

Java versions

Java, a programming language developed by Sun Microsystems (now owned by Oracle Corporation), has undergone significant evolution since its inception. Here's a brief overview of Java versions from its beginning to the present:

1. **JDK 1.0 (January 23, 1996)**: The initial release of Java, which introduced the core language features.
2. **JDK 1.1 (February 19, 1997)**: Added inner classes, JavaBeans, JDBC, and RMI (Remote Method Invocation).
3. **J2SE 1.2 (December 8, 1998)**: Introduced Swing GUI toolkit, Collections Framework, and JIT (Just-In-Time) compiler.
4. **J2SE 1.3 (May 8, 2000)**: Improved performance, added HotSpot JVM, and introduced Java Naming and Directory Interface (JNDI).
5. **J2SE 1.4 (February 6, 2002)**: Introduced assert keyword, regular expressions, and the Java Web Start technology.
6. **J2SE 5.0 (September 30, 2004)**: Introduced generics, metadata annotations, autoboxing/unboxing, and the enhanced for loop.
7. **Java SE 6 (December 11, 2006)**: Included improvements in performance, compatibility, and stability, with no major language changes.
8. **Java SE 7 (July 28, 2011)**: Introduced try-with-resources statement, diamond operator, and support for dynamic languages.
9. **Java SE 8 (March 18, 2014)**: Major release featuring lambda expressions, the Stream API, and the java.time package for date/time handling.
10. **Java SE 9 (September 21, 2017)**: Introduced the module system (Project Jigsaw), JShell (an interactive REPL), and improvements to the Process API.
11. **Java SE 10 (March 20, 2018)**: Introduced local variable type inference (var keyword) and other minor enhancements.

12. ****Java SE 11 (September 25, 2018)****: Long-term support (LTS) release, removing some deprecated APIs and adding new features like HTTP client and TLS 1.3 support.

13. ****Java SE 12 to Java SE 17 (2019 - 2021)****: These releases introduced incremental features and improvements, including switch expressions, text blocks, and the introduction of records for concise data classes.

14. ****Java SE 18 (Expected in 2022)****: Details about specific features and improvements for Java SE 18 are not available as of my last update.