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# Core Java

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## ABOUT CORE JAVA

This refcard gives you an overview of key aspects of the Java language and cheat sheets on the core library (formatted output, collections, regular expressions, logging, properties) as well as the most commonly used tools (javac, java, jar).

## JAVA KEYWORDS

Keyword	Description	Example
abstract	an abstract class or method	<pre>abstract class Writable {     public abstract void write(Writer out);     public void save(String filename) { ... } }</pre>
assert	with assertions enabled, throws an error if condition not fulfilled	<pre>assert param != null; <b>Note:</b> Run with -ea to enable assertions</pre>
boolean	the Boolean type with values true and false	<pre>boolean more = false;</pre>
break	breaks out of a switch or loop	<pre>while ((ch = in.next()) != -1) {     if (ch == '\n') break;     process(ch); } <b>Note:</b> Also see switch</pre>
byte	the 8-bit integer type	<pre>byte b = -1; // Not the same as 0xFF <b>Note:</b> Be careful with bytes &lt; 0</pre>
case	a case of a switch	see switch
catch	the clause of a try block catching an exception	see try
char	the Unicode character type	<pre>char input = 'Q';</pre>
class	defines a class type	<pre>class Person {     private String name;     public Person(String aName) {         name = aName;     }     public void print() {         System.out.println(name);     } }</pre>
const	not used	
continue	continues at the end of a loop	<pre>while ((ch = in.next()) != -1) {     if (ch == ' ') continue;     process(ch); }</pre>
default	the default clause of a switch	see switch
do	the top of a do/while loop	<pre>do {     ch = in.next(); } while (ch == ' ');</pre>
double	the double-precision floating-number type	<pre>double oneHalf = 0.5;</pre>
else	the else clause of an if statement	see if
enum	an enumerated type	<pre>enum Mood { SAD, HAPPY };</pre>
extends	defines the parent class of a class	<pre>class Student extends Person {     private int id;     public Student(String name, int anId) { ... }     public void print() { ... } }</pre>
final	a constant, or a class or method that cannot be overridden	<pre>public static final int DEFAULT_ID = 0;</pre>

## Java Keywords, continued

Keyword	Description	Example
finally	the part of a try block that is always executed	see try
float	the single-precision floating-point type	<pre>float oneHalf = 0.5F;</pre>
for	a loop type	<pre>for (int i = 10; i &gt;= 0; i--)     System.out.println(i); for (String s : line.split("\\s+"))     System.out.println(s); <b>Note:</b> In the "generalized" for loop, the expression after the : must be an array or an Iterable</pre>
goto	not used	
if	a conditional statement	<pre>if (input == 'Q')     System.exit(0); else     more = true;</pre>
implements	defines the interface(s) that a class implements	<pre>class Student     implements Printable {     ... }</pre>
import	imports a package	<pre>import java.util.ArrayList; import com.dzone.refcardz.*;</pre>
instanceof	tests if an object is an instance of a class	<pre>if (fred instanceof Student)     value = ((Student) fred).getId(); <b>Note:</b> null instanceof T is always false</pre>
int	the 32-bit integer type	<pre>int value = 0;</pre>
interface	an abstract type with methods that a class can implement	<pre>interface Printable {     void print(); }</pre>
long	the 64-bit long integer type	<pre>long worldPopulation = 6710044745L;</pre>
native	a method implemented by the host system	
new	allocates a new object or array	<pre>Person fred = new Person("Fred");</pre>
null	a null reference	<pre>Person optional = null;</pre>
package	a package of classes	<pre>package com.dzone.refcardz;</pre>
private	a feature that is accessible only by methods of this class	see class
protected	a feature that is accessible only by methods of this class, its children, and other classes in the same package	<pre>class Student {     protected int id;     ... }</pre>



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## Java Keywords, continued

Keyword	Description	Example
public	a feature that is accessible by methods of all classes	see class
return	returns from a method	int getId() { <b>return</b> id; }
short	the 16-bit integer type	<b>short</b> skirtLength = 24;
static	a feature that is unique to its class, not to objects of its class	public class WriteUtil { public static void write(Writable[] ws, String filename); public static final String DEFAULT_EXT = ".dat"; }
strictfp	Use strict rules for floating-point computations	
super	invoke a superclass constructor or method	public Student(String name, int anId) { <b>super</b> (name); id = anId; }  public void print() { <b>super</b> .print(); System.out.println(id); }
switch	a selection statement	switch (ch) { case 'Q': more = false; break; case ' ': break; default: process(ch); break; }  <b>Note:</b> If you omit a break, processing continues with the next case.
synchronized	a method or code block that is atomic to a thread	public <b>synchronized</b> void addGrade(String gr) { grades.add(gr); }
this	the implicit argument of a method, or a constructor of this class	public Student(String id) { <b>this</b> .id = id;} public Student() { <b>this</b> (""); }
throw	throws an exception	if (param == null) <b>throw</b> new IllegalArgumentException();
throws	the exceptions that a method can throw	public void print() <b>throws</b> PrinterException, IOException
transient	marks data that should not be persistent	class Student { private <b>transient</b> Data cachedData; ... }
try	a block of code that traps exceptions	<b>try</b> { fred.print(out); } <b>catch</b> (PrinterException ex) { ex.printStackTrace(); } <b>finally</b> { out.close(); }
void	denotes a method that returns no value	public <b>void</b> print() { ... }
volatile	ensures that a field is coherently accessed by multiple threads	class Student { private <b>volatile</b> int nextId; ... }
while	a loop	<b>while</b> (in.hasNext()) process(in.next());

## STANDARD JAVA PACKAGES

java.applet	Applets (Java programs that run inside a web page)
java.awt	Graphics and graphical user interfaces
java.beans	Support for JavaBeans components (classes with properties and event listeners)
java.io	Input and output
java.lang	Language support
java.math	Arbitrary-precision numbers
java.net	Networking
java.nio	"New" (memory-mapped) I/O
java.rmi	Remote method invocations
java.security	Security support
java.sql	Database support
java.text	Internationalized formatting of text and numbers
java.util	Utilities (including data structures, concurrency, regular expressions, and logging)

## OPERATOR PRECEDENCE

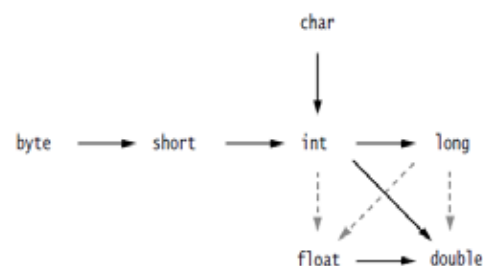
Operators with the same precedence		Notes
[ ] . ( ) (method call)	Left to right	
! ~ ++ -- + (unary) - (unary) ( ) (cast) new	Right to left	~ flips each bit of a number
* / %	Left to right	Be careful when using % with negative numbers. -a % b == -(a % b), but a % -b == a % b. For example, -7 % 4 == -3, 7 % -4 == 3.
+ -	Left to right	
<< >> >>>	Left to right	>> is arithmetic shift (n >> 1 == n / 2 for positive and negative numbers), >>> is logical shift (adding 0 to the highest bits). The right hand side is reduced modulo 32 if the left hand side is an int or modulo 64 if the left hand side is a long. For example, 1 << 35 == 1 << 3.
< <= > >= instanceof	Left to right	null instanceof T is always false
== !=	Left to right	Checks for identity. Use equals to check for structural equality.
&	Left to right	Bitwise AND; no lazy evaluation with bool arguments
^	Left to right	Bitwise XOR
	Left to right	Bitwise OR; no lazy evaluation with bool arguments
&&	Left to right	
	Left to right	
?:	Right to left	
= += -= *= /= %= &=  = ^= <<= >>= >>>=	Right to left	

## PRIMITIVE TYPES

Type	Size	Range	Notes
int	4 bytes	-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647 (just over 2 billion)	The wrapper type is Integer. Use BigInteger for arbitrary precision integers.
short	2 bytes	-32,768 to 32,767	
long	8 bytes	-9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807	Literals end with L (e.g. 1L).
byte	1 byte	-128 to 127	Note that the range is not 0 ... 255.
float	4 bytes	approximately ±3.40282347E+38F (6-7 significant decimal digits)	Literals end with F (e.g. 0.5F)
double	8 bytes	approximately ±1.79769313486231570E+308 (15 significant decimal digits)	Use BigDecimal for arbitrary precision floating-point numbers.
char	2 bytes	\u0000 to \uFFFF	The wrapper type is Character. Unicode characters > U+FFFF require two char values.
boolean		true or false	

### Legal conversions between primitive types

Dotted arrows denote conversions that may lose precision.



## COLLECTIONS AND COMMON ALGORITHMS

ArrayList	An indexed sequence that grows and shrinks dynamically
LinkedList	An ordered sequence that allows efficient insertions and removal at any location
ArrayDeque	A double-ended queue that is implemented as a circular array
HashSet	An unordered collection that rejects duplicates
TreeSet	A sorted set
EnumSet	A set of enumerated type values
LinkedHashSet	A set that remembers the order in which elements were inserted
PriorityQueue	A collection that allows efficient removal of the smallest element
HashMap	A data structure that stores key/value associations
TreeMap	A map in which the keys are sorted
EnumMap	A map in which the keys belong to an enumerated type
LinkedHashMap	A map that remembers the order in which entries were added
WeakHashMap	A map with values that can be reclaimed by the garbage collector if they are not used elsewhere
IdentityHashMap	A map with keys that are compared by ==, not equals

### Common Tasks

List<String> strs = new ArrayList<String>();	Collect strings
strs.add("Hello"); strs.add("World!");	Add strings
for (String str : strs) System.out.println(str);	Do something with all elements in the collection
Iterator<String> iter = strs.iterator(); while (iter.hasNext()) { String str = iter.next(); if (someCondition(str)) iter.remove(); }	Remove elements that match a condition. The remove method removes the element returned by the preceding call to next.
strs.addAll(strColl);	Add all strings from another collection of strings
strs.addAll(Arrays.asList(args))	Add all strings from an array of strings. Arrays.asList makes a List wrapper for an array
strs.removeAll(coll);	Remove all elements of another collection. Uses equals for comparison
if (0 <= i && i < strs.size()) { str = strs.get(i); strs.set(i, "Hello"); }	Get or set an element at a specified index
strs.insert(i, "Hello"); str = strs.remove(i);	Insert or remove an element at a specified index, shifting the elements with higher index values
String[] arr = new String[strs.size()]; strs.toArray(arr);	Convert from collection to array
String[] arr = ...; List<String> lst = Arrays.asList(arr); lst = Arrays.asList("foo", "bar", "baz");	Convert from array to list. Use the varargs form to make a small collection.
List<String> lst = ...; lst.sort(); lst.sort(new Comparator<String>() { public int compare(String a, String b) { return a.length() - b.length(); } });	Sort a list by the natural order of the elements, or with a custom comparator.
Map<String, Person> map = new LinkedHashMap<String, Person>();	Make a map that is traversed in insertion order (requires hash code for key type). Use a TreeMap to traverse in sort order (requires that key type is comparable).
for (Map.Entry<String, Person> entry : map.entrySet()) { String key = entry.getKey(); Person value = entry.getValue(); ... }	Iterate through all entries of the map
Person key = map.get(str); // null if not found map.put(key, value);	Get or set a value for a given key

## CHARACTER ESCAPE SEQUENCES

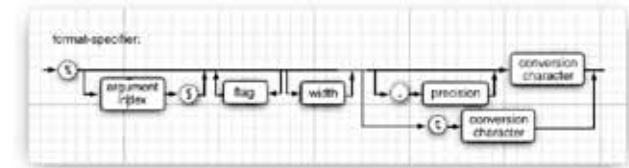
\b	backspace \u0008
\t	tab \u0009
\n	newline \u000A
\f	form feed \u000C
\r	carriage return \u000D
\"	double quote
'	single quote
\\	backslash
\uhhhh (hhhh is a hex number between 0000 and FFFF)	The UTF-16 code point with value hhhh
\ooo (ooo is an octal number between 0 and 377)	The character with octal value ooo
<b>Note:</b> Unlike in C/C++, \xhh is not allowed	

## FORMATTED OUTPUT WITH printf

### Typical usage

```
System.out.printf("%4d %8.2f", quantity, price);  
String str = String.format("%4d %8.2f", quantity, price);
```

Each format specifier has the following form. See the tables for flags and conversion characters.



### Flags

Flag	Description	Example
+	Prints sign for positive and negative numbers	+3333.33
space	Adds a space before positive numbers	3333.33
0	Adds leading zeroes	003333.33
-	Left-justifies field	3333.33
(	Encloses negative number in parentheses	(3333.33)
,	Adds group separators	3,333.33
# (for f format)	Always includes a decimal point	3,333.
# (for x or o format)	Adds 0x or 0 prefix	0xcafe
\$	Specifies the index of the argument to be formatted; for example, %1\$d %1\$x prints the first argument in decimal and hexadecimal	159 9F
<	Formats the same value as the previous specification; for example, %d %<x prints the same number in decimal and hexadecimal	159 9F

### Conversion characters

Conversion Character	Description	Example
d	Decimal integer	159
x	Hexadecimal integer	9f
o	Octal integer	237
f	Fixed-point floating-point	15.9
e	Exponential floating-point	1.59e+01
g	General floating-point (the shorter of e and f)	
a	Hexadecimal floating-point	0x1.fccdp3
s	String	Hello
c	Character	H
b	boolean	true
h	Hash code	42628b2
tx	Date and time	See the next table
%	The percent symbol	%
n	The platform-dependent line separator	

## FORMATTED OUTPUT WITH MessageFormat

Typical usage:

```
String msg = MessageFormat.format("On {1, date,  
    long}, a {0} caused {2,number,currency} of damage.",  
    "hurricane", new GregorianCalendar(2009, 0, 15).  
    getTime(), 1.0E8);
```

Yields "On January 1, 1999, a hurricane caused \$100,000,000 of damage"

- The nth item is denoted by {n,format,subformat} with optional formats and subformats shown below
- {0} is the first item
- The following table shows the available formats
- Use single quotes for quoting, for example '{' for a literal left curly brace
- Use '' for a literal single quote

## Formatted Output with MessageFormat, continued

Format	Subformat	Example
number	none	1,234.567
	integer	1,235
	currency	\$1,234.57
	percent	123,457%
date	none or medium	Jan 15, 2009
	short	1/15/09
	long	January 15, 2009
	full	Thursday, January 15, 2009
time	none or medium	3:45:00 PM
	short	3:45 PM
	long	3:45:00 PM PST
	full	3:45:00 PM PST
choice	List of choices, separated by  . Each choice has	no house
	▪ a lower bound (use -\u221E for -∞)	one house
	▪ a relational operator: < for "less than", # or \u2264 for ≤	5 houses
	▪ a message format string	
For example, {1,choice,0#no houses 1#one house 2#{1} houses}		

## REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

### Common Tasks

String[] words = str.split("\\s+");	Split a string along white space boundaries
Pattern pattern = Pattern.compile("[0-9]+"); Matcher matcher = pattern.matcher(str); String result = matcher.replaceAll("#");	Replace all matches. Here we replace all digit sequences with a #.
Pattern pattern = Pattern.compile("[0-9]+"); Matcher matcher = pattern.matcher(str); while (matcher.find()) { process(str.substring(matcher.start(), matcher.end())); }	Find all matches.
Pattern pattern = Pattern.compile("(\\d{0-9}):(\\d{0-5}[0-9])([ap]m)"); Matcher matcher = pattern.matcher(str); for (int i = 1; i <= matcher.groupCount(); i++) { process(matcher.group(i)); }	Find all groups (indicated by parentheses in the pattern). Here we find the hours and minutes in a date.

## Regular Expression Syntax

Characters	
c	The character c
\\nnnn, \\xnn, \\0n, \\0nn, \\0nnn	The code unit with the given hex or octal value
\\t, \\n, \\r, \\f, \\a, \\e	The control characters tab, newline, return, form feed, alert, and escape
\\cc	The control character corresponding to the character c
Character Classes	
[C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> ...]	Union: Any of the characters represented by C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> ... The C <sub>i</sub> are characters, character ranges c <sub>1</sub> -c <sub>2</sub> , or character classes. Example: [a-zA-Z0-9_]
[^C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> ...]	Complement: Characters not represented by any of C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> ... Example: [^0-9]
[C <sub>1</sub> &&C <sub>2</sub> &&...]	Intersection: Characters represented by all of C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> ... Example: [A-f&[^G-`]]
Predefined Character Classes	
.	Any character except line terminators (or any character if the DOTALL flag is set)
\\d	A digit [0-9]
\\D	A nondigit [^0-9]
\\s	A whitespace character [ \\t\\n\\r\\f\\x0B]
\\S	A nonwhitespace character
\\w	A word character [a-zA-Z0-9_]
\\W	A nonword character
\\p{name}	A named character class—see table below
\\P{name}	The complement of a named character class

## Regular Expression Syntax, continued

Boundary Matchers	
^ \$	Beginning, end of input (or beginning, end of line in multiline mode)
\\b	A word boundary
\\B	A nonword boundary
\\A	Beginning of input
\\Z	End of input
\\Z	End of input except final line terminator
\\G	End of previous match
Quantifiers	
X?	Optional X
X*	X, 0 or more times
X+	X, 1 or more times
X{n} X{n,} X{n,m}	X n times, at least n times, between n and m times
Quantifier Suffixes	
?	Turn default (greedy) match into reluctant match
+	Turn default (greedy) match into reluctant match
Set Operations	
XY	Any string from X, followed by any string from Y
X Y	Any string from X or Y
Grouping	
(X)	Capture the string matching X as a group
\\g	The match of the gth group
Escapes	
\\c	The character c (must not be an alphabetic character)
\\Q . . . \\E	Quote . . . verbatim
(? . . . )	Special construct—see API notes of Pattern class

## Predefined Character Class Names

Lower	ASCII lower case [a-z]
Upper	ASCII upper case [A-Z]
Alpha	ASCII alphabetic [A-Za-z]
Digit	ASCII digits [0-9]
Alnum	ASCII alphabetic or digit [A-Za-z0-9]
XDigit	Hex digits [0-9A-Fa-f]
Print or Graph	Printable ASCII character [\\x21-\\x7E]
Punct	ASCII nonalpha or digit [\\p{Print}&&\\P{Alnum}]
ASCII	All ASCII [\\x00-\\x7F]
Cntrl	ASCII Control character [\\x00-\\x1F]
Blank	Space or tab [ \\t]
Space	Whitespace [ \\t\\n\\r\\f\\x0B]
javaLowerCase	Lower case, as determined by Character.isLowerCase()
javaUpperCase	Upper case, as determined by Character.isUpperCase()
javaWhitespace	White space, as determined by Character.isWhitespace()
javaMirrored	Mirrored, as determined by Character.isMirrored()
InBlock	Block is the name of a Unicode character block, with spaces removed, such as BasicLatin or Mongolian.
Category or InCategory	Category is the name of a Unicode character category such as L (letter) or Sc (currency symbol).

## Flags for matching

The pattern matching can be adjusted with flags, for example:

```
Pattern pattern = Pattern.compile(patternString,
    Pattern.CASE_INSENSITIVE + Pattern.UNICODE_CASE)
```

Flag	Description
CASE_INSENSITIVE	Match characters independently of the letter case. By default, this flag takes only US ASCII characters into account.
UNICODE_CASE	When used in combination with CASE_INSENSITIVE, use Unicode letter case for matching.
MULTILINE	^ and \$ match the beginning and end of a line, not the entire input.
UNIX_LINES	Only '\\n' is recognized as a line terminator when matching ^ and \$ in multiline mode.
DOTALL	When using this flag, the . symbol matches all characters, including line terminators.
CANON_EQ	Takes canonical equivalence of Unicode characters into account. For example, u followed by " (dieresis) matches ü.
LITERAL	The input string that specifies the pattern is treated as a sequence of literal characters, without special meanings for . [ ] etc.