

What I learned migrating from



Java 8



Java 21

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- ☞ **Pattern Matching (instanceof)**
 - ☞ **Text Blocks (Multiline Strings)**
 - ☞ **Records (Data Classes)**
 - ☞ **Switch Expressions**
 - ☞ **Virtual Threads**
 - ☞ **Sealed Classes**

Pattern Matching (instanceof)



Java 8

```
if (obj instanceof String) {  
    String s = (String) obj;  
    System.out.println(s.toLowerCase());  
}
```



Java 21

```
if (obj instanceof String s) {  
    System.out.println(s.toLowerCase());  
}
```



Cleaner type checks and less boilerplate.

Text Blocks (Multiline Strings)



Java 8

```
String html = "<html>\n" +  
              "<body>Hello</body>\n" +  
              "</html>";
```



Java 21

```
String html = ""  
              <html>  
                <body>Hello</body>  
              </html>  
              "";
```



Easier for SQL, HTML, JSON, etc.



Records (Data Classes)

Java 8

```
public class User {  
    private final String name;  
    private final int age;  
  
    // constructor, getters, toString, equals...  
}
```

Java 21

```
public record User(String name, int age) {  
}
```



Less boilerplate for data models.



Switch Expressions

Java 8

```
switch (day) {  
  case 1:  
    result = "Mon";break;  
  case 2:  
    result = "Tue";break;  
  default:  
    result = "Unknown";  
}
```

Java 21

```
String result = switch (day) {  
  case 1 -> "Mon";  
  case 2 -> "Tue";  
  default -> "Unknown";  
};
```



More concise, less error-prone.

Virtual Threads

Java 8

```
ExecutorService pool = Executors.newFixedThreadPool(100);
pool.submit(() -> {
    // I/O task
});
```

Java 21

```
ExecutorService pool = Executors.newVirtualThreadPerTaskExecutor();
pool.submit(() -> {
    // Same task, runs with lightweight thread
});
```



Run 1000s of concurrent tasks efficiently



No context-switching overhead like OS threads



Ideal for high-throughput servers & reactive apps



Sealed Classes

Java 21



```
public sealed class Shape permits Circle, Square {}  
  
public final class Circle extends Shape {}  
public final class Square extends Shape {}
```



Safer APIs with controlled inheritance.

Thank you!



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