

What is null?

`null` is a special keyword in Java, meaning the variable or attribute has a type, but no reference to an object.

This means that no instance, or object, is assigned to the variable or field.

Fields with primitive data types are never null.

Default values for fields on classes

Fields on classes are assigned default values, intrinsically by Java, if not assigned explicitly.

Data type	Default value assigned
boolean	<code>false</code>
byte short int long char	<code>0</code>
double float	<code>0.0</code>

What are getters and setters? Why should we use them?

So, what are getters and setters?

A getter is a method on a class, that retrieves the value of a private field, and returns it.

A setter is a method on a class, that sets the value of a private field.

The purpose of these methods is to control, and protect, access to private fields.