

A background image showing several hands of different skin tones holding a small globe of the Earth. The hands are positioned around the globe, with some pointing at specific locations. The globe shows continents in green and oceans in blue.

Java-Tutorial for ISSS-Students

Chapter 4: Strings

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1. Primitive vs. complex data types
2. Creating Strings
3. Using methods
4. Methods of the String class

Primitive vs. complex data types

- Primitive data types can be saved directly in variables:
 - *dataType variableName = value;*
 - Compare chapter 2
- Complex data types are implemented in *classes* and have to be instantiated in *objects* via a *constructor*.
 - *ObjectType variableName = new ObjectType();*
 - Compare chapter 5
- Strings are a special case in Java, as they are implemented in the class *String* but are often used similar to primitive data types

Creating Strings

- Via constructor:
 - *String s = new String("Content");*
- Via short form:
 - *String s = "Content";*
- Via combining characters:
 - *char[] letters = {'C', 'o', 'n', 't', 'e', 'n', 't'};*
 - *String s = new String(letters);*
- Via combining Strings:
 - *String s = "Con" + "tent";*

Using methods

- While we work with primitive data types by using the given operators, complex data types contain their functionality in *methods*
- Methods are used by appending the method name to the variable name including the *parameters* needed for the method in brackets ... :
 - *variableName.methodName(parameters);*
- ... even if no parameters are needed at all:
 - *variableName.methodName();*

Methods of the String class

- *String s = "Further Content"*
 - Method *charAt()* returns the character at a given position:
 - *s.charAt(5)* returns 'e'
 - Method *length()* returns the length of the String:
 - *s.length()* returns 15
 - Method *substring()* returns a substring from a given index on ... :
 - *s.substring(8)* returns "Content"
 - ... or between two given indices:
 - *s.substring(5, 10)* returns "er Co"
 - Method *split()* returns a number of Strings resulting from splitting the original String at each position where a given String is found:
 - *s.split("e")* returns "Furth", "r Cont" and "nt"

Methods of the String class 2

- *String s = "Further Content"*
 - *equals()* returns true if the String equals another given String:
 - *s.equals("Further Content") returns true*
 - *startsWith()* returns true if the string starts with a given substring:
 - *s.startsWith("Fur") returns true*
 - *endsWith()* returns true if the string ends with a given substring:
 - *s.endsWith("tent") returns true*
 - *regionMatches()* returns true if the substring of a given String (specified by start index and length) is also a substring of the original String (starting from a specified index):
 - *s.regionMatches(9, "Montecarlo", 1, 4) returns true*

Methods of the String class 3

- *String s = "Further Content"*
 - *indexOf()* returns the position of the first occurrence of a given character or substring in the whole String ... :
 - *s.indexOf('t')* returns 3
 - *s.indexOf("Con")* returns 8
 - ... or from a given index on:
 - *s.indexOf('t', 5)* returns 11
 - *contains()* returns true if the String contains a given substring:
 - *s.contains("her")* returns true
 - *replace()* replaces every occurrence of a given substring with another given substring:
 - *s.replace("nt", "lol")* returns *"Further Cololelol"*