# JPA (The Java Persistence API)

* It is Java's standard API for object-relational mapping.
* **JPA is only a specification** - you need an implementation of it to be able to use it.
* Hibernate is one of the most well-known and most used implementations of JPA, but there are others, such as EclipseLink JPA.
* The API itself, defined in the javax.persistence package.

# Spring Data JPA

* It makes it easier to build Spring-powered applications that use data access technologies.
* Too much boilerplate code has to be written to execute simple queries as well as perform pagination, and auditing.
* Spring Data JPA aims to significantly improve the implementation of data access layers by reducing the effort to the amount that’s actually needed.
* As a developer you write your repository interfaces, including custom finder methods, and Spring will provide the implementation automatically.