

Methods and Implementation Hiding

One of the most important tools in Java is a method. A method is a collection of statements grouped together to perform an operation. Methods are meant to perform many different functions, and often require several statements to be executed. Methods consist of a method header and a method body. When a method needs to be used, it must be called. Methods are called by executing the return statement or by reaching the method ending closing brace.

Sometimes implementations need to be hidden, and methods can hide these implementations. Only certain methods can hide implementations. When an implementation needs to be hidden, its best to use one of the ways given. Instance methods can override a method in a superclass. Static methods can hide a method in the superclass. Interface methods are generally preferred over default method and ignore overridden methods.