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Java enum Keyword

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Example

Create an `enum` with **constants** (unchangeable variables):

```
enum Level {
  LOW,
  MEDIUM,
  HIGH
}
```

You can access `enum` constants with the **dot** syntax:

```
Level myVar = Level.MEDIUM;
```

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Definition and Usage

The `enum` keyword declares an enumerated (unchangeable) type.

An enum is a special "class" that represents a group of constants (unchangeable variables, like final variables).

To create an enum, use the `enum` keyword (instead of class or interface), and separate the constants with a comma. Note that they should be in uppercase letters.

Difference between Enums and Classes

An `enum` can, just like a `class`, have attributes and methods. The only difference is that enum constants are `public`, `static` and `final` (unchangeable - cannot be overridden).

An `enum` cannot be used to create objects, and it can not extend other classes (but it can implement interfaces).

Use enums when you have values that you know aren't going to change, like month days, days, colors, deck of cards, etc.

Related Pages

Read more about enums in our Java Enum Tutorial.

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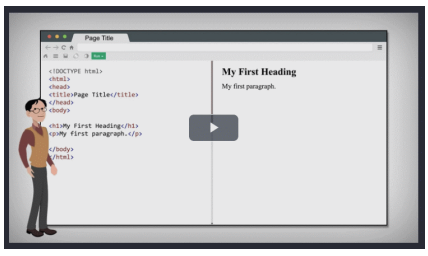

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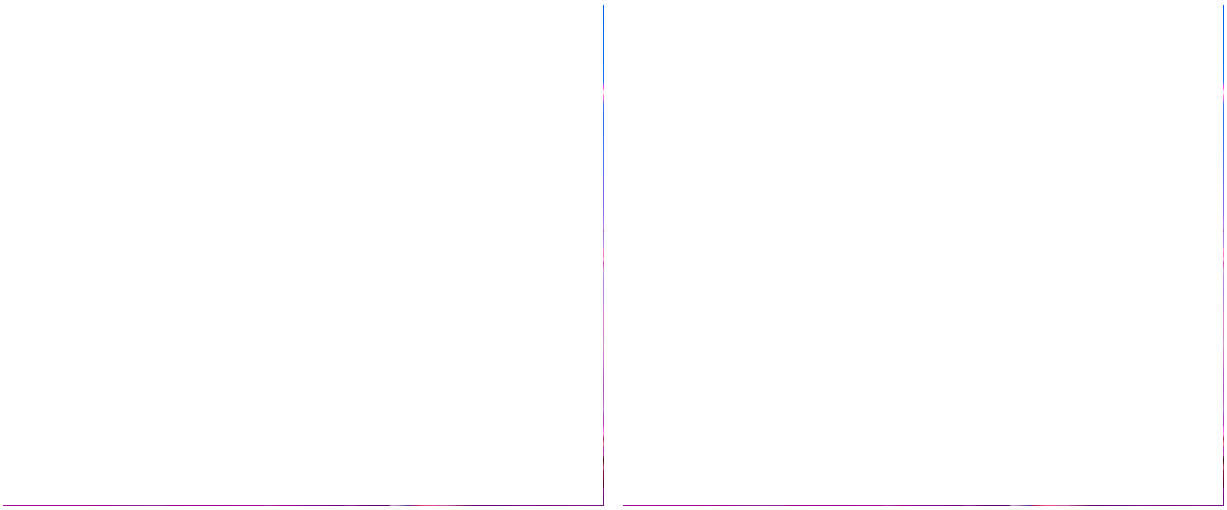

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