Java 8 - Overview

JAVA 8 is a major feature release of JAVA programming language development. Its initial version was released on 18 March 2014. With the Java 8 release, Java provided supports for functional programming, new JavaScript engine, new APIs for date time manipulation, new streaming API, etc.

## **New Features**

* **Lambda expression** − Adds functional processing capability to Java.
* **Method references** − Referencing functions by their names instead of invoking them directly. Using functions as parameter.
* **Default method** − Interface to have default method implementation.
* **New tools** − New compiler tools and utilities are added like ‘jdeps’ to figure out dependencies.
* **Stream API** − New stream API to facilitate pipeline processing.
* **Date Time API** − Improved date time API.
* **Optional** − Emphasis on best practices to handle null values properly.
* **Nashorn, JavaScript Engine** − A Java-based engine to execute JavaScript code.

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