**How to initialize an ArrayList**

[**JAVA COLLECTIONS**](http://beginnersbook.com/category/java-collections/)

In the last post we discussed about class **[ArrayList in Java](http://beginnersbook.com/2013/12/java-arraylist/" \o "ArrayList" \t "_blank)**and it’s important methods. Here we are sharing multiple ways to initialize an ArrayList with examples.

**Method 1: Initialization using Arrays.asList**

**Syntax:**

ArrayList<Type> obj = new ArrayList<Type>(

Arrays.asList(Object o1, Object o2, Object o3, ....so on));

**Example:**

import java.util.\*;

public class InitializationExample1 {

public static void main(String args[]) {

ArrayList<String> obj = new ArrayList<String>(

Arrays.asList("Pratap", "Peter", "Harsh"));

System.out.println("Elements are:"+obj);

}

}

Output:

Elements are:[Pratap, Peter, Harsh]

**Method 2: Anonymous inner class method to initialize ArrayList**

**Syntax:**

ArrayList<T> obj = new ArrayList<T>(){{

add(Object o1);

add(Object o2);

add(Object o3);

...

...

}};

**Example:**

import java.util.\*;

public class InitializationExample2 {

public static void main(String args[]) {

ArrayList<String> cities = new ArrayList<String>(){{

add("Delhi");

add("Agra");

add("Chennai");

}};

System.out.println("Content of Array list cities:"+cities);

}

}

Output:

Content of Array list cities:[Delhi, Agra, Chennai]

**Method3: Normal way of ArrayList initialization**

**Syntax:**

ArrayList<T> obj = new ArrayList<T>();

obj.add("Object o1");

obj.add("Object o2");

obj.add("Object o3");

...

...

**Example:**

import java.util.\*;

public class Details {

public static void main(String args[]) {

ArrayList<String> books = new ArrayList<String>();

books.add("Java Book1");

books.add("Java Book2");

books.add("Java Book3");

System.out.println("Books stored in array list are: "+books);

}

}

Output:

Books stored in array list are: [Java Book1, Java Book2, Java Book3]

**Method 4: Use Collections.ncopies**

[**Collections.ncopies**](http://java.sun.com/javase/6/docs/api/java/util/Arrays.html#asList%28T...%29) method can be used when we need to initialize the ArrayList with the same value for all of its elements. **Syntax: count** is number of elements and **element** is the item value

ArrayList<T> obj = new ArrayList<T>(Collections.nCopies(count, element));

**Example:**

import java.util.\*;

public class Details {

public static void main(String args[]) {

ArrayList<Integer> intlist = new ArrayList<Integer>(Collections.nCopies(10, 5));

System.out.println("ArrayList items: "+intlist);

}

}

Output:

ArrayList items: [5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5]