**Example: Bank Account Class**

class BankAccount {

private String accountHolderName;

private double balance;

// Static variable to keep track of the total number of bank accounts created

private static int totalAccounts = 0;

// Constructor

public BankAccount(String name, double initialBalance) {

this.accountHolderName = name;

this.balance = initialBalance;

totalAccounts++; // Increment the total accounts whenever a new account is created

}

// Static method to get the total number of accounts

public static int getTotalAccounts() {

return totalAccounts;

}

// Instance method to get account balance

public double getBalance() {

return balance;

}

// Instance method to deposit money

public void deposit(double amount) {

balance += amount;

}

// Instance method to withdraw money

public void withdraw(double amount) {

if (amount <= balance) {

balance -= amount;

} else {

System.out.println("Insufficient funds.");

}

}

}

public class Main {

public static void main(String[] args) {

BankAccount acc1 = new BankAccount("Alice", 1000.00);

BankAccount acc2 = new BankAccount("Bob", 1500.00);

System.out.println("Total bank accounts created: " + BankAccount.getTotalAccounts()); // Output: 2

acc1.deposit(500);

System.out.println("Alice's balance: " + acc1.getBalance()); // Output: 1500.0

System.out.println("Bob's balance: " + acc2.getBalance()); // Output: 1500.0

}

}

**Explanation**

1. **Static Variable**: The totalAccounts variable is declared as static. This means there is only one copy of this variable shared across all instances of the BankAccount class. Every time a new BankAccount object is created, the constructor increments this variable.
2. **Static Method**: The getTotalAccounts() method is static and can be called without creating an instance of BankAccount. It returns the total number of accounts created.
3. **Instance Variables**: Each BankAccount object has its own accountHolderName and balance, which are instance variables. Changes to these variables only affect the specific instance.

**Real-Life Analogy**

You can think of the totalAccounts static variable as a central counter in a bank. No matter how many branches (instances) the bank has, they all refer to the same central counter to know how many accounts exist in total. This is a practical use of static variables in programming to maintain shared data across multiple instances.