**How to sort ArrayList in descending order in Java**

Earlier we shared the examples of **[ArrayList sorting in ascending order](http://beginnersbook.com/2013/12/how-to-sort-arraylist-in-java/" \t "_blank)**. Here we will learn how to sort an ArrayList in **descending (or decreasing) order**.

**Example: Sorting in Descending order**

We are using **[Collections.reverseOrder()](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/6/docs/api/java/util/Collections.html" \l "reverseOrder()" \t "_blank)** method along withCollections.sort() in order to sort the list in decreasing order. In the below example we have used the following statement for sorting in reverse order.  
Collections.sort(arraylist, Collections.reverseOrder());

However the reverse order sorting can also be done as following – This way the list will be sorted in ascending order first and then it will be reversed.  
Collections.sort(list);  
Collections.reverse(list);

**Complete example:**

import java.util.\*;

public class Details {

public static void main(String args[]){

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

arraylist.add("AA");

arraylist.add("ZZ");

arraylist.add("CC");

arraylist.add("FF");

/\*Unsorted List: ArrayList content before sorting\*/

System.out.println("Before Sorting:");

for(String str: arraylist){

System.out.println(str);

}

/\* Sorting in decreasing order\*/

Collections.sort(arraylist, Collections.reverseOrder());

/\* Sorted List in reverse order\*/

System.out.println("ArrayList in descending order:");

for(String str: arraylist){

System.out.println(str);

}

}

}

Output:

Before Sorting:

AA

ZZ

CC

FF

ArrayList in descending order:

ZZ

FF

CC

AA

In the above example we have used the ArrayList of String type (ArrayList<String>) for sorting. The same sorting method can be used for the list of integers as well.