Thread Scheduler in Java

**Thread scheduler** in java is the part of the JVM that decides which thread should run.

There is no guarantee that which runnable thread will be chosen to run by the thread scheduler.

Only one thread at a time can run in a single process.

The thread scheduler mainly uses preemptive or time slicing scheduling to schedule the threads.

### Difference between preemptive scheduling and time slicing

Under preemptive scheduling, the highest priority task executes until it enters the waiting or dead states or a higher priority task comes into existence. Under time slicing, a task executes for a predefined slice of time and then reenters the pool of ready tasks. The scheduler then determines which task should execute next, based on priority and other factors.

# Sleep method in java

The sleep() method of Thread class is used to sleep a thread for the specified amount of time.

The Thread class provides two methods for sleeping a thread:

* public static void sleep(long miliseconds)throws InterruptedException
* public static void sleep(long miliseconds, int nanos)throws InterruptedException

# Can we start a thread twice

No. After starting a thread, it can never be started again. If you does so, an IllegalThreadStateException is thrown. In such case, thread will run once but for second time, it will throw exception.

running

Exception in thread "main" java.lang.IllegalThreadStateException

What if we call run() method directly instead start() method?

|  |
| --- |
| * Each thread starts in a separate call stack. * Invoking the run() method from main thread, the run() method goes onto the current call stack rather than at the beginning of a new call stack. |

***Problem if you direct call run() method:-***

Output:1

2

3

4

5

1

2

3

4

5

|  |
| --- |
| As you can see in the above program that there is no context-switching because here t1 and t2 will be treated as normal object not thread object. |

# The join() method

The join() method waits for a thread to die. In other words, it causes the currently running threads to stop executing until the thread it joins with completes its task.

### getName(),setName(String) and getId() method:

All these are Thread methods.

### The currentThread() method:

|  |
| --- |
| The currentThread() method returns a reference to the currently executing thread object. |

# Daemon Thread in Java

**Daemon thread in java** is a service provider thread that provides services to the user thread. Its life depend on the mercy of user threads i.e. when all the user threads dies, JVM terminates this thread automatically.

There are many java daemon threads running automatically e.g. gc, finalizer etc.

You can see all the detail by typing the jconsole in the command prompt. The jconsole tool provides information about the loaded classes, memory usage, running threads etc.

## Points to remember for Daemon Thread in Java

* It provides services to user threads for background supporting tasks. It has no role in life than to serve user threads.
* Its life depends on user threads.
* It is a low priority thread.

### Why JVM terminates the daemon thread if there is no user thread?

The sole purpose of the daemon thread is that it provides services to user thread for background supporting task. If there is no user thread, why should JVM keep running this thread. That is why JVM terminates the daemon thread if there is no user thread.

Methods for Java Daemon thread by Thread class

The java.lang.Thread class provides two methods for java daemon thread.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Method** | **Description** |
| 1) | public void setDaemon(boolean status) | is used to mark the current thread as daemon thread or user thread. |
| 2) | public boolean isDaemon() | is used to check that current is daemon. |

### Simple example of Daemon thread in java

*File: MyThread.java*

1. **public** **class** TestDaemonThread1 **extends** Thread{
2. **public** **void** run(){
3. **if**(Thread.currentThread().isDaemon()){//checking for daemon thread
4. System.out.println("daemon thread work");
5. }
6. **else**{
7. System.out.println("user thread work");
8. }
9. }
10. **public** **static** **void** main(String[] args){
11. TestDaemonThread1 t1=**new** TestDaemonThread1();//creating thread
12. TestDaemonThread1 t2=**new** TestDaemonThread1();
13. TestDaemonThread1 t3=**new** TestDaemonThread1();
15. t1.setDaemon(**true**);//now t1 is daemon thread
17. t1.start();//starting threads
18. t2.start();
19. t3.start();
20. }
21. }

#### Output

daemon thread work

user thread work

user thread work

#### Note: If you want to make a user thread as Daemon, it must not be started otherwise it will throw IllegalThreadStateException.

*File: MyThread.java*

1. **class** TestDaemonThread2 **extends** Thread{
2. **public** **void** run(){
3. System.out.println("Name: "+Thread.currentThread().getName());
4. System.out.println("Daemon: "+Thread.currentThread().isDaemon());
5. }
7. **public** **static** **void** main(String[] args){
8. TestDaemonThread2 t1=**new** TestDaemonThread2();
9. TestDaemonThread2 t2=**new** TestDaemonThread2();
10. t1.start();
11. t1.setDaemon(**true**);//will throw exception here
12. t2.start();
13. }
14. }

Output:exception in thread main: java.lang.IllegalThreadStateException

Java Thread Pool

**Java Thread pool** represents a group of worker threads that are waiting for the job and reuse many times.

In case of thread pool, a group of fixed size threads are created. A thread from the thread pool is pulled out and assigned a job by the service provider. After completion of the job, thread is contained in the thread pool again.

#### Example of Java Thread Pool

Let's see a simple example of java thread pool using ExecutorService and Executors.

*File: WorkerThread.java*

1. **import** java.util.concurrent.ExecutorService;
2. **import** java.util.concurrent.Executors;
3. **class** WorkerThread **implements** Runnable {
4. **private** String message;
5. **public** WorkerThread(String s){
6. **this**.message=s;
7. }
8. **public** **void** run() {
9. System.out.println(Thread.currentThread().getName()+" (Start) message = "+message);
10. processmessage();//call processmessage method that sleeps the thread for 2 seconds
11. System.out.println(Thread.currentThread().getName()+" (End)");//prints thread name
12. }
13. **private** **void** processmessage() {
14. **try** {  Thread.sleep(2000);  } **catch** (InterruptedException e) { e.printStackTrace(); }
15. }
16. }

*File: JavaThreadPoolExample.java*

1. **public** **class** TestThreadPool {
2. **public** **static** **void** main(String[] args) {
3. ExecutorService executor = Executors.newFixedThreadPool(5);//creating a pool of 5 threads
4. **for** (**int** i = 0; i < 10; i++) {
5. Runnable worker = **new** WorkerThread("" + i);
6. executor.execute(worker);//calling execute method of ExecutorService
7. }
8. executor.shutdown();
9. **while** (!executor.isTerminated()) {   }
11. System.out.println("Finished all threads");
12. }
13. }

[download this example](https://static.javatpoint.com/src/multi/threadpool.zip)

Output:

pool-1-thread-1 (Start) message = 0

pool-1-thread-2 (Start) message = 1

pool-1-thread-3 (Start) message = 2

pool-1-thread-5 (Start) message = 4

pool-1-thread-4 (Start) message = 3

pool-1-thread-2 (End)

pool-1-thread-2 (Start) message = 5

pool-1-thread-1 (End)

pool-1-thread-1 (Start) message = 6

pool-1-thread-3 (End)

pool-1-thread-3 (Start) message = 7

pool-1-thread-4 (End)

pool-1-thread-4 (Start) message = 8

pool-1-thread-5 (End)

pool-1-thread-5 (Start) message = 9

pool-1-thread-2 (End)

pool-1-thread-1 (End)

pool-1-thread-4 (End)

pool-1-thread-3 (End)

pool-1-thread-5 (End)

Finished all threads

# ThreadGroup in Java

Java provides a convenient way to group multiple threads in a single object. In such way, we can suspend, resume or interrupt group of threads by a single method call.

#### Note: Now suspend(), resume() and stop() methods are deprecated.

Java thread group is implemented by java.lang.ThreadGroup class.

A ThreadGroup represents a set of threads. A thread group can also include the other thread group. The thread group creates a tree in which every thread group except the initial thread group has a parent.

A thread is allowed to access information about its own thread group, but it cannot access the information about its thread group's parent thread group or any other thread groups.

## Constructors of ThreadGroup class

There are only two constructors of ThreadGroup class.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Constructor** | **Description** |
| 1) | ThreadGroup(String name) | creates a thread group with given name. |
| 2) | ThreadGroup(ThreadGroup parent, String name) | creates a thread group with given parent group and name. |

## Methods of ThreadGroup class

There are many methods in ThreadGroup class. A list of ThreadGroup methods are given below.

## Methods of ThreadGroup class:- [Link](https://www.javatpoint.com/threadgroup-in-java)

# Java Garbage Collection

In java, garbage means unreferenced objects.

Garbage Collection is process of reclaiming the runtime unused memory automatically. In other words, it is a way to destroy the unused objects.

To do so, we were using free() function in C language and delete() in C++. But, in java it is performed automatically. So, java provides better memory management.

### Advantage of Garbage Collection

* It makes java **memory efficient** because garbage collector removes the unreferenced objects from heap memory.
* It is **automatically done** by the garbage collector(a part of JVM) so we don't need to make extra efforts.

## How can an object be unreferenced?

There are many ways:

* By nulling the reference
* By assigning a reference to another
* By anonymous object etc.

### 1) By nulling a reference:

1. Employee e=**new** Employee();
2. e=**null**;

### 2) By assigning a reference to another:

1. Employee e1=**new** Employee();
2. Employee e2=**new** Employee();
3. e1=e2;//now the first object referred by e1 is available for garbage collection

### 3) By anonymous object:

1. **new** Employee();

## finalize() method

The finalize() method is invoked each time before the object is garbage collected. This method can be used to perform cleanup processing. This method is defined in Object class as:

1. **protected** **void** finalize(){}

#### Note: The Garbage collector of JVM collects only those objects that are created by new keyword. So if you have created any object without new, you can use finalize method to perform cleanup processing (destroying remaining objects).

## gc() method

The gc() method is used to invoke the garbage collector to perform cleanup processing. The gc() is found in System and Runtime classes.

1. **public** **static** **void** gc(){}

#### Note: Garbage collection is performed by a daemon thread called Garbage Collector(GC). This thread calls the finalize() method before object is garbage collected.

### Simple Example of garbage collection in java

1. **public** **class** TestGarbage1{
2. **public** **void** finalize(){System.out.println("object is garbage collected");}
3. **public** **static** **void** main(String args[]){
4. TestGarbage1 s1=**new** TestGarbage1();
5. TestGarbage1 s2=**new** TestGarbage1();
6. s1=**null**;
7. s2=**null**;
8. System.gc();
9. }
10. }

[**Test it Now**](http://www.javatpoint.com/opr/test.jsp?filename=TestGarbage1)

object is garbage collected

object is garbage collected

#### Note: Neither finalization nor garbage collection is guaranteed.