ArrayList clear method

In previous posts we saw ArrayList [Introduction](http://data-structure-learning.blogspot.com/2015/08/arraylist-class-introduction-and-how-it.html) and 3 different [constructors](http://data-structure-learning.blogspot.com/2015/08/arraylist-class-constructors.html) of ArrayList class. We also saw overloaded version of [add](http://data-structure-learning.blogspot.com/2015/09/arraylist-class-add-methods.html)() and addAll() method. In this post we will the clear() method.

clear() method is used to remove all the elements from the List. After the clear method is call the size of List is 0. Below is the code for clear() method written in ArrayList class.

**public** **void** clear() {

modCount++;

// clear to let GC do its work

**for** (**int** i = 0; i < size; i++)

elementData[i] = **null**;

size = 0;

}

The clear() method forces all the elements of List to null and sets size to 0.

Below example shows how to use clear() method.

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\* clear() method removes all the elements from List.

\* It does it by forcing all the elements to null and

\* setting size of List to 0.

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\* Output

\* ------

\* List:: [Robb, Sansa, John, Arya, Bran] Size of List is 5

\* After clear() call.

\* List:: [] Size of List is 0

\* \*/

**public** **static** **void** arrayListClearDemo() {

List<String> names = **new** ArrayList<String>();

names.add("Robb");

names.add("Sansa");

names.add("John");

names.add("Arya");

names.add("Bran");

System.***out***.println("List:: " + names + " Size of List is "+ names.size());

names.clear();

System.***out***.println("After clear() call.");

System.***out***.println("List:: " + names + " Size of List is "+ names.size());

}

Output

List:: [Robb, Sansa, John, Arya, Bran] Size of List is 5

After clear() call.

List:: [] Size of List is 0

That’s all on clear() method.