

Variables

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Variables

- Most programs work on **data**.
- The values (data) are stored in **memory**.
- In our program, we need a way to **refer** to things stored in memory...

"get the value stored in memory location 0x1A08 and add it to the value in memory location 0x1A20."

- **Variables** are **names** to refer to things stored in memory.



Declaring a Variable

- ❑ You must *declare* a variable before you use it.
- ❑ You must declare the type of data the variable refers to.

```
double sum;           // declare 'sum' is a double
int count = 0;        // variable of primitive type
String greet = "hello";
                      // greet refers to String object
```

4 Kinds of Variables

static attribute of class

```
class BankAccount {  
    private static double rate = 0.05;  
    private double balance;
```

attribute of an object.

```
    public void deposit(double amount) {  
        balance = balance + amount;  
    }
```

parameter to a
method, exists while
method is running

```
    public void doInterest( ) {  
        int minimum = 200;  
        if ( balance >= minimum ) {  
            double interest = balance * rate;  
            balance += interest;  
        }
```

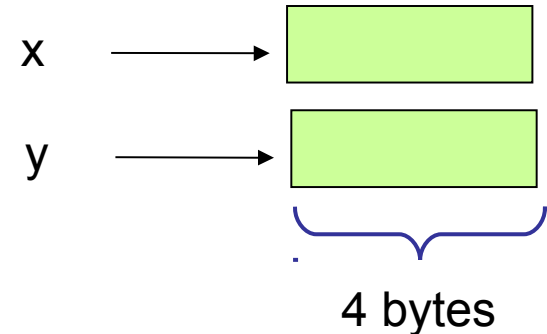
local variable
exist while a
block is active

Variables and Memory

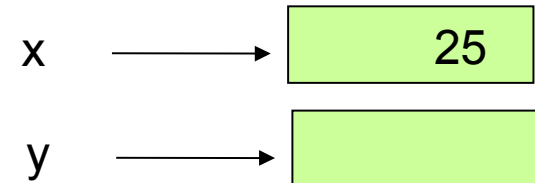
```
/* define two "int"
   variables */
int x;
int y;
```

Program:

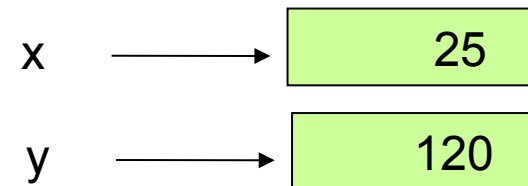
Memory:



```
/* assign value to x */
x = 25;
```



```
/* assign value to y */
y = 4 * x + 20;
```



For primitive data types, the memory location of a variable contains its value.



Naming Variables

- First character must be a letter (a-z,A-Z), \$ or _ (underscore).
- Followed by any number of letters, numbers, _, or currency symbol.

Valid Variable Names Invalid Names

x, money

\$money

TIME_OUT

one2car

seven11

_value

int, public

final

TIME-OUT

1twocar

7eleven

yahoo.com yahoo!

Java reserved words

These names are *reserved* in Java. You cannot use any of these words as the name of a variable, label, or class.

abstract	default	if	private	this
boolean	do	implements	protected	throw
break	double	import	public	throws
byte	else	instanceof	return	transient
case	extends	int	short	try
catch	final	interface	static	void
char	finally	long	strictfp	volatile
class	float	native	super	while
const	for	new	switch	enum
continue	goto	package	synchronized	



Java doesn't use the words "goto" or "const".
So why are they reserved?



Names are *Case Sensitive*

- Uppercase letters and lowercase letters are distinct!
- This rule applies to all Java syntax

Example:

```
int SUM = 0;  
int Sum = 1;  
int sum = 2;
```

} 3 different variables!



Find the Errors

```
// this line has 4 errors:  
Public Static Void main( string [] args ) {  
    int byte = 0;  
    byte = system.in.read( );    // read one byte  
    system.out.println('You input ' + Byte );  
    System.Exit(0) ;  
}
```



Variable Naming Convention

Please always name variables using these rules:

- **first letter is lowercase**. First letter of embedded word is Uppercase. Don't use `_` between words.

Good: `accountBalance`, `topOfList`, `bestStudent`

Bad: `AccountBalance`, `top_of_list`

- **use *descriptive names***, avoid abbreviations

Good: `accountBalance`, `area`, `radius`

Bad: `acctBal`, `a`, `r`

Exception: short name is OK for loop index

OK:

```
for( int k=0; k < n; k++ )
    System.out.println( "k = " + k );
```



Java Naming Convention

Makes code *easy to read* and *easier to remember names*

- Java keywords are lowercase
 - "public static", "if", "while", "true", "void"
- Primitive datatypes are lowercase
 - boolean, byte, char, double, float, int, long, short
- Class names are Title Case -cap. first letter each word
 - String, System, Math, InputStream, URL
- Wrapper classes are classes, so use Title Case
 - Boolean, Byte, Character, Double, Integer, Long,
- Constants - all UPPERCASE with UNDER_SCORE
 - Math.PI, Integer.MAX_VALUE, X_AXIS



Example: Correct Use of Names

```
public class BankAccount {  
    public static final String ACCT_PREFIX ="11";  
    // attributes of a bank account  
    private double balance;  
    private long accountNumber;  
    /** constructor for new accounts */  
    public BankAccount( String name, long id ) {  
        accountName = name;  
        accountNumber = id;  
    }  
    /** add money to account */  
    public void credit( double amount ) {  
        balance = balance + amount;  
    }  
}
```



Example: Wrong Use of Names

```
public class bankaccount {  
    // attributes of a bank account  
    private String AcctName;  
    private double BALANCE;  
    private long number;  
    /** constructor for new accounts */  
    public bankaccount( String n1, long n2 ) {  
        AcctName = n1;  
        number = n2;  
    }  
    /** add money to account */  
    public void Credit( double a ) {  
        BALANCE = BALANCE + a;  
    }  
}
```



Scope of Variables

- The area of a program where a variable name (or any *identifier*) is known is called the **scope**.
- Each programming language has its own scoping rules.
In Java...

Attribute: scope is the entire class, but it may be "shadowed" by a local variable or parameter that has the same name.

Parameter: scope is a method

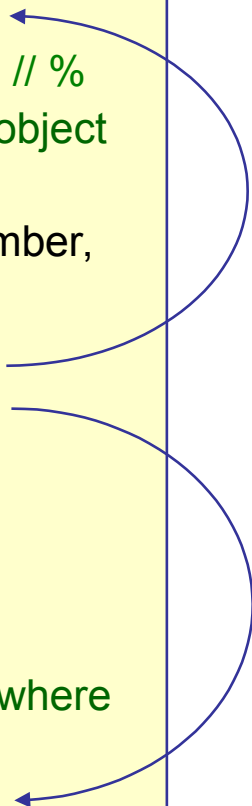
Local Variable: scope is **from** the point it is declared **to** the end of { ... } block where it is declared.



Scope of Attributes (1)

The scope of an attribute is the entire class, regardless of where the attribute is declared.

```
public class BankAccount {  
    private String accountNumber;  
    private static long interestRate; // %  
    /** create a new bank account object  
     */  
    public BankAccount( String number,  
                        String name ) {  
        accountNumber = number;  
        accountName = name;  
        balance = 0;  
    }  
  
    // you can define attributes anywhere  
    private long balance;  
    private String accountName;  
    private int homeBranch;  
}
```



Scope of Attributes (2)

Inside a method, a local variable or parameter can *shadow* an attribute. In this case, refer to the attribute using scope resolution:

`this.attributeName`

```
public class BankAccount {  
    private String accountNumber;  
    private static long interestRate; // %  
    private long balance;  
    private String accountName;  
  
    public void setBalance ( long balance ) {  
        // balance parameter shadows  
        // balance attribute.  
  
        if ( balance >= 0 )  
            this.balance = balance;  
    }  
}
```

balance parameter

balance attribute



Common Scope Errors

```
public class BankAccount {  
    private String accountNumber; // attributes  
    private String accountName;  
    private long balance;  
  
    /** parameterized constructor */  
    public BankAccount(String aname, String id) {  
        String accountName = aname;  
        String accountNumber = id;  
        long balance = 0;  
    }  
    /** a public mutator to set the balance */  
    public void setBalance( long balance ) {  
        balance = this.balance;  
    }  
}
```

This does NOT initialize the attributes.

This does nothing.

Scope of Parameters

The scope of a **parameter** is the entire method.
A parameter can *shadow* an attribute with the same name.

In Java, a local variable may not have the same name as a parameter.

Error: defining a local variable with same name as a parameter

```
public class BankAccount {  
    private String accountNumber;  
    private static long interestRate; // %  
    private long balance;  
    private String accountName;  
    /** create a new bank account object  
     */  
    public BankAccount( String id,  
        String accountName ) {  
        ... initialize account info ...  
    }  
}
```

parameter
shadows attribute
with same name

```
public void setName( long amount ) {  
    ... do something ...  
    long amount = 0;  
}
```

Scope of Local Variables

The scope of a **local variable** is from the point it is defined to the end of the enclosing { ... } block.

```
public class BankAccount {  
    private String accountNumber;  
    private static long interestRate; // %  
    private long balance;  
    private String accountName;  
    /** create a new bank account object  
     */  
    public long presentValue( int years,  
                             long amount ) {  
        long pv = amount;  
        for(int k = 0; k<years; k++) {  
            pv = pv / (1.0 + interestRate);  
        }  
        // k is undefined here!  
        return pv;  
    }  
}
```

scope of pv

scope of k



Scope of Local Variables (2)

Error:

```
public double totalData( ) {  
    Scanner scan = new Scanner( ... );  
    double sum = 0.0;  
    while( scan.hasNextDouble( ) ) {  
        double x = scan.nextDouble( );  
        sum += x;  
    }  
    System.out.println("Last value was: "  
        + x );  
    return sum;  
}
```



Variables and Values

- A variable of a *primitive type* contains a *value* of the primitive.
 - Assigning the value to another variable creates a *copy* of the *value*.

```
int n = 10;  
  
int m = n;    // copy the value to m  
  
n++;         // no effect on m
```



Variables as References

- A variable of a *class or interface type* contains a *reference* to an object (which may be null).
 - Assigning the value to another variable creates a *copy* of the *reference*.
 - Both variables refer to the **same object!**

```
Date m = new Date( );  
  
Date n = m;    // n refers to same object  
  
n.setYear( 0 ); // change year to 1900  
                // this effects m, too!
```