Java

André Restivo

Index

Introduction Basics Arrays OOP Classes Objects Inheritance

Methods to Override Garbage Collection Packages Exceptions

Collections Threads Input/Output

Introduction

What is Java?

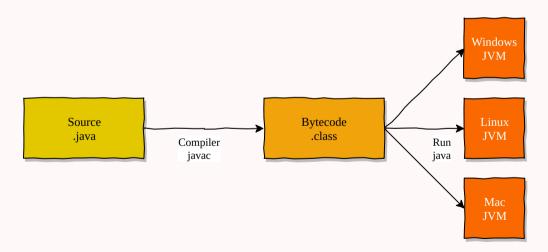
- Designed by: James **Gosling** (1995)
- Created by Sun Microsystems now owned by **Oracle**.
- Java is **open source** (under the GPL).
- Key characteristics:
 - General-purpose
 - Object-oriented (class-based)
 - Automatic memory management
 - Write-once / Run-everywhere

Java Editions

- Java Card Smart cards and similar small memory footprint devices.
- **Java ME** Micro Edition for **embedded** and **mobile** devices (IoT).
- **Java SE** Standard Edition for regular Java applications. Mainly **desktop** and command-line apps.
- **Java EE** Enterprise Edition for enterprise-oriented applications and servlets. Mainly large-scale **web**-oriented applications.

Compiling and Running

- Compiled into **bytecode** using the command **javac**.
- Bytecode can be run, using the command **java**, in any OS, as long as there is a Java Virtual Machine (**JVM**).
- Compiling and executing can be done using the Java Development Kit (JDK).
- The Java Runtime Environment (JRE) can be used instead for executing only.



Resources

- Book: Thinking in Java, 4th edition
- Book: Java Programming
- JDK 11 Documentation

Basics

Types

- Java is **strongly typed** so every variable must have a type.
- Java is **not a pure OOP language** so variables can have a **primitive** type or be a reference to an **object**.
- In Java, arrays are objects.
- There are no pointers but:
 - Primitive variables are stored as **values**.
 - Objects are stored as **references**.

Primitive Types

Primitive type are the most basic data types in Java.

Types	Size (bits)	Minimum Value	Maximum Value	Precision
byte	8	-128	127	From +127 to -128
char	16	0	2 ¹⁶ -1	All Unicode characters
short	16	-2 ¹⁵	2 ¹⁵ -1	From +32,767 to -32,768
int	32	-2 ³¹	2 ³¹ -1	From +2,147,483,647 to -2,147,483,648
long	64	-2 ⁶³	2 ⁶³ -1	From +9,223,372,036,854,775,807 to -9,223,372,036,854,775,808
float	32	2 ⁻¹⁴⁹	$(2-2-23)\cdot 2^{127}$	From 3.402,823,5 E+38 to 1.4 E-45
double	64	2^{-1074}	$(2-2^{-52})\cdot 2^{1023}$	From 1.797,693,134,862,315,7 E+308 to 4.9 E-324
boolean	_	_	_	false, true
void	_	_	_	_

Literals

Java Literals are syntactic representations of boolean, character, numeric, or string data.

- Boolean: true or false.
- Character: 16-bit characters inside single quotes ('a'). Can be cast to int or long.
- **String**: Inside double quotes ("Java").
- **Integer**: Decimal (1234), Octal with a leading zero (02322), hexadecimal starting with 0x (0x4D2) or binary starting with 0B (0B10011010010). Ending with L if we want a long type integer (1234L).
- **Floating Point**: Ending with F or D for single and double precision (double is the default). Can be a decimal fraction or an exponential notation (0.1234 or 1234E-4).

Variables

Local variables are created by:

- giving it a **unique name**; and
- assigning it a **data type**.

```
int i;
```

Local variables must be given a value explicitly before being used:

```
int i; i = 10;
```

This can be done in a single statement:

```
int i = 10;
```

Conditional Blocks

Java has all the conditional blocks you would expect from a C-family programming language:

And also:

```
switch (variable) {
    case 1: doSomething();
    break;
    case 2: doSomethingElse();
    break;
    default: doSomethingDefault();
    break;
}
// variable must be of the correct type
// don't forget the break
```

Loop Blocks

Loop blocks are also the expected ones. The **while-loop**:

```
while (condition) {
  doSomething();
}
```

Also a **do-while** variant:

And, of course, the **for-loop**:

Operators

Arithmetic and boolean operators are also very similar to other C-family languages:

```
Assignment: = += -= *= /=
Numerical: + - * / % ++ --
Relational: == != < > <= >=
Boolean: && || !
Bitwise: & | ^ ~ << >> >>>
Tertiary: ?:
Type casting: (type)
```

• Be careful with the == operator. It compares primitive types by value; but **compares objects** by reference.

Standard Input and Output

Writing to the screen can be accomplished using one of two methods:

```
System.out.print("Hello world");
System.out.println("Hello world"); // also changes line
```

Reading from the keyboard can be done using the **Scanner** class from *java.util* package:

```
Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in); // Instantiating a new Scanner object
String line = scanner.nextLine(); // Reading a line
System.out.println(line); // Printing out the line
int number = scanner.nextInt(); // We can also read primitive types
```

Naming Convention

Names should follow the standard naming convention:

Type	Form	Capitalization	Example
Class or Interface	Noun	First word letter capitalized	PoliceCar
Methods	Verb	First word letter capitalized (except first one)	turnSirenOn()
Variables	_	First word letter capitalized (except first one)	carPlate
Constants	_	Uppercase with underscores separating words	MAX_SPEED
Packages	_	Starting with top-level domain, lowercase separated by periods	com.lpoo.util

Strings

- In Java Strings are **immutable**, so they cannot be modified once created.
- String are a class defined in the *java.lang* **package** (more on that later):

The + operator **concatenates** strings:

```
String hello = "Hello";
String world = "World";
String sentence = hello + " " + world;
```

String are objects, so to compare them we **must** use the **equals** method:

```
if (hello.equals(world)) { // hello == world would compare the references
  doSomething(i);
}
```

Hello World

In Java, everything must belong to a class.

That means our customary **Hello World** example looks like this:

```
public class HelloWorld {
  public static void main(String[] args) { // when we run a class this method
    System.out.println("Hello, World"); // runs first
  }
}
```

Don't worry too much about the syntax for now.

Arrays

Arrays

In Java, an **array** is an **object**. This object has a given type for the contained primitive types or objects (int, char, String, ...).

An array can be declared in several ways:

```
int[] array; // recommended
int array[]; // identical but less used
```

These arrays have been declared but haven't been instantiated yet. We can do it in a few different ways:

The default value depends on the data type. For objects it's **null**, for numeric types it's **0**, for booleans is **false** and for chars it's **'\u0000'** (whose decimal equivalent is 0).

Using Arrays

The size of an array can be obtained by using the **length** attribute:

```
for (int i = 0; i < array.length; i++)
System.out.println(array[i]); // getting the value at index i</pre>
```

A simpler way of **looping** over an array is:

Multidimensional Arrays

Arrays can have more than one **dimension**:

Sub-arrays can even have **different** lengths:

00P

Abstractions

All programming languages provide **abstractions**:

- **Assembly** is an abstraction of **machine-code**.
- **Imperative** programming is an abstraction of **assembly**.

But they force us to think about the structure of the **machine** and not the structure of the **problem**.

OOP provides an abstraction where **elements** of the problem are **objects** in the solution space.

OOP allows you to describe the problem in terms of the **problem**, rather than in terms of the **computer** where the solution will run.

Objects

Alan Kay¹ on the five pillars of *Smalltalk*:

- 1. **Everything** is an object.
- 2. A program is a bunch of objects telling each other what to do by sending **messages**.
- 3. Each object has its own **memory** made up of **other objects**.
- 4. Every object has a **type**.
- 5. All objects of a particular type can receive the **same messages**.

"An object has state, behavior and identity" — **Grady Booch**², 1994.

"An object is characterized by a number of operations and a state which remembers the effect of these operations" — **Ivar Jacobson**², 1996.

^{1.} Inventor of the Smalltalk language.

^{2.} Two of the developers of UML (together with James Rumbaugh).

Object Oriented Pillars (A PIE)

Data Abstraction:

Clear separation between the **public interface** of a data type, and its concrete implementation.

Polymorphism:

A single symbol can represent a multitude of different types.

Inheritance:

Objects can **inherit properties** and **behaviors** from **other** objects.

Encapsulation (2 different concepts):

A mechanism that: (1) allows **restricting access** to some of the **object's components** (2) facilitates the **bundling** of **data** with the **operations** on that data.

Classes

Classes

- All **objects**, while being **unique**, are also part of a **class** of objects that have **characteristics** and **behaviors** in common.
- Objects that are identical **except** for their **state** are grouped together into **classes of objects**.
- Classes **extend** the programming language by adding new **data types**.
- Each class is defined by its **interface**.
- The **interface** determines the **requests** that you can make for a particular object.
- An object **provides services** and can use **other objects'** services to accomplish it.

Classes in Java

- In Java, public classes must be declared in a file with the **same name** but with a **.java** extension.
- This means that a Java file can have, at most, **one** public class.
- For example, inside a file called **Light.java** you could have:

```
public class Light {
    // ...
}
```

• As this is a **public** class, it can be accessed from anywhere.

Fields

- Objects store data inside **fields** (also called *member variables*).
- Each object keeps its **own** storage for its fields.
- Ordinary fields are not shared among objects.

```
public class Light {
  private boolean isOn = false;
  private int level = 100;
}
```

- Usually, fields should be made **private** so they can be accessed only from inside the object they belong to.
- Objects from other classes can access them using the class *public interface* (methods).

Methods

- Methods are how we **communicate** with objects.
- When we **invoke** or **call** a method we are asking the object to carry out a **task**.
- Each method has a **name**, input **parameters**, a **return** type and a **visibility**.

```
public class Light {
   public void turnOn() {
     this.isOn = true;
   }

public void turnOff() {
     this.isOn = false;
   }

public void setLevel(int level) {
     this.level = level;
   }
}
```

Visibility

For a **class**:

- **public**: can be referenced anywhere in the **application**.
- protected: can be referenced only in the package.
- **private**: only in **nested** classes, can be accessed only in the **outer** class.

For a **variable**:

- **public**: can be referenced anywhere in the **application**.
- protected: can be referenced only in sub-classes and in the same package.
- package (no modifier / default): can be referenced only in the same package.
- **private**: can be accessed only in the **class** it is defined in.

For a **method**:

- **public**: can be called anywhere in the **application**.
- **protected**: can be called only in **sub-classes** and in the same package.
- package (no modifier): can be called only in the same package.
- **private**: can be called only in the **class** it is defined in.

Keyword *this*

- **this** is a reference to the current object the object whose method or constructor is currently running.
- You can treat the reference just like any other **object reference**.
- If you are calling a method from **within** another method of the **same** class, you **do not** need to use *this*.
- If you are referring to a field from **within** a method of the **same** class, you **do not** need to use *this*. But you should, for **readability** purposes (and sometimes to avoid **ambiguity**).

Constructor

- Constructors are special methods that are used to create **new objects**.
- Constructors have the **same name** as the class.
- Constructors **do not** have a explicit return type they **implicitly** return the type they are constructing.
- Constructors can be **overloaded**.

```
public class Light {
  public Light() {
    this.isOn = false;
    this.level = 50;
  }

public Light(int level) {
  this.isOn = false;
  this.level = level;
  }
}
```

Constructor Chaining

- Within a constructor, you can use the **this** keyword to invoke **another** constructor in the **same** class.
- This has to be the **first statement** of the constructor.

```
public class Light {
  public Light() {
    this(50);
  }

public Light(int level) {
    this.isOn = false;
    this.level = level;
  }
}
```

Setters and Getters

- Object fields are usually kept **private** to improve **encapsulation**.
- It is common to provide public **setter** and **getter** methods to access and modify the value of a private field.

```
public class Light {
    private boolean isOn;
    private int level;

    // ...

    public void setLevel(int level) {
        this.level = level;
    }

    public int getLevel() {
        return level;
    }
}
```

Static

- **Static fields** belong to the class instead of a specific object.
- **Static methods** can only access the static context of the class.

```
public class Light {
   private static int MAX_LEVEL = 100;

   public static int getMaximumLevel() {
     return Light.MAX_LEVEL;
   }
}
```

System.out.println(Light.getMaximumLevel()); // no need for an object

Objects

Objects

When a **primitive type** variable is declared, its value is **stored** directly in its **memory** location.

int a = 5, b; // if a field, b is initialized with a default value of 0.



When an **object** is declared, it only contains a reference to the actual object.

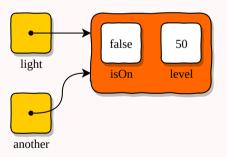
Light light; // if a field, light is initialized with a default value of null.



Instantiation

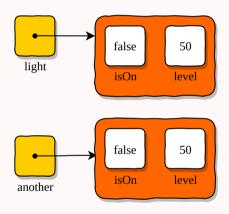
To create a new object, we just have to call its constructor using the **new** keyword:

```
Light light = new Light();
Light another = light;  // this only copies the reference
```



Cloning

If we need to have two instances of the same object, we must use the **clone()** method. To use clone, our class must implement the **Cloneable** interface and override the **clone()** method making it **public**.



```
public class Light implements Cloneable{
    @Override
    public Object clone() throws CloneNotSupportedException {
        return super.clone();
    }
}
Light light = new Light();
Light another = light.clone();
```

Final

- The **final** keyword, allows us to declare **fields** and **variables** that **cannot be changed**.
- This only applies to the variable itself, so in the case of objects we can modify the **object** but not its **reference**.
- Can be used together with **static** to create **global constants**.

```
final Light light = new Light();
light.setLevel(50);
light = new Light(); // error

final int level = 50;
level = level + 10; // error

public class Light {
   private final static int MAX_LEVEL = 100;
}
```

Parameters

Objects are passed to methods by **reference**; while **primitive** variables are passed by **value**.

```
private void change(int a, Light light) {
    a = a + 10;
    light.setLevel(80);
}

public void doSomething() {
    int a = 10;
    Light light = new Light(); // level = 50

    change (a, light);

    System.out.println(a); // 10
    System.out.println(light.getLevel()); // 80
}
```

Inheritance

Inheritance

- The mechanism of **basing** a class (or object) upon another class (or object), retaining a **similar** implementation.
- Inheritance should be used to establish a **is-a** relationship between classes.
- In Java, inheritance is class-based.
- In Java, there is **no multiple-inheritance**.
- In Java, if unspecified, all classes are based on the root **Object** class.

Extends

- The **extends** keywords allows a class to define a **different** superclass, inheriting all methods and fields from it.
- The **super** keyword allows calling a **constructor** from the superclass.
- You can **only** extend **one** class.

Tip: You don't have to provide any constructors for your class, but you must be careful when doing this. The compiler automatically provides a no-argument, default constructor for any class without constructors. This default constructor will call the no-argument constructor of the superclass. In this situation, the compiler will complain if the superclass doesn't have a no-argument constructor so you must verify that it does.

Extends

```
public class Shape {
    private String color;

    public Shape(String color) {
        this.color = color;
    }
}

public class Rectangle extends Shape {
    private int x1, x2, y1, y2;

    public Rectangle(int x1, int x2, int y1, int y2, String color) {
        super(color);

        this.x1 = x1;
        this.x2 = x2;
        this.y1 = y1;
        this.y2 = y2;
    }
}
```

Overriding

Java allows classes to **override** superclass methods, providing that:

- The access modifier (visibility) for an overriding method can allow **more**, but **not less**, access than the overridden method.
- **Final** methods can not be overridden.
- **Static** methods can not be overridden.
- **Private** methods can not be overridden.
- The overriding method must have **same return type** (or **subtype**).

We can call a parent class method using the **super** keyword.

```
public class Animal {
   public void talk() { System.out.println("Animal says:"); }
   public final void eat() { /* ... */ }
}
public class Dog extends Animal {
   public void talk() {
      super.talk();
      System.out.println("Woof!");
   }
}
```

Abstract Classes

- **Abstract** classes cannot be instantiated but can be **extended**:
- They are used to:
 - Define **methods** which can be **used** by the inheriting subclass.
 - Define abstract methods which the inheriting subclass **must implement**.
 - Provide a **common interface** for their subclasses.

```
public abstract class Animal {
    public abstract void talk();
}
public class Dog extends Animal {
    // This method must be implemented or the
    // class must be declared abstract.
    public void talk() {
        System.out.println("Woof!");
    }
}
```

Interfaces

- Java does not allow multiple-inheritance but it has **interfaces**.
- An interface is like a **fully abstract** class (only abstract methods).
- A class can implement **several interfaces**.
- Interfaces can be used in order to achieve **polymorphism**.

```
public interface Runner { public void run(); }
public interface Walker { public void walk(); }
public abstract class Animal implements Eater, Walker{
    public abstract void talk();
}

public class Dog extends Animal implements Runner {
    public void talk() { } // all these
    public void eat() { } // methods
    public void run() { } // have to be
    public void walk() { } // implemented
}
```

Polymorphism

In Java, a variable of a given type may be **assigned** a value of **any subtype**, and a method with a parameter of a given type may be **invoked** with an argument of **any subtype** of that type.

```
public void race(Runner r1, Runner r2) { /* ... */ }

public void main() {
   Dog d1 = new Dog();
   Runner d2 = new Dog();

race (d1, d2);
}
```

Polymorphism

In Java, the method to be called is decided at **runtime**, based on the runtime type of the object.

```
public class Animal{
    public void talk() { System.out.println("Hello!"); };
}

public class Dog extends Animal {
    public void talk() { System.out.println("Woof!"); }
}

public class Cat extends Animal {
    public void talk() { System.out.println("Meow!"); }
}

public void main() {
    Animal a1 = new Animal(); a1.talk(); // Hello!
    Animal a2 = new Dog(); a2.talk(); // Woof!
    Animal a3 = new Cat(); a3.talk(); // Meow!
}
```

Methods to Override

Equals

As we have seen with **Strings**, when we want to compare objects we shouldn't use the **==** operator as it will only return true if the two objects are the same (have the same reference).

We should instead **override** the **equals(Object)** methods from the **Object** class.

The **correct** way to do so looks something like:

Hash Code

Another important method is the **hashCode()** method. This method should return the **same value** for **two objects** that are **equal**. So normally, when overriding the **equals(Object)** method you should also override the **hashCode()** method.

You can see the **hash code** at work in the **HashSet** data structure (which we will see in detail later on):

- When an element is **added**, the **hash code** is used to decide in which **bucket** it should be **stored**.
- When **searching** for an object, we only need to compare it (using **equals(Object)**) with objects in the same bucket.

Hash Code Implementation

To implement the **hashCode()** method, we should use a **subset** of the fields that are used in **equals(Object)**.

A possible implementation would be:

```
@Override
public int hashCode() {
  return Objects.hash(x, y);
}
```

To String

Another useful method from the **Object** class is the **toString()** method. This method returns a representation of any **Object** as a **String**. The default implementation is not very useful:

```
System.out.println(new Point(1, 2)); // Point@3e2
```

But we can **override** it and make it **better**:

```
@Override
public String toString() {
    return "Point (" + x + ", " + y + ")";
}
```

So that we get:

```
System.out.println(new Point(1, 2)); // Point (1, 2)
```

Garbage Collection

Garbage Collection

- Automatic **garbage collection** is the process of looking at **heap** memory, identifying which objects are in use and which are not, and deleting the unused objects.
- An **in use** object, or a referenced object, means that some part of your program still maintains a pointer to that object.
- In Java, this process is done automatically so developers do not have to worry about **memory leaks**. Or do they?

Packages

Packages

- A **package** contains a **group** of classes, **organized** together under a single **namespace**.
- Classes in the **same package** can access each other's **package-private** and **protected** members.
- The package that a class belongs to is specified with the **package** keyword (first statement):

```
package com.example;
```

Packages are **stored** in the form of structured **directories**. For example: package "com.example" would be stored in directory "com/example".

Importing

To use a class from another package we must first import it:

```
import com.example.HelloWorld;
import com.example.*; // imports all classes from the package

// ...
HelloWorld hw = new HelloWorld();
```

It is important to understand that **import** is simply used by the compiler to let you name your classes by their **unqualified** name.

Without the import statement this would still be valid:

```
com.example.HelloWorld hw = new com.example.HelloWorld();
```

Exceptions

Exceptions

- When an error occurs within a method, the flow of execution of the program stops immediately, the method creates an **Exception** object and hands it off to the **runtime system**.
- The **runtime system** attempts to find something to **handle** it by following the **ordered list of methods** that have been called to get to the method where the error occurred.

Throw

The **throw** keyword is used to **explicitly** throw an exception (any sub-class of **Throwable**) from a method or any block of code. User defined exceptions typically extend **Exception** class.

```
public void someCode() throws VeryBadThingHappenedException {
    throw new VeryBadThingHappenedException("Boom!");
}

public void moreCode() throws VeryBadThingHappenedException {
    someCode();
}

public void code() {
    try {
        moreCode();
    } catch (VeryBadThingHappenedException e) {
        // do something about the error
    }
}
```

Throws

If the **compiler** thinks there is **a chance** of rising an exception inside a method, then it will force us to either: 1) **catch** that exception, or 2) **declare** that we will **throw** that exception.

```
public void someCode() throws VeryBadThingHappenedException {
   throw new VeryBadThingHappenedException("Boom!");
}

public void moreCode() throws VeryBadThingHappenedException {
   someCode();
}
```

In this example, the **moreCode()** method is calling a method that **throws** an Exception, so it has to **throw** it also or **catch** it.

Finally

- The **finally** block always executes when the a try block exits.
- This ensures that the **finally** block is executed even if an **unexpected** exception occurs or an accidental return statement is added.
- Putting **cleanup code** in a **finally** block is always a **good practice**, even when no exceptions are anticipated.

```
public void code() {
   try {
      moreCode();
   } catch (VeryBadThingHappenedException e) {
      // do something about the error
   } finally {
      // clean up code
   }
}
```

Throw or Catch

The decision between **throwing** an exception and **catching** it might be an hard one:

- Methods should **catch** an exception if they can **handle** it locally.
- Methods should **throw** an exception if there is **nothing** they can do about it.

Catching an exception and **doing nothing** about it, besides printing the stack trace, is **always a bad idea**.

Collections

Collections

- A Collection is a group of individual objects represented as a single unit.
- Java provides the **Collection Framework** which defines several classes and interfaces to represent a group of objects as a single unit.
- The Collection interface (**java.util.Collection**) and Map interface (**java.util.Map**) are the two main interfaces of Java Collection classes.

Collection Classes

- **Set**: Doesn't allow duplicates: HashSet (Hashing based), TreeSet (balanced BST based; implements SortedSet)...
- **List**: Can contain duplicates and elements are ordered: LinkedList (linked list based), ArrayList (dynamic array based), Stack, Vector, ...
- **Queue**: Typically order elements in FIFO order: LinkedList, PriorityQueue (not in FIFO order)...
- **Deque**: Elements can be inserted and removed at both ends: ArrayDeque, LinkedList...
- **Map**: Contains Key value pairs. Doesn't allow duplicates: HashMap and TreeMap (implements SortedMap).

Parameterized Collections

Java Collections are **parameterized** (using **Generics** — more about this later).

This means that we can define the **type of data** that the collection will **store**.

```
List<Animal> animals = new ArrayList<>();
animals.add(new Dog());
animals.add(new Cat());

for (Animal animal: animals) {
   animal.talk();
}
```

Notice that we used **List** instead of **ArrayList** to declare the variable. **List** is the **interface** that all lists **implement** and **ArrayList** is a **concrete instantiation** of that interface.

This is the "Return the most specific type, accept the most generic type" **principle**.

List

Some examples on how to use **lists**:

```
Dog dog = new Dog();
Cat cat = new Cat();

List<Animal> animals = new ArrayList<>();
animals.add(dog); animals.add(cat); // Adding some animals

for (Animal animal : animals) // Looping over the collection
    animal.talk();

animals.get(0).talk(); // Element at position 0 (dog)

animals.remove(0);
animals.remove(cat); // Removing element at position 0
animals.clear(); // Removing all elements
```

Set

Some examples on how to use **sets**:

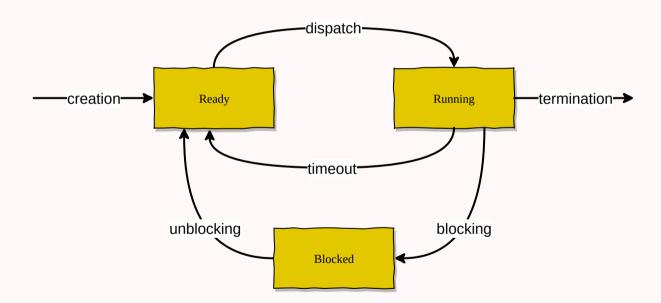
Map

Some examples on how to use **maps**:

Threads

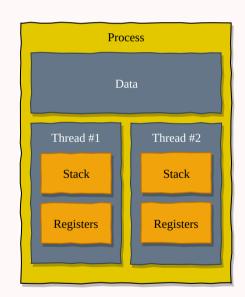
Processes

Multitasking is a method to allow **multiple processes** to share processors and other system resources.



Threads

A process may be made up of **multiple threads** of execution that execute instructions concurrently.



Threads are **lightweight processes** that have their own **stack** but have access to **shared data**.

Why threads?

Until now, all our code has been running in a single main thread.

But what happens if we need to block to read data from some source but still want our state and view to be updated?

Threads in Java (1)

There are two different ways to create a new thread in Java.

1) Extend the **Thread** class and override the **run()** method:

```
public class GameUpdater extends Thread {
    @Override
    public void run() {
        // Do something
    }
}
new GameUpdater().start();
```

Or just:

```
new Thread() {
   @Override
   public void run() {
      // Do something
   }
}.start();
```

Threads in Java (2)

There are two different ways to create a new thread in Java.

2) Implement the **Runnable** interface and start a **Thread** with it:

```
class GameUpdater implements Runnable {
    @Override
    public void run() {
        // do something
    }
}
new Thread(new GameUpdater()).start();
```

Or just:

```
new Thread(new Runnable() {
    @Override
    public void run() {
        // do something
    }
}).start();
```

Thread Class

The thread class has a series of useful methods:

- **void start()** Causes this thread to **begin** execution; the Java Virtual Machine calls the **run** method of this thread.
- **static Thread currentThread()** Returns a **reference** to the **currently** executing **thread** object.
- long getId() Returns the identifier of this Thread.
- **void join() Waits** for this thread to **die**.
- **boolean isAlive() and isInterrupted()** Tests whether this thread is **alive** or has been **interrupted**.
- **static Thread interrupted()** Checks if current thread has been interrupted and **resets flag**.

Interrupt

A thread **cannot order** another thread to stop. It has to **ask nicely**:

```
Thread t = new Thread() {
    @Override
    public void run() {
        while (true) {
            System.out.println("I'm alive!");
            if (isInterrupted()) break;
        }
    }
};

t.start();
// Sometime later
t.interrupt();
```

Sleep

The **Thread.sleep()** method can be used to pause the execution of current thread for specified time in milliseconds.

If the thread is interrupted during that time, an Exception is raised:

Multi-Threading

Multi-threading programming can be **tricky**!

```
class Model {
  int a = 0, b = 0;
  public void increment() { a++; b++; }
}
class View {
  public void draw(Model model) {
    System.out.println(model.a + " - " + model.b);
  }
}
```

```
Model m = new Model(); View v = new View();

new Thread() {
    public void run() { while (true) { m.increment(); } }
}.start();

new Thread() {
    // This will not always print two equal values
    public void run() { while (true) v.draw(m); }
}.start();
```

Synchronized Blocks

- To make threads play nice with each other, we can use **synchronized** blocks.
- Synchronized blocks use a mechanism known as **monitor locks** (or intrinsic locks).
- A **synchronized block** uses an object as a **lock**.
- No two threads can enter a synchronized block if using the same object as a lock.

Synchronized Block Example

Each loop is synchronized on the **same object** (the Model **m**).

So, **v.draw()** will never be called while **m.increment()** is being executed.

```
Model m = new Model(); View v = new View();

new Thread() {
    public void run() {
        while (true)
            synchronized (m) { m.increment(); }
    }
}.start();

new Thread() {
    public void run() {
        while (true)
            synchronized (m) { v.draw(m); }
    }
}.start();
```

Synchronized Methods

When a **synchronized method** is called, it **automatically** acquires the **intrinsic lock** for that **method's object** and **releases** it when the method **returns**.

```
class Model {
  int a = 0, b = 0;
  public synchronized void increment() { a++; b++; }
  public synchronized void draw() { System.out.println(a + " - " + b); }
}

Model m = new Model();

new Thread() {
  public void run() {
    while (true) { m.increment(); }
  }
}.start();

new Thread() {
  public void run() {
    while (true) { m.draw(); }
  }
}.start();
```

Wait and Notify

Sometimes we need a thread to wait until something happens.

The **Object.wait()** method, pauses a thread until another thread calls **Object.notify()** on the same object.

Calls to wait and notify must be **synchronized**.

Input and Output

Streams

All fundamental I/O in Java is based on **streams**.

A stream represents a **flow** of **data** with a **writer** at one end and a **reader** at the other.

Abstract Streams

- **InputStream** and **OutputStream** are the basic **abstract** input and output stream for **unstructured bytes**.
- All other byte streams are built on top of these two classes.
- Reader and Writer are the basic abstract input and output stream for unicode chars.
- All other character stream are built on top of these two classes.

File Streams

FileInputStream, **FileOutputStream**, **FileReader** and **FileWriter** are implementations of **InputStream**, **OutputStream**, **Reader**, and **Writer** that read from and write to files on the local filesystem.

The **File** class represents a file in the local filesystem.

Examples:

```
FileInputStream fos = new FileInputStream(new File("level10.lvl"));
int b = fos.read();

FileReader fr = new FileReader(new File("level10.lvl"))
char c = (char) fos.read();
```

Bridge Streams

- **InputStreamReader** and **OutputStreamWriter** are classes that convert bytes to characters and vice versa.
- **DataInputStream** and **DataOutputStream** are specialized stream filters that add the ability to read and write primitive types.
- **ObjectInputStream** and **ObjectOutputStream** are stream filters that are capable of writing serialized Java objects and reconstructing them.

Example:

```
DataOutputStream dos = new DataOutputStream(
  new FileOutputStream( new File( "highscore.txt" ) )
);
dos.writeChars("HighScore");
dos.writeInt(1000);
dos.flush();
dos.close();
```

Buffered Streams

BufferedInputStream, **BufferedOutputStream**, **BufferedReader** and **BufferedWriter** add buffering capabilities to other streams. This increases efficiency.

Example:

```
DataOutputStream dos = new DataOutputStream(
   new BufferedOutputStream(
   new FileOutputStream( new File( "highscore.txt" ) )
);
dos.writeChars("HighScore");
dos.writeInt(1000);
dos.flush();
dos.close();
```

Resources

Resources are pieces of data that **are part**, and can be **accessed**, from within a Java application.

When you create a **Java Gradle** project in **IntelliJ**, a folder for *resources* will be created inside both the **main** and **test** *src* folders.

To access them you can do something like this:

```
private static List<String> readLines(int levelNumber) throws IOException {
   URL resource = RoomLoader.class.getResource("/rooms/" + levelNumber + ".lvl");
   BufferedReader br = new BufferedReader(new FileReader(resource.getFile()));

List<String> lines = new ArrayList<>();
   for (String line; (line = br.readLine()) != null; )
        lines.add(line);

return lines;
}
```