Difference between Comparable and Comparator

Comparable and Comparator both are interfaces and can be used to sort collection elements.

However, there are many differences between Comparable and Comparator interfaces that are given below.

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| **Comparable** | **Comparator** |
| 1) Comparable provides a **single sorting sequence**. In other words, we can sort the collection on the basis of a single element such as id, name, and price. | The Comparator provides **multiple sorting sequences**. In other words, we can sort the collection on the basis of multiple elements such as id, name, and price etc. |
| 2) Comparable **affects the original class**, i.e., the actual class is modified. | Comparator **doesn't affect the original class**, i.e., the actual class is not modified. |
| 3) Comparable provides **compareTo() method** to sort elements. | Comparator provides **compare() method** to sort elements. |
| 4) Comparable is present in **java.lang** package. | A Comparator is present in the **java.util** package. |
| 5) We can sort the list elements of Comparable type by **Collections.sort(List)** method. | We can sort the list elements of Comparator type by **Collections.sort(List, Comparator)** method. |