Difference between method overloading and method overriding in java

There are many differences between method overloading and method overriding in java. A list of differences between method overloading and method overriding are given below:

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| **No.** | **Method Overloading** | **Method Overriding** |
| 1) | Method overloading is used *to increase the readability* of the program. | Method overriding is  used *to provide the specific implementation* of the method  that is already provided by its super class. |
| 2) | Method overloading is performed *within class*. | Method overriding occurs *in two classes* that  have IS-A (inheritance) relationship. |
| 3) | In case of method overloading, *parameter must be different*. | In case of method overriding, *parameter must be same*. |
| 4) | Method overloading is the example of *compile time polymorphism*. | Method overriding is the example of *run time polymorphism*. |
| 5) | In java, method overloading can't be performed by changing return type of the method only. *Return type can be same or different* in method overloading. But you must have to change the parameter. | *Return type must be same or covariant* in method overriding. |

Java Method Overloading example

1. **class** OverloadingExample{
2. **static** **int** add(**int** a,**int** b){**return** a+b;}
3. **static** **int** add(**int** a,**int** b,**int** c){**return** a+b+c;}
4. }

Java Method Overriding example

1. **class** Animal{
2. **void** eat(){System.out.println("eating...");}
3. }
4. **class** Dog **extends** Animal{
5. **void** eat(){System.out.println("eating bread...");}
6. }