

Generics

- Generics means Type parameter
- Generics introduces in java 5
- Generics detects Type parameter at compile time and avoid runtime error.
- While fetching the objects from Generics collection we don't required Type casting.
- Generics used at Compile time, at Runtime Generics information is removed.

Type parameters

1. T - Type
2. E - Element
3. K - Key
4. N - Number
5. V - Value

Generics can be applied to Class, Interface, method, variable, return type.

Reference docs:

[Lesson: Generics \(Updated\) \(The Java™ Tutorials > Learning the Java Language\) \(oracle.com\)](#)

```
public class Generics1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {

        List list = new ArrayList(); //without generics, before java-5
        list.add(1); //int -> Integer, Collections always store Wrapper types, not primitive Types, so 1 here
        //is Integer, int converted to Integer by Compiler. Compiler is smart :)
        list.add("two");
        list.add(3L);
        list.add(4.00);
        list.add(5.00F);

        Object i = list.get(0); //everything stored as an Object, to convert to Integer we need to cast explicitly
        Integer i2 = (Integer) list.get(1); //failed at runtime because "two" cannot be converted to Integer

    }
}
```

```
package com.hdfc.collections;

import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;

public class Generics1 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {

        List list = new ArrayList();
```

```

        list.add(1); //int -> Integer
        list.add("two");
        list.add(3);
        Integer i = (Integer) list.get(1); //failed at runtime
        Generics1.populateList(new ArrayList<>());
    }
    public static List<Integer> populateList(List<Integer> list){

        List<Object> list21 = new ArrayList<Object>();
        list21.add(1); //Integer
        list21.add("two");
        list21.add(3);
        list21.add("four");
        for(Object o: list21){

            //to print only String type
            /*if(o instanceof String){
                System.out.println(o);
            */

            //to print the type information
            System.out.println(o.getClass().getTypeName());
        }

        List list2 = new ArrayList();
        list2.add(1);
        list2.add(2);
        return list2;
    }
}

package com.hdfc.collections;

import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;

class Animal{}
class Dog extends Animal{}
public class Generics2 {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Animal a1= new Animal();
        Animal a2 = new Dog();
        Dog a3 = new Dog();
        //Dog a4 = new Animal();//not a valid

        //List<Animal> list = new ArrayList<Dog>();//java: incompatible types: java.util.ArrayList<com.hdfc.collections.Dog> cannot be converted to java.util.List<com.hdfc.collections.Animal>
    }
}

```

```

List<Animal> list = new ArrayList<Animal>();
list.add(new Animal());
list.add(new Dog());

//List<Animal> list2 = new ArrayList<Dog>(); //invalid
syntax

List<Dog> list3 = new ArrayList<Dog>();
//list3.add(new Animal()); //cannot add Animal
list3.add(new Dog());

//List<Dog> list4 = new ArrayList<Animal>(); //invalid

/*
//Arrays
Animal[] animals = new Animal[2];
animals[0] = new Animal();
animals[1] = new Dog();

Animal[] animals2 = new Dog[2];
animals2[0] = new Animal();
animals2[1] = new Dog();

Dog[] animals3 = new Dog[2];
//animals3[0] = new Animal();
animals3[1] = new Dog();

//Dog[] animals4 = new Animal[2]; //in valid syntax
*/
}
}

```

```

package com.hdfc.collections;

import java.util.ArrayList;
import java.util.List;

//NOTE: uncomment and see the error
class Vehical {
}

class Car extends Vehical {
}

class MarutiCar extends Car {
}

public class Generics3 {

    public static void main(String[] args) {

```

```
List list = new ArrayList(); //can hold any object type , before java-5 syntax
list.add(1);
list.add(2L);
list.add(3F);
list.add(4D);
list.add("hello");
list.add(new Vehical());
list.add(new Car());
list.add(new MarutiCar());
testBeforeJava5(list); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_2(list); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_3(list); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_4(list); //check the method signature
```

```
List<Object> list2 = new ArrayList<Object>(); //can hold any object type, after java-5 syntax
testBeforeJava5(list2); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_2(list2); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_3(list2); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_4(list2); //check the method signature
```

```
List<Object> list3 = new ArrayList<>(); //can hold any object type, after java-7 syntax ArrayList<>();
need need to provide type information on right side
```

```
List<?> list4 = new ArrayList<>(); //valid syntax but not allowed to store any car type
testBeforeJava5(list4); //check the method signature
//testBeforeJava5_2(list4); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_3(list4); //check the method signature
testBeforeJava5_4(list4); //check the method signature
```

```
List<? extends Vehical> list5 = new ArrayList<>(); //Vehical and its subclasses
List<? super Vehical> list6 = new ArrayList<>(); //Vehical and its super type
```

```
//test1(List<? extends Vehical> list5)
// test1(new )
```

```
testAfterJava5(new ArrayList<Object>());
testAfterJava5(new ArrayList<Integer>());
testAfterJava5(new ArrayList<Vehical>());
testAfterJava5(new ArrayList<Car>());
testAfterJava5(new ArrayList<MarutiCar>());
```

```
//testAfterJava5_1(List<? extends Vehical> List)
//only those List which are extending Vehical are allowed
// testAfterJava5_1(new ArrayList<Object>());
//testAfterJava5_1(new ArrayList<Integer>());
testAfterJava5_1(new ArrayList<Vehical>());
testAfterJava5_1(new ArrayList<Car>());
testAfterJava5_1(new ArrayList<MarutiCar>());
```

```
//testAfterJava5_2(List<? extends Car> List){
//only those List which are extending Car are allowed
// testAfterJava5_1(new ArrayList<Object>());
//testAfterJava5_1(new ArrayList<Integer>());
//testAfterJava5_2(new ArrayList<Vehical>());
testAfterJava5_2(new ArrayList<Car>());
testAfterJava5_2(new ArrayList<MarutiCar>());
```

```
//testAfterJava5_3(List<? extends MarutiCar> List){
//only those List which are extending MarutiCar are allowed
// testAfterJava5_3(new ArrayList<Object>());
//testAfterJava5_3(new ArrayList<Integer>());
//testAfterJava5_3(new ArrayList<Vehical>());
//testAfterJava5_3(new ArrayList<Car>());
testAfterJava5_3(new ArrayList<MarutiCar>());
```

```
//testAfterJava5_4(List<? super Object> List){
//only those List which are super type of Object are allowed
```

```

testAfterJava5_4(new ArrayList<Object>()); //only objects are allowed, rest non
//testAfterJava5_4(new ArrayList<Integer>());
//testAfterJava5_4(new ArrayList<Vehical>());
//testAfterJava5_4(new ArrayList<Car>());
//testAfterJava5_4(new ArrayList<MarutiCar>());

//testAfterJava5_5(List<? super Vehical> list){
//only those list which are super type of Vehical are allowed
testAfterJava5_5(new ArrayList<Object>());
//testAfterJava5_5(new ArrayList<Integer>());
testAfterJava5_5(new ArrayList<Vehical>());
//testAfterJava5_5(new ArrayList<Car>());
//testAfterJava5_5(new ArrayList<MarutiCar>());

//testAfterJava5_6(List<? super Car> list){
//only those list which are extending Car are allowed
testAfterJava5_6(new ArrayList<Object>());
//testAfterJava5_6(new ArrayList<Integer>());
testAfterJava5_6(new ArrayList<Vehical>());
testAfterJava5_6(new ArrayList<Car>());
//testAfterJava5_6(new ArrayList<MarutiCar>());

}

public static void testBeforeJava5(List list) {
}

public static void testBeforeJava5_2(List<Object> list) {
}

public static void testBeforeJava5_3(List<?> list) {
}

public static void testBeforeJava5_4(List<? extends Object> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5(List<? extends Object> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5_1(List<? extends Vehical> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5_2(List<? extends Car> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5_3(List<? extends MarutiCar> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5_4(List<? super Object> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5_5(List<? super Vehical> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5_6(List<? super Car> list) {
}

public static void testAfterJava5_7(List<? super MyTest> list) {

```

```

    }

}

package com.hdfc.collections;

class Test3 {
    int one;
    String two;
}

class UseTwo<T, X, Y> {
    T one;
    X two;
    Y three;
    public UseTwo(T one, X two, Y three) {
        this.one = one;
        this.two = two;
        this.three=three;
    }

    public T getT(){return this.one;}
    public X getX(){return this.two;}

    public Y getY(){return this.three;}

    public void setT(T t){
        this.one=t;
    }
}

public class Generics4 {

    public static void main(String[] args) {

        UseTwo<Integer, Integer, Integer> object = new UseTwo<>(1, 1, 1);
        Integer t = object.getT();
        Integer x = object.getX();
        Integer y = object.getY();

        UseTwo<Integer, String, Double> object2 = new UseTwo<>(1, "two", 12.12D);
        Integer t1 = object2.getT();
        String x1 = object2.getX();
        Double y1 = object2.getY();

        UseTwo<Vehical, Car, MarutiCar> object3 = new UseTwo<>(new Vehical(), new Car(), new MarutiCar());
        Vehical t3 = object3.getT();
        Car x3 = object3.getX();
        MarutiCar y3 = object3.getY();

    }
}

```