

Language Definition for MiniJava, version 2010.0

Minijava is a greatly simplified version of Java, based on the following rules. You can modify the language to include extra features, but please wait until the end of the semester.

- A MiniJava program must be a legal Java program.
- A MiniJava program consists of a single file containing a single class declaration. The class must have a name that matches filename. The main class must public and must have a main method that is public, static, and void, and that takes a String[] as a parameter. All methods in the main class must be static. Methods other than the main method may be marked public, but the privacy setting will have no effect.
- All variables and methods in the main class must be static. There are no initializers on declarations.
- There are no inner classes, generics, enumerated types, or interfaces.
- Packages and imports are not used.
- The only primitive types are void, int, boolean, and String. There are no doubles or chars.
- Variables of int, boolean, and String types can be declared. Arrays can also be declared and created.
- Each variable must be declared on a separate line. No initializers are permitted. Variables can be declared locally within any block.
- Strings are created only from a string literal or from concatenation of two Strings or of a String and an int. They can be used only in a concatenation or in a print() statement.
- The String[] parameter in the main method is always initialized to an array of length 0.
- Printing can be done with System.out.print(arg). The argument must be a single int or string value.
- No do-while loops or for loops are permitted. All ifs must have an else clause.
- There are two kinds of empty statements: either a semicolon on its own, or a pair of braces with nothing between them. Either can be used, for example, as an empty else clause.
- An expression followed by a semicolon is a statement. (Note: this actually extends the Java rules a bit, which require that the expression not be a constant.)
- Return statements are permitted, and they are required in methods that are not declared to be void.
- Primary (lowest-level) expressions are ids (for variables), method calls, parenthesized expressions, iconsts, sconsts, and the following keywords: this, null, true, and false.
- The following operators are permitted:

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array creation:      new Whatever[size][][]
                    (where each extra [] implies an extra dimension).
postfix ops:        [index], .length, .length()
multiplicative ops: *, /, %
additive ops:       +, -
relational ops:     < > <= >=
equality ops:       == !=
logical and:        &&
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logical or: ||
assignment: =

There is no unary minus. The operators on each line above have equal precedence, and the operators appearing higher on the list take precedence over those appearing lower on the list. All binary operators are left associative, except && and ||, which are right associative.