

Module 1: Introduction to Java Fundamentals

Premanand S

Assistant Professor
School of Electronics Engineering
Vellore Institute of Technology
Chennai Campus

premanand.s@vit.ac.in

January 5, 2026

Module 1: Introduction to Java Fundamentals

- OOP Paradigm and Features of Java
- JVM, Bytecode, Java Program Structure
- Data Types, Variables, Naming Conventions
- Operators, Control and Looping Constructs
- One- and Multi-dimensional Arrays
- Enhanced for-loop
- Strings, StringBuffer, StringBuilder, Math Class
- Wrapper Classes

What is a Variable?

A **variable** is a named memory location used to store data.

What is a Variable?

A **variable** is a named memory location used to store data.

In simple words:

- Variable = Container for values
- Value can change during program execution

What is a Variable?

A **variable** is a named memory location used to store data.

In simple words:

- Variable = Container for values
- Value can change during program execution

Example (Real life):

- Water bottle → holds water
- Variable → holds data

Variables: Python vs Java

Feature	Python	Java
Type declaration	Not required	Mandatory
Example	<code>x = 10</code>	<code>int x = 10;</code>
Type checking	Mostly runtime	Compile-time
Flexibility	More flexible	More structured and strict

Variable Declaration in Java

Syntax:

```
dataType variableName = value;
```

Variable Declaration in Java

Syntax:

```
dataType variableName = value;
```

Examples:

```
int age = 20;  
float marks = 85.5f;  
char grade = 'A';  
boolean pass = true;
```


What is a Data Type?

A **data type** specifies:

- What type of data a variable can store
- How much memory is allocated
- What operations are allowed

What is a Data Type?

A **data type** specifies:

- What type of data a variable can store
- How much memory is allocated
- What operations are allowed

Why data types matter?

- Prevents invalid data usage
- Improves performance
- Helps detect errors early

Types of Data Types in Java

Java data types are classified into:

Types of Data Types in Java

Java data types are classified into:

- **Primitive Data Types**

- int, float, double, char, boolean, byte, short, long

Types of Data Types in Java

Java data types are classified into:

- **Primitive Data Types**

- int, float, double, char, boolean, byte, short, long

- **Non-Primitive (Reference) Data Types**

- String
- Arrays
- Classes
- Interfaces

What is int?

What is int?

- Used to store whole numbers
- No decimal values allowed

What is int?

- Used to store whole numbers
- No decimal values allowed

Purpose:

- Counting values
- Loop counters
- Indexing arrays

What is int?

- Used to store whole numbers
- No decimal values allowed

Purpose:

- Counting values
- Loop counters
- Indexing arrays

Code Example:

```
int age = 20;  
int count = 100;
```

What is float?

What is float?

- Stores decimal values
- Single precision (less accurate than double)

What is float?

- Stores decimal values
- Single precision (less accurate than double)

Purpose:

- Memory-efficient decimal storage
- Used when precision is not critical

What is float?

- Stores decimal values
- Single precision (less accurate than double)

Purpose:

- Memory-efficient decimal storage
- Used when precision is not critical

Code Example:

```
float temperature = 36.5f;  
float average = 78.25f;
```

What is double?

What is double?

- Stores decimal values with high precision
- Default type for decimals in Java

What is double?

- Stores decimal values with high precision
- Default type for decimals in Java

Purpose:

- Scientific calculations
- Financial and engineering applications

Data Type: double

What is double?

- Stores decimal values with high precision
- Default type for decimals in Java

Purpose:

- Scientific calculations
- Financial and engineering applications

Code Example:

```
double pi = 3.14159;  
double distance = 12345.678;
```

What is char?

What is char?

- Stores a single character
- Uses single quotes

What is char?

- Stores a single character
- Uses single quotes

Purpose:

- Storing grades, symbols, letters

What is char?

- Stores a single character
- Uses single quotes

Purpose:

- Storing grades, symbols, letters

Code Example:

```
char grade = 'A';  
char gender = 'M';
```

What is boolean?

What is boolean?

- Stores only two values: true or false

What is boolean?

- Stores only two values: true or false

Purpose:

- Decision making
- Conditional statements

What is boolean?

- Stores only two values: true or false

Purpose:

- Decision making
- Conditional statements

Code Example:

```
boolean isPassed = true;  
boolean isEligible = false;
```

What is long?

What is long?

- Stores very large whole numbers

What is long?

- Stores very large whole numbers

Purpose:

- Bank account numbers
- Population count
- Large IDs

What is long?

- Stores very large whole numbers

Purpose:

- Bank account numbers
- Population count
- Large IDs

Code Example:

```
long population = 14000000000L;  
long accountNumber = 9876543210L;
```

What are byte and short?

What are byte and short?

- Used for small-range integers
- Memory efficient

What are byte and short?

- Used for small-range integers
- Memory efficient

Purpose:

- Embedded systems
- Large arrays where memory matters

Data Types: byte and short

What are byte and short?

- Used for small-range integers
- Memory efficient

Purpose:

- Embedded systems
- Large arrays where memory matters

Code Example:

```
byte level = 5;  
short year = 2024;
```

Choosing the Right Data Type

- Use **int** for normal whole numbers
- Use **double** for decimals
- Use **boolean** for conditions
- Use **char** for single characters
- Use **long** for very large values

Choosing the Right Data Type

- Use **int** for normal whole numbers
- Use **double** for decimals
- Use **boolean** for conditions
- Use **char** for single characters
- Use **long** for very large values

Correct data type = efficient + error-free program

Java Naming Conventions

Java follows strict naming rules and conventions.

Java Naming Conventions

Java follows strict naming rules and conventions.

Rules:

- Must start with a letter, _ or \$
- Cannot start with a digit
- Cannot use keywords

Java Naming Conventions

Java follows strict naming rules and conventions.

Rules:

- Must start with a letter, _ or \$
- Cannot start with a digit
- Cannot use keywords

Conventions:

- Variable names → camelCase (studentMarks)
- Class names → PascalCase (StudentDetails)
- Constants → UPPER_CASE (MAX_SIZE)

Common Mistakes Students Make

- Forgetting data type during declaration
- Using wrong suffix (f for float, L for long)
- Using keywords as variable names
- Confusing char ('A') with String ("A")

What is an Operator?

An **operator** is a symbol that performs an operation on one or more operands.

What is an Operator?

An **operator** is a symbol that performs an operation on one or more operands.

In simple words:

- Operator → action
- Operand → value or variable

What is an Operator?

An **operator** is a symbol that performs an operation on one or more operands.

In simple words:

- Operator \rightarrow action
- Operand \rightarrow value or variable

Example:

- In $a + b$
- $+$ is the operator
- a and b are operands

Types of Operators in Java

Java supports several types of operators:

Types of Operators in Java

Java supports several types of operators:

- Arithmetic Operators
- Relational Operators
- Logical Operators
- Assignment Operators
- Unary Operators
- Bitwise Operators
- Ternary Operator

Types of Operators in Java

Java supports several types of operators:

- Arithmetic Operators
- Relational Operators
- Logical Operators
- Assignment Operators
- Unary Operators
- Bitwise Operators
- Ternary Operator

We will start with the most commonly used ones.

Arithmetic Operators

Arithmetic operators are used to perform basic mathematical calculations.

Arithmetic Operators

Arithmetic operators are used to perform basic mathematical calculations.

Operator	Meaning	Example
+	Addition	$a + b$
-	Subtraction	$a - b$
*	Multiplication	$a * b$
/	Division	a / b
%	Modulus (Remainder)	$a \% b$

Arithmetic Operators

Arithmetic operators are used to perform basic mathematical calculations.

Operator	Meaning	Example
+	Addition	$a + b$
-	Subtraction	$a - b$
*	Multiplication	$a * b$
/	Division	a / b
%	Modulus (Remainder)	$a \% b$

Note:

- Division between two integers gives an integer result
- Modulus operator returns the remainder

Arithmetic Operators

```
public class ArithmeticOperators {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        int a = 10;  
        int b = 3;  
  
        System.out.println("Addition: " + (a + b));  
        System.out.println("Subtraction: " + (a - b));  
        System.out.println("Multiplication: " + (a * b));  
        System.out.println("Division: " + (a / b));  
        System.out.println("Modulus: " + (a % b));  
    }  
}
```

Relational Operators in Java

Relational operators are used to compare two values.

Relational Operators in Java

Relational operators are used to compare two values.

Operator	Meaning	Example
==	Equal to	a == b
!=	Not equal to	a != b
>	Greater than	a > b
<	Less than	a < b
>=	Greater than or equal to	a >= b
<=	Less than or equal to	a <= b

Relational Operators in Java

Relational operators are used to compare two values.

Operator	Meaning	Example
==	Equal to	a == b
!=	Not equal to	a != b
>	Greater than	a > b
<	Less than	a < b
>=	Greater than or equal to	a >= b
<=	Less than or equal to	a <= b

Note:

- Relational operators always return a **boolean** value
- Do not confuse = (assignment) with == (comparison)

Relational Operators

```
public class RelationalOperators {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        int a = 10;  
        int b = 5;  
  
        System.out.println("a == b : " + (a == b));  
        System.out.println("a != b : " + (a != b));  
        System.out.println("a > b : " + (a > b));  
        System.out.println("a < b : " + (a < b));  
        System.out.println("a >= b : " + (a >= b));  
        System.out.println("a <= b : " + (a <= b));  
    }  
}
```

Logical Operators in Java

Logical operators are used to combine or modify boolean expressions.

Logical Operators in Java

Logical operators are used to combine or modify boolean expressions.

Operator	Meaning	Example
&&	Logical AND	(a > b) && (a > c)
	Logical OR	(a > b) (a < c)
!	Logical NOT	!(a > b)

Logical Operators in Java

Logical operators are used to combine or modify boolean expressions.

Operator	Meaning	Example
&&	Logical AND	(a > b) && (a > c)
	Logical OR	(a > b) (a < c)
!	Logical NOT	!(a > b)

Note:

- Logical operators work only with boolean expressions
- Result of logical operations is always **true** or **false**

Logical Operators

```
public class LogicalOperators {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        int a = 10;  
        int b = 5;  
        int c = 20;  
  
        // Logical AND  
        System.out.println("(a > b) && (a > c) : "  
        + ((a > b) && (a > c)));  
  
        // Logical OR  
        System.out.println("(a > b) || (a > c) : "  
        + ((a > b) || (a > c)));  
  
        // Logical NOT  
        System.out.println("!(a > b) : " + !(a > b));  
    }  
}
```

Unary Operators in Java

Unary operators operate on a **single operand**.

Unary Operators in Java

Unary operators operate on a **single operand**.

Operator	Meaning	Example
+	Unary plus	+a
-	Unary minus	-a
++	Increment (increase by 1)	++a or a++
--	Decrement (decrease by 1)	--a or a--
!	Logical NOT	!flag

Unary Operators in Java

Unary operators operate on a **single operand**.

Operator	Meaning	Example
+	Unary plus	+a
-	Unary minus	-a
++	Increment (increase by 1)	++a or a++
--	Decrement (decrease by 1)	--a or a--
!	Logical NOT	!flag

Note:

- Unary operators work on only one variable
- ++ and -- modify the value of the variable
- Prefix and postfix forms behave differently

Unary Operators

```
public class UnaryOperators {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int a = 10;  
  
        // Unary plus and minus  
        System.out.println("Unary plus (+a): " + (+a));  
        System.out.println("Unary minus (-a): " + (-a));  
  
        // Increment operator  
        System.out.println("Pre-increment (++a): " + (++a));  
        System.out.println("Post-increment (a++): " + (a++));  
        System.out.println("Value of a after post-increment: " + a)  
  
        // Decrement operator  
        System.out.println("Pre-decrement (--a): " + (--a));  
        System.out.println("Post-decrement (a--): " + (a--));  
        System.out.println("Value of a after post-decrement: " + a)  
    }  
}
```

Bitwise Operators in Java

Bitwise operators perform operations directly on the **binary representation** of numbers.

Bitwise Operators in Java

Bitwise operators perform operations directly on the **binary representation** of numbers.

Operator	Meaning	Example
&	Bitwise AND	a & b
	Bitwise OR	a b
^	Bitwise XOR	a ^ b
~	Bitwise NOT	~a
<<	Left shift	a << 1
>>	Right shift	a >> 1

Bitwise Operators in Java

Bitwise operators perform operations directly on the **binary representation** of numbers.

Operator	Meaning	Example
&	Bitwise AND	a & b
	Bitwise OR	a b
^	Bitwise XOR	a ^ b
~	Bitwise NOT	~a
<<	Left shift	a << 1
>>	Right shift	a >> 1

Note:

- Bitwise operators work at the **bit level**
- Mostly used in low-level programming and optimization

Bitwise Operators

```
public class BitwiseOperators {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int a = 5;    // Binary: 0101  
        int b = 3;    // Binary: 0011  
        // Bitwise AND  
        System.out.println("a & b  = " + (a & b));    // 1 (0001)  
        // Bitwise OR  
        System.out.println("a | b  = " + (a | b));    // 7 (0111)  
        // Bitwise XOR  
        System.out.println("a ^ b  = " + (a ^ b));    // 6 (0110)  
        // Bitwise NOT  
        System.out.println("~a      = " + (~a));        // -6  
        // Left shift  
        System.out.println("a << 1 = " + (a << 1));    // 10 (1010)  
        // Right shift  
        System.out.println("a >> 1 = " + (a >> 1));    // 2 (0010)  
    }  
}
```

Operator	Meaning	Example
?:	Conditional (Ternary) Operator	<pre>result = (a > b) ? a : b;</pre>

Ternary Operator

```
public class TernaryOperator {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        int a = 10;  
        int b = 20;  
  
        // Find maximum of two numbers  
        int max = (a > b) ? a : b;  
        System.out.println("Maximum value: " + max);  
  
        // Check even or odd  
        int number = 15;  
        String result = (number % 2 == 0) ? "Even" : "Odd";  
        System.out.println("Number is: " + result);  
    }  
}
```

Assignment Operators in Java

Assignment operators are used to assign values to variables.

Assignment Operators in Java

Assignment operators are used to assign values to variables.

Operator	Meaning	Example
=	Assign value	a = 10
+=	Add and assign	a += 5 (a = a + 5)
-=	Subtract and assign	a -= 3 (a = a - 3)
*=	Multiply and assign	a *= 2 (a = a * 2)
/=	Divide and assign	a /= 4 (a = a / 4)
%=	Modulus and assign	a %= 2 (a = a % 2)

Assignment Operators in Java

Assignment operators are used to assign values to variables.

Operator	Meaning	Example
=	Assign value	a = 10
+=	Add and assign	a += 5 (a = a + 5)
-=	Subtract and assign	a -= 3 (a = a - 3)
*=	Multiply and assign	a *= 2 (a = a * 2)
/=	Divide and assign	a /= 4 (a = a / 4)
%=	Modulus and assign	a %= 2 (a = a % 2)

Note:

- Assignment operators simplify expressions
- Commonly used in loops and calculations

Assignment Operators

```
public class AssignmentOperators {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        int a = 10;  
        System.out.println("Initial value of a: " + a);  
        a += 5;    // a = a + 5  
        System.out.println("After a += 5 : " + a);  
        a -= 3;    // a = a - 3  
        System.out.println("After a -= 3 : " + a);  
        a *= 2;    // a = a * 2  
        System.out.println("After a *= 2 : " + a);  
        a /= 4;    // a = a / 4  
        System.out.println("After a /= 4 : " + a);  
        a %= 3;    // a = a % 3  
        System.out.println("After a %= 3 : " + a);  
    }  
}
```

Operator Precedence in Java

Operator precedence determines the **order in which operators are evaluated** in an expression.

Operator Precedence in Java

Operator precedence determines the **order in which operators are evaluated** in an expression.

Precedence Level	Operators
Highest	(), ++, --, !
	*, /, %
	+, -
	<, <=, >, >=
	==, !=
	&&
Lowest	=, +=, -=, *=, /=

Operator Precedence in Java

Operator precedence determines the **order in which operators are evaluated** in an expression.

Precedence Level	Operators
Highest	(), ++, --, !
	*, /, %
	+, -
	<, <=, >, >=
	==, !=
	&&
Lowest	=, +=, -=, *=, /=

Note:

- Operators with higher precedence are evaluated first
- Parentheses () can be used to change evaluation order

Why Do We Need User Input?

- So far, we used **fixed (hardcoded) values**
- Real programs should work with **dynamic data**
- User input allows programs to:
 - Take values from keyboard
 - Work for different users
 - Solve real-world problems

Why Do We Need User Input?

- So far, we used **fixed (hardcoded) values**
- Real programs should work with **dynamic data**
- User input allows programs to:
 - Take values from keyboard
 - Work for different users
 - Solve real-world problems

Key Idea

Programs should not assume values — they should **ask the user**.

User Input: Python vs Java

Python	Java
input() function	Scanner class
Simple	More structured
Dynamic typing	Strict data types

User Input: Python vs Java

Python	Java
input() function	Scanner class
Simple	More structured
Dynamic typing	Strict data types

Important

Java does NOT have a direct `input()` function like Python.

Taking Input in Java – Scanner Class

Java uses the **Scanner** class to take input from the user.

Steps to use **Scanner**:

- 1 Import Scanner class
- 2 Create Scanner object
- 3 Read input values

Taking Input in Java – Scanner Class

Java uses the **Scanner** class to take input from the user.

Steps to use Scanner:

- 1 Import Scanner class
- 2 Create Scanner object
- 3 Read input values

Analogy

Scanner is like a **measuring instrument** Keyboard is the **input source**

Step 1: Import Scanner Class

To use Scanner, we must import it:

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

Step 1: Import Scanner Class

To use Scanner, we must import it:

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

- Scanner belongs to java.util package
- Without import, Java will give an error

Step 2: Create Scanner Object

We create a Scanner object to read input:

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

Step 2: Create Scanner Object

We create a Scanner object to read input:

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

- `sc` → Scanner object
- `System.in` → Keyboard input

Step 3: Reading Input Values

Scanner provides different methods:

Method	Data Type
nextInt()	int
nextDouble()	double
next()	String (single word)
nextLine()	String (full line)

Step 3: Reading Input Values

Scanner provides different methods:

Method	Data Type
nextInt()	int
nextDouble()	double
next()	String (single word)
nextLine()	String (full line)

Note

Java input depends strictly on the data type.

Example: Reading Integer Input

```
import java.util.Scanner;

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

        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Enter your age: ");
        int age = sc.nextInt();

        System.out.println("Your age is: " + age);
    }
}
```

How This Program Works

- ① Program asks user for input
- ② User enters value using keyboard
- ③ Scanner reads the value
- ④ Value is stored in a variable
- ⑤ Program uses the value

How This Program Works

- ① Program asks user for input
- ② User enters value using keyboard
- ③ Scanner reads the value
- ④ Value is stored in a variable
- ⑤ Program uses the value

Key Thinking

Java programs wait for user input before continuing.

Example

```
import java.util.Scanner;

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

        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Enter length of beam: ");
        double length = sc.nextDouble();

        System.out.print("Enter width of beam: ");
        double width = sc.nextDouble();

        double area = length * width;

        System.out.println("Area of beam = " + area);
    }
}
```

next() vs nextLine()

- `next()` → Reads only one word
- `nextLine()` → Reads full sentence

next() vs nextLine()

- next() → Reads only one word
- nextLine() → Reads full sentence

```
String name = sc.next();      // Premanand  
String name = sc.nextLine();  // Premanand S
```

next() vs nextLine()

- next() → Reads only one word
- nextLine() → Reads full sentence

```
String name = sc.next();      // Premanand  
String name = sc.nextLine();  // Premanand S
```

Warning

This is a very common beginner mistake.

Example: next() Method

```
import java.util.Scanner;

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

        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Enter your name: ");
        String name = sc.next();

        System.out.println("Name entered: " + name);
    }
}
```

Example: nextLine() Method

```
import java.util.Scanner;

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

        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Enter your full name: ");
        String name = sc.nextLine();

        System.out.println("Full name entered: " + name);
    }
}
```

Common Input Trap

```
import java.util.Scanner;

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

        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Enter age: ");
        int age = sc.nextInt();

        System.out.print("Enter name: ");
        String name = sc.nextLine();    // Problem

        System.out.println("Age: " + age);
        System.out.println("Name: " + name);
    }
}
```


Why Does This Error Occur?

- `nextInt()` reads only the number
- The Enter key remains in the input buffer
- `nextLine()` immediately reads that leftover newline

Why Does This Error Occur?

- `nextInt()` reads only the number
- The Enter key remains in the input buffer
- `nextLine()` immediately reads that leftover newline

Result

The name input appears to be skipped.

Correct Way to Fix the Problem

```
System.out.print("Enter age: ");  
int age = sc.nextInt();  
sc.nextLine();    // Clear buffer
```

```
System.out.print("Enter name: ");  
String name = sc.nextLine();
```

Correct Way to Fix the Problem

```
System.out.print("Enter age: ");  
int age = sc.nextInt();  
sc.nextLine();    // Clear buffer
```

```
System.out.print("Enter name: ");  
String name = sc.nextLine();
```

Key Rule

After numeric input, always clear the buffer before using `nextLine()`.

Corrected Full Example: nextInt() + nextLine()

```
import java.util.Scanner;

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

        Scanner sc = new Scanner(System.in);

        System.out.print("Enter age: ");
        int age = sc.nextInt();

        sc.nextLine();

        System.out.print("Enter full name: ");
        String name = sc.nextLine();

        System.out.println("Age: " + age);
        System.out.println("Name: " + name);
    }
}
```

Golden Rule for Scanner Input

After `nextInt()`, `nextDouble()`, etc.,
always use one extra `nextLine()`
before reading string input.

Thank You!

Stay Connected

Premanand S

Email: premanand.s@vit.ac.in

Phone: +91-7358679961

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/premsanand

Instagram: instagram.com/premsanand

WhatsApp Channel: [anandsDataX](#)

Google Scholar: [Google Scholar Profile](#)

GitHub: github.com/anandprems