

### **NESTED CLASSES**

JAVA ALLOWS YOU TO DEFINE CLASSES INSIDE OTHER CLASSES

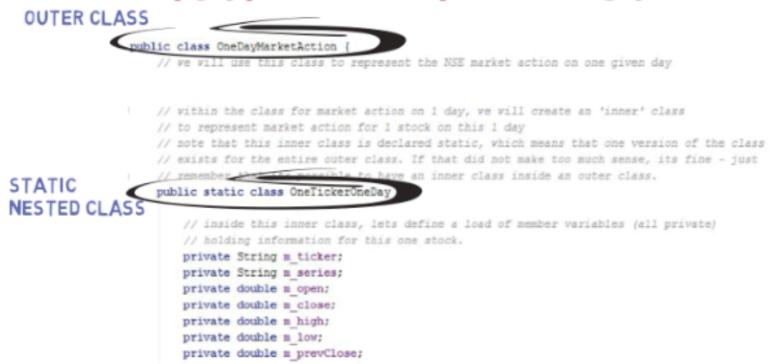
THERE ARE SPECIFIC SITUATIONS IN WHICH IT MAKES A LOT OF SENSE TO DO SO..

STATIC NESTED CLASSES ..AND SO JAVA PROVIDES A FEW DIFFERENT WAYS OF CREATING NESTED CLASSES

NON-STATIC NESTED CLASSES ANONYMOUS INNER CLASSES

LOCAL CLASSES

### STATIC NESTED CLASSES



### STATIC NESTED CLASSES ARE USED WHEN THE INNER CLASS LOGICALLY MAKES SENSE INSIDE AN OUTER CLASS

IN FACT, OBJECTS OF THE NESTED CLASS ARE NOT ASSOCIATED WITH ANY SPECIFIC OBJECT OF THE OUTER CLASS - AND SO CAN NOT ACCESS PRIVATE MEMBERS OF THE OUTER CLASS

NOTE THAT THIS DOES NOT MEAN
THAT EVERY OBJECT OF THE NESTED CLASS
EXISTS INSIDE AN OBJECT OF THE OUTER
CLASS

# BUT THE INSTANTIATION INVOKES THE CONSTRUCTOR OF THE STATIC NESTED CLASS AS IF IT (THE CONSTRUCTOR) WERE A STATIC METHOD OF THE OUTER CLASS

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## OBJECTS OF THE STATIC NESTED CLASS CAN BE INSTANTIATED INDEPENDENTLY OF THE OBJECTS OF THE OUTER CLASS

THIS IS WHY OBJECTS OF THE NESTED CLASS ARE REFERRED TO AS STATIC.

#### NON-STATIC NESTED CLASSES, (AKA INNER CLASSES) ARE VERY DIFFERENT

THUS AN OBJECT OF THE INNER CLASS MUST BE INSTANTIATED "INSIDE" AN OBJECT OF THE OUTER CLASS

BECAUSE ANY OBJECT OF THE INNER CLASS
IS ASSOCIATED WITH A SPECIFIC OBJECT
OF THE OUTER CLASS, INNER CLASSES CAN
NOT HAVE ANY STATIC MEMBER VARIABLES

NON-STATIC NESTED CLASSES ARE A LOT LESS COMMONLY USED THAN STATIC NESTED CLASSES, BUT THEY HAVE 2 SPECIFIC USES THAT ARE WORTH LOCAL CLASSES WHICH

ANONYMOUS CLASSES (THINK OF THESE AS "USE-AND-THROW" CLASSES FOR ONE-TIME USE)

LOCAL CLASSES, WHICH CAN EXIST ANYWHERE
IN A LOCAL SCOPE (FOR WHEN A CLASS WILL ONLY
BE USED VERY LOCALLY, AND IT DOES NOT MAKE
SENSE TO ADD TO THE CLASS HIERARCHY)