 8.7, 7.6}, {3.6, 5.7, 7.8}};

// Method two: declaring and initializing separately:
String[][] stringValues;
stringValues = new String[][] {{"working", "with"},
{"2D", "arrays"}, {"is", "fun"}};
```

```
double[][] doubleValues = {{1.5, 2.6, 3.7}, {7.5,
6.4, 5.3}, {9.8, 8.7, 7.6}, {3.6, 5.7, 7.8}};

doubleValues[2][3] = 100.5;
// This will change the value 7.6 to 100.5
```

```
for(int i = 0; i < matrix.length; i++) {
    for(int j = 0; j < matrix[i].length; j++) {
        System.out.println(matrix[i][j]);
    }
}</pre>
```

## Column-Major Order

"Column-major order" refers to an ordering of 2D array elements where traversal occurs down each column - from the top left corner to the bottom right. In Java, column major ordering can be implemented by having nested loops where the outer loop variable iterates through the columns and the inner loop variable iterates through the rows. Note that inside these loops, when accessing elements, the variable used in the outer loop will be used as the second index, and the inner loop variable will be used as the first index.

## **Traversing With Enhanced For Loops**

In Java, enhanced for loops can be used to traverse 2D arrays. Because enhanced for loops have no index variable, they are better used in situations where you only care about the values of the 2D array – not the location of those values



```
for(int i = 0; i < matrix[0].length; i++) {
    for(int j = 0; j < matrix.length; j++) {
        System.out.println(matrix[j][i]);
    }
}</pre>
```

```
for(String[] rowOfStrings : twoDStringArray) {
    for(String s : rowOfStrings) {
        System.out.println(s);
    }
}
```