this vs super
&
this( ) vs super( )

by @ajay-shankar-k

1

super :

- The keyword **‘super’** is used to access or call the parent class members (variables and methods).

this :

- The keyword **‘this’** is used to call the current class members (variables and methods).

2

- **‘this’** is required, when we have a parameter with the same name, as an instance variable or field.

NOTE: We can use either of them anywhere in a class, except for static elements, like a static method. Any attempt to do so there, will lead to compile time errors.

3

this( ) :

- Use **‘this( )’** to call a constructor from another overloaded constructor in the same class.
- The call to **‘this( )’** can only be used in a constructor, and it must be the first statement in a constructor

4

- It’s used with constructor chaining, in other words when one constructor calls another constructor, and it helps to reduce duplicated code.

5

super( ) :

- The only way to call a parent constructor, is by calling **‘super( )’**, which calls the parent constructor.
- The java compiler puts a default call to **‘super( )’**, if we don’t add it, and its always a call to the no argument constructor, which is inserted by the compiler.

2

- The call to **‘super()’** must be the first statement in each constructor.

NOTE: A constructor can have a call to **‘super()’** or **‘this()’**, but not both *share* *save*

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