

OBJECT ORIENTED PROGRAMMING WITH JAVA

Java Programming Insights

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About `main()` method



A simple Java program

Let us consider a simple program to find the square root of an integer.

```
import java.lang.*; //Math class is defined in this package

class Calculator{
    double i;
    double x = Math.sqrt(i);
}

class Example{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        Calculator a = new Calculator();
        a.i = 20;
        System.out.println("Square root of "+a.i+" is "+a.x);
    }
}
```



Analysis of the program

Let us examine each statement step-by-step.

Import
Statements

Declaration
of class

Declaration of
main class

```
import java.lang.*;

class Calculator{
    double i;
    double x = Math.sqrt(i);
}

class Example{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        Calculator a = new Calculator();
        a.i = 20;
        System.out.println("Square root of "+a.i+" is "+a.x);
    }
}
```



Significance of `main` class

- **J**ava program starts its execution from a method belongs to a class only.
- The `main()` method is the starting point of the execution of the main thread.
- If there are multiple classes, then ambiguity is resolved by incorporating a `main()` method into only one special class called main class.
- The name of the **J**ava program should be named after this class so that **J**ava interpreter unanimously choose that class to start its execution.



Understanding basic Java syntax

Diagram illustrating the components of the Java `main()` method signature:

```
public static void main (String args[ ] )
```

Annotations:

- `public`: access modifier
- `static`: keyword
- `void`: return type
- `main`: method name
- `(String args[])`: String class, array of string objects

Java `main()` method



public Keyword

The diagram shows the signature `public static void main (String args[])` with arrows pointing to each part:
- `public`: access modifier (green arrow)
- `static`: keyword (orange arrow)
- `void`: return type (blue arrow)
- `main`: method name (orange arrow)
- `(String args[])`: String class (purple arrow) and array of string objects (green arrow)

```
public static void main (String args[] )
```

Java `main()` method

➤ public

- It is an access specifier, which allows the programmer to control the visibility of class members.
- **public** member may be accessed by code outside the class in which it is declared.
- **main()** must be declared as public, since it must be called by code outside of its class when the program is started.

Note: By default a member is **public**.
Other access specifiers will be discussed later.



static keyword

The diagram shows the signature `public static void main (String args[])` with arrows pointing to each part: `public` is labeled 'access modifier', `static` is labeled 'keyword', `void` is labeled 'return type', `main` is labeled 'method name', `String` is labeled 'String class', and `args[]` is labeled 'array of string objects'.

```
public static void main (String args[] )
```

Java `main()` method

➤ static

- The keyword `static` allows `main()` to be called without having to instantiate a particular instance of the class.
- This is necessary since `main()` is called by Java interpreter before any objects are made.

Note: There are more information about `static` which will be discussed shortly.



void keyword

The diagram shows the Java `main()` method signature with color-coded parts and arrows pointing to their descriptions:

- `public` (green) is labeled "access modifier" with a green arrow pointing down.
- `static` (red) is labeled "keyword" with a red arrow pointing up.
- `void` (blue) is labeled "return type" with a blue arrow pointing down.
- `main` (orange) is labeled "method name" with an orange arrow pointing up.
- `(String args[])` (purple) is labeled "String class" with a purple arrow pointing down and "array of string objects" with a green arrow pointing up.

Java `main()` method

➤ void

- As per the Java programming language paradigm, each method should return a value; if it does not return anything, then the return type should be `void`.
- The keyword `void` simply tells the compiler that `main()` does not return any value after its execution.



main() method

access modifier
↓
public static void **main** (**String** args[])
↑ ↑ ↑
keyword method name array of string objects

Java **main()** method

➤ main

- **main** is the name of a method in a class.
- This method is searched by **JVM** as a starting point for an application with a particular signature only.



Arguments in `main()`

The diagram shows the signature `public static void main (String args[])` with arrows pointing to each part:
- `public`: access modifier (green arrow)
- `static`: keyword (brown arrow)
- `void`: return type (blue arrow)
- `main`: method name (orange arrow)
- `(String args[])`: String class (purple arrow) and array of string objects (tan arrow)

```
public static void main (String args[])
```

Java `main()` method

➤ `String args[]`

- Here, `String` is a class defined in `java.lang` API.
- `args[]` is an **array** to store objects of class `String`.
- Here, you could write anything, say `String x[]` instead of `String args[]`. `args[]` is a common practice that every programmer uses. It is customary.
- Java sees everything as `String` objects.
- It will help to read an input and then store it into the array `args[]` as `String` objects.



Output from Java program

Statement 12 includes the following code

```
System.out.println("Square root of "+a.i+" is "+a.x);
```

- **System** is a final class from the **java.lang** package.
- **out** is a class variable of type **PrintStream** declared in the **System** class.
- **println** is a method of the **PrintStream** class.
- **a.i** and **a.x** represents the names of variables to be printed.
- **+** is a concatenation operator, it is used to concatenate the string values.



print versus println methods

Consider the following lines to be printed as output

```
Debasis  
Samanta
```

This can be done using both `println()` and `print()` functions

```
System.out.println("Debasis");  
System.out.println("Samanta");
```

```
System.out.print("Debasis");  
System.out.print("\n");  
System.out.print("Samanta");
```

- The `println("...")` method prints the string "..." and moves the cursor to a new line.
- The `print("...")` method instead prints just the string "...", but does not move the cursor to a new line. Hence, subsequent printing instructions will print on the same line.

Note: The `println()` method can also be used without parameters, to position the cursor on the next line.



Java Runtime Data Input



Command line input in Java

Let us run this Java program

```
public class Echo{  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        for(int i=0;i<args.length;i++){  
            System.out.print(args[i]+" ");  
            System.out.print("\n");  
        }  
        System.exit(0);  
    }  
}
```

```
C:\Users\Desktop\Java\Echo>Hi Debasis Samanta  
Hi  
Debasis  
Samanta
```



Command line input in Java

Let us run the same Java program with different input:

```
public class Echo{  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        for(int i=0;i<args.length;i++){  
            System.out.print(args[i]+" ");  
            System.out.print("\n");  
        }  
        System.exit(0);  
    }  
}
```

C:\Users\Desktop\Java\Echo>1 2 3 4 5 6 7

1
2
3
4
5
6
7



Practice another Java program

Let us run this Java program:

```
public class UserArgument{  
    public static void main(String args[]){  
        System.out.print("Hi ");  
        System.out.print(args[0]);  
        System.out.print(", How are you?");  
    }  
}
```

```
C:\Users\Desktop\Java\UserArguement>Debasis  
Hi Debasis, How are you?
```



Numeric input to program

Let us run this Java program:

```
import java.lang.*;

class Calculator{
    double i;
    double x = Math.sqrt(i);
}
class Example{
    public static void main(String args[]){
        Calculator a = new Calculator();
        a.i = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
        System.out.println("Square root of "+a.i+" is "+a.x);
    }
}
```

```
C:\Users\Desktop\Java\Calculator>56
Square root of 56 is 7.483319234678
```



Input to Java program with Scanner Class

```
import java.util.Scanner
```

 ← 1. Import Scanner Class

```
public class ScannerDemo
```

```
{  
    public static void main(String args[])  
{
```

Sitesway.com

```
Scanner s=new Scanner(System.in);
```

 ← 2. Construct Scanner class Object

```
System.out.println("Enter first no= ");
```

```
int num1, num2;
```

 ← 3. Define Variable to Receive Input

```
num1=s.nextInt();
```

```
System.out.println("Enter 2nd no= ");
```

 ← 4. Read Input from Keyboard

```
num2=s.nextInt();
```

```
System.out.println("Sum of no is= "+(num1+num2));  
}  
}
```

Scanner is one of the predefined class which is used for reading the data dynamically from the keyboard.



Example program for Scanner : Maximum

```
import java.util.Scanner;

public class MaximumCalculator {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        Scanner scnr = new Scanner(System.in);
        // Calculating the maximum two numbers in Java
        System.out.println("Please enter two numbers to find maximum of two");
        int a = scnr.nextInt();
        int b = scnr.nextInt();
        if (a > b) {
            System.out.printf("Between %d and %d, maximum is %d \n", a, b, a);
        }
        else {
            System.out.printf("Between %d and %d, maximum number is %d \n", a, b, b);
        }
    }
}
```



Example program with Scanner and array

```
import java.util.*;
class SimpleArrayList{
public static void main(String args[]){
    int sum = 0;
    float avg = 0;
    ArrayList <Integer> l = new ArrayList<Integer>();
    System.out.println("Enter the input ");
    Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
    while (input.hasNextInt()) {
        l.add(input.nextInt());
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < l.size(); i++) {
        sum = sum+l.get(i);
    }
    avg = sum/(l.size());
    System.out.println("Average : " + avg);
}
}
```

```
C:\Users\Desktop\Java\SimpleArrayList>Enter the input
5
6
4^Z
Average : 5.0
```

Note:

Press **Ctrl+Z** to stop scanning.



Input with DataInputStream : Calculator Program

```
import java.io.*;

class InterestCalculator{
    public static void main(String args[ ] ) {
        Float principalAmount = new Float(0);
        Float rateOfInterest = new Float(0);
        int numberOfYears = 0;
        DataInputStream in = new DataInputStream(System.in);
        String tempString;
        System.out.println("Enter Principal Amount: ");
        System.out.flush();
        tempString = in.readLine();
        principalAmount = Float.valueOf(tempString);
        System.out.println("Enter Rate of Interest: ");
        System.out.flush();
        tempString = in.readLine();
        rateOfInterest = Float.valueOf(tempString);
        System.out.println("Enter Number of Years: ");
        System.out.flush();
        tempString = in.readLine();
        numberOfYears = Integer.parseInt(tempString);
        // Input is over: calculate the interest
        float interestTotal = principalAmount*rateOfInterest*numberOfYears;
        System.out.println("Total Interest = " + interestTotal);
    }
}
```

```
C:\Users\Desktop\Java\InterestCalculator>
Enter Principal Amount:
100.0
Enter Rate of Interest:
12.5
Enter Number of Years:
2
Total Interest = 25.0
```

Questions to think...

- Which type of binding that a Java program can support?
- How recursive program in Java can be written?

Thank You