

JAVA History

Green Project - Jan 1991

- Project named “**Green Project**” was started.
- Green project’s goal was to support home consumer devices.
- Consumer devices to be made intelligent so they can interact with each other and they can be controlled via a remote.
- Bill Joy, **James Gosling**, Mike Sheradin, Patrick Naughton were the key members of the Green Project.

Oak - Feb 1991

- **James Gosling** was the software lead and architect.
- His initial objective was to find a suitable language for Green Project.
- He choose C++ and wrote extensions wherever there were gaps.
- Then the features were not sufficient for the project needs and creating a new language was the next move.
- He started working on the new language and named it as “**Oak**”, there was an Oak tree outside his office window.

Interpreter - Jun 1991

- James Gosling works on a Oak interpreter.

JAVA - Mar 1992

- Oak was name of another already existing language and so a new name was chosen and it was **Java**. It was inspired by coffee.

Star-Seven Prototype - Sept 1992

- Star-seven (*7) working prototype with a GUI was completed and demonstrated.
- At this time Green project has created a new language, an operating system, a hardware platform and an interface.
- Demo link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1CsTH9S79qI>

FirstPerson - Nov 1992

- Green project was incorporated as a separate entity with a name **FirstPerson** as a subsidiary of Sun Microsystems.

TV Set-top Box - Feb 1993

- FirstPerson attempts to bag order from Time-Warner for a TV set-top box interactive system.
- By this time, green project was not proving successful and Time-Warner order was also lost.
- From home consumer electronics the focus was shifted to TV and set-top box related platform.

Application Development For Platform - Sept 1993

- **Arthur Van Hoff** joins the team to work on application development for the interactive platform.

LiveOak - Jun 1994

- Even TV interactive market was not fruitful for FirstPerson and it was closed.
- Employees absorbed into Sun.
- Liveoak project started, aim was to create an operating system by using Oak.

Web Browser Era - Jul 1994

- Patrick Naughton creates a web browser and uses Java in it.
- Liveoak project modified to make Oak for Internet.

HotJava - Sept 1994

- Naughton and Jonatha Payne starts working on a Java based web browser named HotJava.
- This project gets wider acceptance from the management and progresses.

Formal Launch - May 1995

- At SunWorld conference Java and HotJava was formally introduced by Sun.



Netscape Support - Jun 1995

- In a major breakthrough, Netscape supports Java in its browser.

HotJava - Sept 1995

- First Java developer conference held by Sun at New York.

Oracle Support - Oct 1995

- Oracle includes a Java compatible browser in its launch of WWW WebSystem.

Microsoft Support - Dec 1995

- In a first signal for wider industry acceptance, Microsoft supports Java in IE.

1.0 - Jan 1996

- JDK 1.0 released.

1.1 - Feb 1997

- JDK 1.1 released. Key features were:
 - JDBC, RMI, Inner Classes.

1.2 - Dec 1998

- JDK 1.2 code named Playgroud released.
- This version is mostly called **Java 2** and was the most popular release which witnessed major conversions.
- Major features were:
 - Collections framework,
 - JIT compiler,
 - Policy tool,
 - Java foundation classes,
 - Java 2D class libraries, and
 - major enhancement in JDBC.
- J2EE targeted enterprise applications and the greatly stripped-down version J2ME for mobile applications (Mobile Java). J2SE designated the Standard Edition.

1.3 - May 2000

- JDK 1.3 code named Kestrel released

1.4 - Feb 2002

- J2SE 1.4 code named Merlin released.
- Major features were:
 - XML Processing,
 - Java Print,
 - Logging,
 - JDBC 3.0,
 - Assertions,
 - Regular Expressions

5.0 - Sept 2004

- J2SE 5.0 code named **Tiger** released.
- Major features were:
 - Generics,
 - Autoboxing,
 - Annotations,
 - Instrumentation

Java/Jdk (Half) Open Sourced - 2006

- Java was announced to be open source and it was controversial.
- The way the license was designed contradicted the general open source term.
- May be we should call it **half-sourced**.
- For marketing purposes, Sun renamed new J2 versions as Java EE, Java ME, and Java SE, respectively.

6.0 - Dec 2006

- Java SE 6 code named Mustang released.
- Major features were:
 - Scripting Language Support,
 - JDBC 4.0,
 - Java Compiler API,
 - Integrated Web Services
- On May 8, 2007, Sun finished the process, making all of Java's core code available under free software/open-source distribution terms, aside from a small portion of code to which Sun did not hold the copyright.

Oracle Buys Sun - Jan 2010

- Oracle buys Sun and its products.
- Now Java is in the hands of Oracle.

No Support for Java in Future - Oct 2010

- Steve Jobs says, Apple will not support Java in future

7.0 - Jul 2011

- Java SE 7 code named Dolphin released.
- This release was done after 5 long years and only this release has taken this much duration.
- Major features were dynamic language support, Java nio Package, multiple exception handling, try with resources and lots of minor enhancements.

8.0 - Mar 2014

- Java SE 8 was released.
- This is one of the major release in Java in its history.
- Major features were Lambda Expressions, Pipelines and Streams, Date and Time API , Default Methods, Type Annotations, Nashhorn JavaScript Engine, Concurrent Accumulators, Parallel operations, PermGen Space Removed, TLS SNI.