**Java – String toLowerCase() and toUpperCase() Methods**

[**STRING HANDLING**](http://beginnersbook.com/category/string-handling/)

The method toLowerCase() converts the characters of a String into lower case characters. It has two variants:

String toLowerCase(Locale locale): It converts the string into Lowercase using the rules defined by specified [**Locale**](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/java/util/Locale.html).

String toLowerCase(): It is equivalent totoLowerCase(Locale.getDefault()). Locale.getDefault() gets the current value of the default locale for this instance of the Java Virtual Machine. The Java Virtual Machine sets the default locale during startup based on the host environment. It is used by many locale-sensitive methods if no locale is explicitly specified. It can be changed using the setDefault() method.

**Example: toLowerCase() method**

import java.util.Locale;

public class LowerCaseExample{

public static void main(String args[]){

String str = new String("ABC IS NOT EQUAL TO XYZ");

//Standard method of conversion

System.out.println(str.toLowerCase());

//By specifying Locale

System.out.println(str.toLowerCase(Locale.FRANCE));

}

}

Output:

abc is not equal to xyz

abc is not equal to xyz

**Method: toUpperCase()**

Like toLowerCase() method, toUpperCase() also has two variants:  
String toUpperCase(Locale locale): It converts the string into a UpperCase string using the rules defined by the specified Locale.  
String toUpperCase(): It is equavalent totoUpperCase(Locale.getDefault()).

**Example: toUpperCase() method**

import java.util.Locale;

public class UpperCaseExample{

public static void main(String args[]){

String str = new String("this is a test string");

//Standard method of conversion

System.out.println(str.toUpperCase());

//By specifying Locale

System.out.println(str.toUpperCase(Locale.CHINA));

}

}

Output:

THIS IS A TEST STRING

THIS IS A TEST STRING