## Difference between Arrays and 3 dots (Varargs) in java

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I cannot figure out that what are the differences between ... in java and arrays also array list, especially array list.

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Both we can use as unlimited but ... is rarely used.



Please help thanks in advance.



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java

edited Mar 25 '18 at 18:24



BalusC

**866k** 308 3203

3253

asked Jul 24 '12 at 22:58



user1550048

## 3 Answers

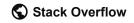


The three dots can only be used in a method argument, and are called 'varargs'. It means you can pass in an array of parameters without explicitly creating the array.



private void method(String[] args) {} is called like
method(new String[]{"first", "second"});

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answered Jul 24 '12 at 23:03



Jorn

**1.6k** 9 59 9

18 It's worth noting that the varargs are just sugar. The method actually takes an array, plain array. method(String... args) can be invoked as method("first", "second"), but it can just as well be invoked as method(new String[] {"first", "second"}). - yshavit Jul 25 '12 at 0:08

Also see this example on Documentation: <a href="mailto:stackoverflow.com/documentation/java/99/arrays/2981/...">stackoverflow.com/documentation/java/99/arrays/2981/...</a> – Jorn Jul 21 '16 at 12:07



 An <u>array</u> is a fixed length collection of objects. e.g. new int[5];

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• An <u>ArrayList</u> is a variable length collection of objects. e.g. new ArrayList<Integer>();



• The ... in <u>variadic functions</u> is a part of a method signature denoting an array of parameters. e.g. public void printLines(String... lines)

answered Jul 24 '12 at 23:01



tskuzzy

**29k** 12 57 125



In other words, method(String...) means passing a variable number of parameters to the method.

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answered Jan 27 at 19:47



Aliaksandr Dvoineu

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