

5 difference between Hashtable and HashMap in Java

Hashtable vs HashMap in Java

[Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) are two hash based [collection](#) in Java and used to store objects as key value pair. Despite being hash based and similar in functionality there are significant difference between [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) and without [understanding](#) those difference if you use [Hashtable](#) in place of [HashMap](#) than you may run into series of subtle [programs](#) which is hard to find and debug. Unlike [Difference between ArrayList and HashMap](#), [Difference between Hashtable and HashMap](#) are more subtle because both are similar kind of collection. Before seeing difference between [HashMap](#) and [Hashtable](#) let's see some common things between [HashMap](#) and [Hashtable](#) in Java.

Similarities between Hashtable and HashMap in Java



There are lot of similar things between [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) in Java which is good to know and these also helps to find exactly what is different between [HashMap](#) and [Hashtable](#) in Java:

- 1) Both [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) implements `java.util.Map` interface.
- 2) [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) both are hash based collection and works on principle of hashing.
- 3) [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) both provide constant time performance for put and get method if objects are distributed uniformly across bucket.
- 4) From JDK 4 both [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) are part of Java collection framework.

Difference between Hashtable and HashMap in Java

Despite being so similar there are some differences between [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) in Java which separates them completely, let's have a look :

- 1) First and most significant different between [Hashtable](#) and [HashMap](#) is that, [HashMap](#) is not [thread-safe](#) while [Hashtable](#) is a [thread-safe](#) collection.

2) Second important difference between Hashtable and HashMap is performance, since HashMap is not [synchronized](#) it perform better than Hashtable.

3) Third difference on Hashtable vs HashMap is that Hashtable is obsolete class and you should be using [ConcurrentHashMap in place of Hashtable in Java](#).

These were some important difference on Hashtable and HashMap in Java. If you know any other difference which is not included here than feel free to add them in comment section. Remember this is an important question on Java interview and good to prepare it well.