

14.1 Introduction

This chapter introduces Java’s string- and character-processing capabilities. The techniques discussed here are appropriate for validating program input, displaying information to users and performing other text-based manipulations. They’re also appropriate for developing text editors, word processors, page-layout software and other kinds of text-processing software.

We’ve presented several string-processing capabilities in earlier chapters. This chapter discusses in detail the capabilities of classes `String`, `StringBuilder` and `Character` from the `java.lang` package—these classes provide the foundation for string and character manipulation in Java.

The chapter also discusses regular expressions that provide applications with the capability to validate input. The functionality is located in the `String` class along with classes `Matcher` and `Pattern` located in the `java.util.regex` package.