



Declarations

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Class

- There can be **only one public class** per source code file.
- If there is a public class in a file, the name of the file must match the name of the public class.
- Files with no public classes can have a name that does not match any of the classes in the file.
- A file can have **more than one nonpublic class**.

Interface

- All **interface methods are implicitly public and abstract**. In other words, you do not need to actually type the `public` or `abstract` modifiers in the method declaration, but the method is still always `public` and `abstract`.
- All **variables defined in an interface are implicitly public, static, and final**, in other words, interfaces can declare only constants, not instance variables.

- Interface methods must not be `static`, `final`, `strictfp`, or `native`.

Some valid interface declarations:

```
public abstract interface Rollable { } // abstract is redundant as
                                        // interfaces are implicitly abstract
```

```
public interface Rollable { } // public modifier is required if you
                               // want the interface to have public
                               // rather than default access
```

```
interface Rollable { } // interface with default access
```

```
public interface Bounceable {

    // following initializations/declarations are all
    // legal and identical

    int b = 8;
    public static final int b = 8;
    public final int b = 8;
    static final int b = 8;
    final int b = 8;

    void bounce();
    public void bounce();
    abstract void bounce();
    public abstract void bounce();
    abstract public void bounce();

}
```

NOTE: The above points state that interfaces have very little flexibility in how the methods and variables defined in the interface are declared. This is also one of the **rare differences between an interface and an abstract class**.

Var-args

Use var-args when you want to pass **variable number of arguments** to a method.

Rules for Var-args:

Let's look at some legal and illegal var-arg declarations:

```
//Legal:
void doStuff(int... x) { } // expects from 0 to many ints
                           // as parameters
void doStuff2(char c, int... x) { } // expects first a char,
                                     // then 0 to many ints
void doStuff3(Animal... animal) { } // 0 to many Animals

//Illegal:
void doStuff4(int x...) { } // bad syntax
void doStuff5(int... x, char... y) { } // too many var-args
                                     // (only one is allowed)
void doStuff6(String... s, byte b) { } // var-arg must be last
```

Enums

Java lets you restrict a variable to having one of only a few pre-defined values, in other words, one value from an **enumerated list**. *(The items in the enumerated list are called, surprisingly, **enums**.)*

It's not required that enum constants be in all caps, but it's a good idea. Enums can be declared as their own separate class, or as a class member, however they must not be declared within a method.

An enum outside a class:

```
1  enum CoffeeSize { BIG, HUGE, OVERWHELMING } // this cannot be
2                                                    // private or protected
3
4  class Coffee {
5      CoffeeSize size;
6  }
7
8  public class CoffeeTest1 {
9      public static void main(String[] args) {
10         Coffee drink = new Coffee();
11         drink.size = CoffeeSize.BIG; // enum outside class
12     }
13 }
```

NOTE: The preceding code can be part of a single file. (Remember, the file must be named `CoffeeTest1.java` because that's the name of the public class in the file.) The key point to remember is that an enum that isn't enclosed in a class can be declared with only the **public or default modifier**, just like a class (non-inner).

An enum inside a class:

```
1  class Coffee2 {
2      enum CoffeeSize {BIG, HUGE, OVERWHELMING }; // <-- semicolon is optional
3                                                    // (when no other declarations
4                                                    // for this enum follow)
5      CoffeeSize size;
6  }
7  public class CoffeeTest2 {
8      public static void main(String[] args) {
9          Coffee2 drink = new Coffee2();
10         drink.size = Coffee2.CoffeeSize.BIG; // enclosing class
11                                                // name required
12     }
13 }
```

NOTE: The syntax for accessing an enum's members depends on where the enum was declared.

Conceptually what are enums:

The most important thing to remember is that **enums are not Strings or ints**. Each of the enumerated CoffeeSize types are actually **instances of CoffeeSize**. In other words, BIG is of type CoffeeSize. Think of an enum as a kind of class, that looks something (but not exactly) like this:

```

1  // conceptual example of how you can think
2  // about enums
3  class CoffeeSize {
4
5      public static final CoffeeSize BIG =
6          new CoffeeSize("BIG", 0);
7      public static final CoffeeSize HUGE =
8          new CoffeeSize("HUGE", 1);
9      public static final CoffeeSize OVERWHELMING =
10         new CoffeeSize("OVERWHELMING", 2);
11
12     public CoffeeSize(String enumName, int index) {
13         // stuff here
14     }
15
16     public static void main(String[] args) {
17         System.out.println(CoffeeSize.BIG);
18     }
19 }

```

*NOTE: Each of the enumerated values, `BIG`, `HUGE`, and `OVERWHELMING`, are instances of type `CoffeeSize`. They're represented as *static* and *final*, which in the Java world are constants.*

Declaring Constructors, Methods, and Variables in an enum

You can add constructors, instance variables, methods, and something really strange known as a “constant specific class body”.

Why we need an enum constructor?

Imagine you want to know the actual size, in ounces, that map to each of the three `CoffeeSize` constants. For example, you want to know that `BIG` is 8 ounces, `HUGE` is 10 ounces, and `OVERWHELMING` is 16 ounces. You could make some kind of a lookup table, using some other data structure, but that would be a poor design and hard to maintain. The simplest way is to treat your enum values (`BIG`, `HUGE`, and `OVERWHELMING`), as objects that can each have their own instance variables. Then you can assign those values at the time the enums are initialized, by passing a value to the enum constructor.

What is “constant specific class body”?

Imagine this scenario: you want enums to have two methods—one for ounces and one for lid code (a String). Now imagine that most coffee sizes use the same lid code, “B”, but the OVERWHELMING size uses type “A”. You can define a `getLidCode ()` method in the `CoffeeSize` enum that returns “B”, but then you need a way to override it for OVERWHELMING. You don’t want to do some hard-to- maintain if/then code in the `getLidCode()` method, so the best approach might be to somehow have the OVERWHELMING constant override the `getLidCode ()` method.

The below code snippet describes two of the above preceding points:

```

1  enum CoffeeSize {
2      BIG(8),
3      HUGE(10),
4      OVERWHELMING(16) { // start a code block that defines
5                          // the "body" for this constant
6
7          public String getLidCode() { // override the method
8                                      // defined in CoffeeSize
9
10             return "A";
11         }
12     }; // the semicolon is REQUIRED when more code follows
13
14     CoffeeSize(int ounces) { // constructor
15         this.ounces = ounces;
16     }
17
18     private int ounces;
19
20     public int getOunces() {
21         return ounces;
22     }
23
24     public String getLidCode() { // this method is overridden
25                                 // by the OVERWHELMING constant
26         return "B"; // the default value we want to return for
27                     // CoffeeSize constants
28     }
29 }

```

Some points to note:

- You can NEVER invoke an enum constructor directly. The enum constructor is invoked automatically, with the arguments you define after the constant value.
- Every enum has a static method, values(), that returns an array of the enum's values in the order they're declared.

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