

# Java enum example

By mkyong (<https://www.mkyong.com/author/mkyong/>) | October 21, 2012 | Updated : March 24, 2016 | Viewed : 511,768 times +4,155 pv/w

Some of the Java enum examples, and how to use it, nothing special, just for self-reference.

## Note

Consider the Enum type if your program consists of a fixed set of constants, like seasons of the year, operations calculator, user status and etc.

## 1. Basic Enum

### UserStatus.java

```
public enum UserStatus {  
    PENDING,  
    ACTIVE,  
    INACTIVE,  
    DELETED;  
}
```

### Test.java

```
public class Test {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        //ACTIVE  
        System.out.println(UserStatus.ACTIVE);  
  
    }  
  
}
```



## 2. Enum + Instance field

### WhoisRIR.java

```
public enum WhoisRIR {
    ARIN("whois.arin.net"),
    RIPE("whois.ripe.net"),
    APNIC("whois.apnic.net"),
    AFRINIC("whois.afrinic.net"),
    LACNIC("whois.lacnic.net"),
    JPNIC("whois.nic.ad.jp"),
    KRNIC("whois.nic.or.kr"),
    CNNIC("ipwhois.cnnic.cn"),
    UNKNOWN("");

    private String url;

    WhoisRIR(String url) {
        this.url = url;
    }

    public String url() {
        return url;
    }
}
```

#### Test.java

```
public class Test {

    public static void main(String[] args) {

        //whois.arin.net
        System.out.println(WhoisRIR.ARIN.url());

    }

}
```

### 3. Enum + Method + Some logic

#### Operation.java

```
public enum Operation {
    PLUS,
    MINUS,
    TIMES,
    DIVIDE;

    double calculate(double x, double y) {
        switch (this) {
            case PLUS:
                return x + y;
            case MINUS:
                return x - y;
            case TIMES:
                return x * y;
            case DIVIDE:
                return x / y;
            default:
                throw new AssertionError("Unknown operations " + this);
        }
    }
}
```

#### Test.java

```
public class Test {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        double result = Operation.PLUS.calculate(1, 2);  
        System.out.println(result); //3.0  
  
    }  
  
}
```

## 4. How to use Enum

### 4.1 To loop a Enum object.

```
public class Test {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        for (UserStatus status : UserStatus.values()) {  
            System.out.println(status);  
        }  
  
    }  
  
}
```

#### Output

```
PENDING  
ACTIVE  
INACTIVE  
DELETED
```

### 4.2 To compare the Enum values, use == operator.

```
public class Test {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        WhoisRIR rir = WhoisRIR.APNIC;  
  
        if(rir == WhoisRIR.APNIC) {  
            System.out.println("This is APNIC : " + rir.url());  
        }  
  
    }  
  
}
```

#### Output

```
This is APNIC : whois.apnic.net
```

### 4.3 Switch case.

```
public class Test {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        WhoisRIR rir = WhoisRIR.RIPE;  
  
        switch (rir) {  
            case ARIN:  
                System.out.println("This is ARIN");  
                break;  
            case APNIC:  
                System.out.println("This is APNIC");  
                break;  
            case RIPE:  
                System.out.println("This is RIPE");  
                break;  
            default:  
                throw new AssertionError("Unknown RIR " + rir);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

## Output

This is RIPE

### 4.2 Convert a String to Enum object.

```
public class Test {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        //enum valueOf + uppercase  
        Operation op = Operation.valueOf("times".toUpperCase());  
        System.out.println(op.calculate(10, 3));  
    }  
}
```

## Output

30.0

Done.

## References

1. Oracle Doc – Enum Types (<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/java/javaOO/enum.html>)
2. Stackoverflow : Comparing Java enum members: == or equals() (<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1750435/comparing-java-enum-members-or-equals>)
3. Java – Convert String to Enum object (<http://www.mkyong.com/java/java-convert-string-to-enum-object/>)
4. Java – Compare Enum value (<http://www.mkyong.com/java/java-compare-enum-value/>)

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## About the Author



**mkyong**

Founder of Mkyong.com (<http://mkyong.com>), love Java and open source stuff. Follow him on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/mkyong>), or befriend him on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/java.tutorial>) or Google Plus (<https://plus.google.com/110948163568945735692?rel=author>). If you like my tutorials, consider make a donation to these charities (<http://www.mkyong.com/blog/donate-to-charity/>).

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Narya

First of all, thank you for posting these example. It helped me to understand how I can use 'ENUM' in an application. However, doing more practice on Enum, I noticed that – I get Compile time error when I declare constructor before declaring Enum constants.

Could you please justify why did it happen ?



3

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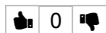


Guest

Kalyan

Java requires that the constants be defined first, prior to any fields or methods. Also, when there are fields and methods, the list of enum constants must end with a semicolon.

ref: <http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/java/javaOO/enum.html> (<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/java/javaOO/enum.html>)



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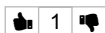
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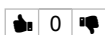
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????? ????

thanks



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Navneet

Hi Mkyong, Your article is very helpful to me.



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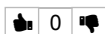
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Navneet

Thanks to mkyong. You explained it very well.



0

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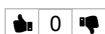
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thanks, your article is so clear to me.



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Karthik Marupeddi

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sa

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Pankaj

I have written a tutorial for Java Enum, please have a look and let me know your thoughts.

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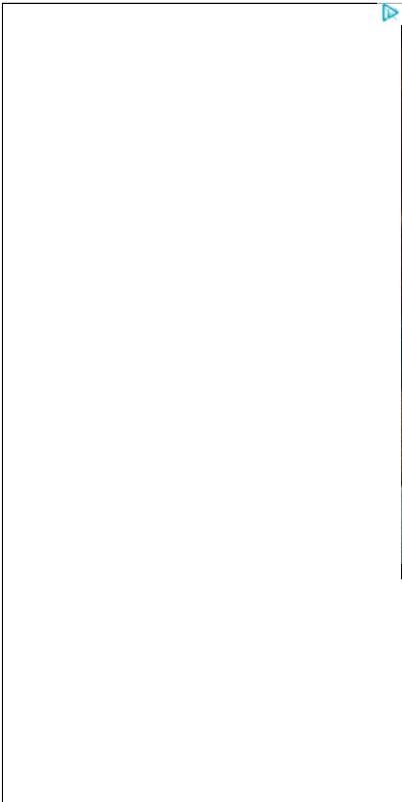
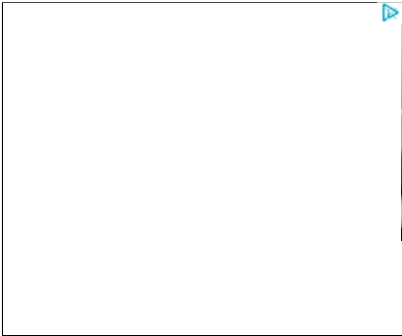
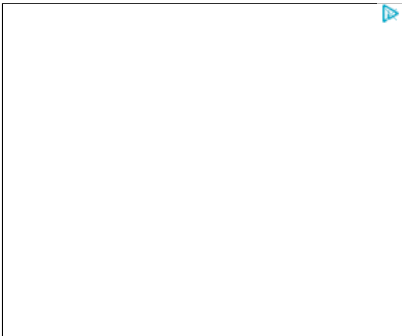
Thanks, excelent example.

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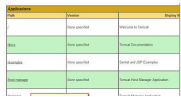
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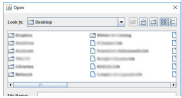
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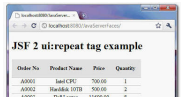
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[Java EE 6 Tutorial \(http://docs.oracle.com/javase/6/tutorial/doc/docinfo.html\)](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/6/tutorial/doc/docinfo.html)  
[Java EE 7 Tutorial \(https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/tutorial/index.html\)](https://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/tutorial/index.html)  
[Java 6 API \(http://docs.oracle.com/javase/6/docs/api/overview-summary.html\)](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/6/docs/api/overview-summary.html)  
[Java 7 API \(http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/overview-summary.html\)](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/api/overview-summary.html)  
[Java 8 API \(http://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/overview-summary.html\)](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/overview-summary.html)  
[Oracle J2SE Tutorials \(http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/index.html\)](http://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/index.html)  
[JSF Home Page \(https://java.net/jsp/\)](https://java.net/jsp/)  
[JSP Home Page \(https://java.net/jsp/\)](https://java.net/jsp/)  
[Maven Central Repository \(http://search.maven.org/\)](http://search.maven.org/)  
[Gradle User Guide \(https://docs.gradle.org/current/userguide/userguide.html\)](https://docs.gradle.org/current/userguide/userguide.html)

Hibernate ORM (<http://hibernate.org/orm/>)  
JAX-WS Home Page (<https://jax-ws.java.net/>)  
JAX-RS Home Page (Jersey) (<https://jax-ws.java.net/>)  
Tomcat 8 Documentation (<http://tomcat.apache.org/tomcat-8.0-doc/index.html>)

## Partners

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JAX London ([https://jaxlondon.com/?utm\\_source=mkyong.com&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=mediapartner](https://jaxlondon.com/?utm_source=mkyong.com&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=mediapartner))  
Java Code Geeks (<http://www.javacodegeeks.com/>)

## About Mkyong.com

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Mkyong.com is for Java and J2EE developers, all examples are simple and easy to understand, and well tested in my development environment.

Mkyong.com is created, written by, and maintained by Yong Mook Kim, aka Mkyong. It is built on WordPress (<https://wordpress.org/>), hosted by Liquid Web (<http://www.liquidweb.com/?RID=mkyong>), and the caches are served by CloudFlare CDN.

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