

Basics

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Java: It is a software platform for building (using its development kit - JDK) and executing (using its runtime environment - JRE) cross-platform applications. It offers

- (1) *Consistent Programming Model* for easily writing and reusing program code.
- (2) *Portable Distribution Model* for deploying program binaries on different type of machines.
- (3) *Safe Execution Model* for running program in a stable (predictable and crash-proof) manner on underlying system.

The implementation of Java platform includes support for

1. **Java Programming Language** - It is a high-level programming language designed specifically for writing program code which targets the Java platform. It has following important features
 - (a) It offers C++ like but more consistent syntax based on a type-system consisting of 8 primitive value types and support for implementing user-defined reference types.
 - (b) It is primarily object oriented based on common-root single class inheritance model with added support for generic (version 5.0) and functional (version 8.0) programming.
2. **Java Virtual Machine (JVM)** - The source code of each Java user-defined type is translated by the Java compiler (javac) into a separate class file containing *meta-data* (machine readable description) of that type along with the *byte-codes* (machine neutral instructions) of the methods implemented within that type. JVM manages execution of compiled Java application on its target platform by providing support for
 - (a) Loading and linking class files of Java types required by the application at runtime.
 - (b) Executing byte-codes of a method by first generating the corresponding native machine instructions which can be safely executed.
3. **Java Runtime Library** - It is a collection of Java types organized in packages enabling a Java application to consume services offered by the following in a portable manner
 - (a) *Runtime* which includes support for data-types, reflection and native methods.
 - (b) *Platform* which includes support for threads, file I/O and network communication.

Java Primitive Types

Data-type	Value
boolean	true false option
char	character unicode (ex 'A')
byte	8-bit signed integer
short	16-bit signed integer
int	32-bit signed integer
long	64-bit signed integer
float	32-bit single-precision real
double	64-bit double-precision real