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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Java 5** | **Java 6** | **Java 7** | **Java 8** |
| * Primitive autoboxing * Generic types * Enum * Annotations * Enhanced for loop * Static imports * Formatted input and output * Varargs | * new collection interfaces * JAX-WS * JDBC 4.0 * JAXB 2.0 * Support for pluggable annotations | * try-with-resources * Multiple exception-type catch * Diamond “operator” * Switch on strings * Binary literals * Underscores in integral literals * Fork-Join framework * NIO.2 | * Lambda expressions * Default & static methods on interfaces * Stream API * Java.time API * Nashorn JavaScript engine |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Additional info** | | | |
| * Codename **Tiger** * Released on September 30, 2004 * Last public updates November 3, 2009 * Last paid updates May 2015 | * Codename **Mustang** * Released on December 11, 2006 * Sun replaced the name "J2SE" with **Java SE** and dropped the ".0" from the version number. * Last public updates February 2013 | * Codename **Dolphin** * Released on on July 28, 2011 * Last public release 2015-04-14 * NIO.2 packages   java.nio.file,  java.nio.file.attribute,  java.nio.file.spi | * Released on 18 March 2014 |

Ref:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Java_version_history>

http://stackoverflow.com/questions/25466902/which-java-versions-introduced-which-language-features