

Package

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A package is used to encapsulate/group similar types of classes, interfaces and sub-packages.

A Package is nothing but a physical folder structure where code is structured according to usage.

It is a good practice to arrange code in packages and sub-packages

Need of Packages

Here are the key points on the importance of using packages:

1. Organizes Classes - Packages group related classes logically.

For ex:

- All entities can be put into ecom.app.entities package
- All database related files can be put into ecom.app.dbutils package

2. Avoids Naming Conflicts - Packages prevent naming collisions between classes.

Ex:

- Suppose we wish to create one Utils.java for Orders as well as Sales modules
- So we create one Utils.java each in ecom.app.order package, and in ecom.app.sales packages.
- So the fully qualified names will be ecom.app.order.Utils and ecom.app.sales.Utils

3. Access Control - Packages control class and data visibility with access modifiers.

```
class OrderCheck {  
    int orderId;  
}
```

Now OrderCheck class will be visible only in its package as it is package private

4. Reusability - Packages promote code reuse across multiple projects.

5. Easier Maintenance - Packages simplify code management and updates.

Ex: Make searching/locating and usage of classes, interfaces, enumerations and annotations easier

Features

- The package statement must be the 1st statement within a class/interface.
- There can be only 1 package statement mentioned in any file.
- It is a good practice to avoid default package.

Naming

- The packages are usually named in all smaller case. For ex:
ecom.app.controllers
- However it depends on project's preferences

Import

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- We need to import a class in our code before using it
- This is done with import keyword.
- We can import n number of classes, interfaces, enums and static variables and methods
- If the classes are within the same package we don't have to import them
- The content of java.lang package are imported implicitly
- So, in order to use System, String, Integer, Exception we don't need to import them.
- All other classes that are not in java.lang have to be imported

Types of import

These are the types of imports we can do.

1. Single Type Import

- Syntax: ``import packageName.ClassName;``
- Description: Imports a specific class, interface, or enum from a package.
- Example: ``import java.util.ArrayList;``

2. Wildcard Import

- Syntax: ``import packageName.*;``
- Description: Imports all classes, interfaces, and enums from a package.
- Use star only when we need 4 or more classes/interfaces from a package.
- Example: ``import java.util.*;``

3. Static Import

- Syntax: ``import static packageName.ClassName.staticMember;``
- Description: Imports a specific static member (method or field) of a class.
- Example: ``import static java.lang.Math.PI;``

4. Static Wildcard Import

- Syntax: ``import static packageName.ClassName.*;``
- Description: Imports all static members of a class.
- Example: ``import static java.lang.Math.*;``

5. Importing Enums

- Syntax: ``import packageName.EnumName;``
- Description: Enums can be imported just like any other class or interface.
- Example: ``import java.time.DayOfWeek;``

6. Fully Qualified Class Name Usage

- Syntax: Use the full package path when referring to the class.
- Description: Directly uses the class with its full package name, avoiding the need for an import.

- Example:

```
java.util.Date utilDate = new java.util.Date();
java.sql.Date sqlDate = new java.sql.Date(System.currentTimeMillis());
```

Summary

- Use single type import for specific types.
- Use wildcard import to import all types from a package.
- Use static import for specific static members.
- Use static wildcard import to import all static members from a class.
- Use fully qualified class name to avoid ambiguity between classes with the same name from different packages.

java.lang

- java.lang contains the core classes of the Java Library
- For example, the following classes are a part of java.lang package
 - All wrapper classes (Integer, Double etc)
 - String handling classes (String, StringBuilder etc)
 - System, Scanner classes etc
- java.lang package is implicitly imported by the Java Runtime System
- That is why we haven't imported them in any file.

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JAR File

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- JAR stands for Java ARchive.
- It is a zip file containing packages, sub-packages and compiled source code (.class files).

WAR File

- WAR stands for Web ARchive
- It is a zip file for Java web applications
- It contains
 - packages, sub-packages and compiled source code (.class files)
 - frontend files (.html, .css, .js, .png, .xml etc)

See Image: 01_jar_package.png

- Whenever we want to use a java library we have to download .jar files
- Remember : Every Java Library will contain .class executable files and not .java source code files.

Modifiers in Java

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There are 2 types of modifiers in Java:

1. Access Modifiers
2. Non-access Modifiers

Access Modifiers

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Access modifiers are used to control the visibility of a class, variable, method or constructor.

There are 4 access modifiers in Java:

1. `<default/package-private>` - No Keyword
Accessible only in the same package
2. `public`
Accessible everywhere, but we have to import the classes
3. `private`
Accessible only within the same class
4. `protected`
Accessible within the same package and for all child classes (even if they are in other package)

Image : 02_access_modifiers.png

Example Setup: 03_access_modifiers.png

Create 3 packages: `p1`, `p2`, `p3` in `src` folder and paste files accordingly

Non Access Modifiers

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- Non-access modifiers do not change the accessibility of classes, variables or methods, but they do provide them special properties.
- There are a total of 8 non-access modifiers in Java:

1. `final` - Prevents modification of classes, methods, or variables.
2. `static` - Belongs to the class, not instances.
3. `abstract` - Used for incomplete classes or methods to be defined by subclasses.
4. `native` - Links Java with platform-specific native code (e.g., C/C++).
5. `strictfp` - Enforces strict floating-point calculation rules for portability.
6. `volatile` - Ensures the variable is always read from memory, not cache.
7. `transient` - Prevents serialization of certain class fields.
8. `synchronized` - Controls access to methods or blocks by multiple threads.

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