

Collection(I)

Inside this interface, the commonly used method required for all the collection classes is present

- a. `boolean add(Object o)` => Only one object
- b. `boolean addAll(Collection c)` => To add group of Object
- c. `boolean remove(Object o)` => to remove particular object
- d. `boolean removeAll(Collection c)` => to remove particular group of collection
- e. `void clear()` => to remove all the object
- f. `int size()` => to check the size of the array
- g. `boolean retainAll(Collection c)` => except this group of objects remaining all objects should be removed.
- h. `boolean contains(Object o)` => to check whether a particular object exists or not
- i. `boolean containsAll(Collection c)` => To check whether a particular Collection exists or not
- j. `boolean isEmpty()` => To check whether the Collection is empty or not
- k. `Object[] toArray()` => Convert the object into Array.
- l. `Iterator iterator()` => cursor need to iterate the collection object

Note :There is no concrete class which implements Collection interface directly.

Comparator vs Comparable Interface

Comparator

- 1. It is an interface present in `java.util` package
- 2. It contains 2 abstract method
 - `public abstract int compare(Object obj1, Object obj2)`
 - `public abstract boolean equals(Object o)`
- 3. `int compare(Object obj1, Object obj2)`
 - |=> return -ve iff obj1 has to come before obj2
 - |=> return +ve iff obj1 has to come after obj2
 - |=> return 0 both are equal
- 4. Whenever we are implementing an Comparator interface compulsorily we should give body for `compare()`.
- 5. Whereas for `equals()`, we get the body from Object class through inheritance.

eg:

```
class MyComparator implements Comparator{
    public int compare(Object obj1, Object obj2){
        ....
        ....
    }
}
```

Comparable(I)

=> It is a part of java.lang package

=> It contains only one method compareTo.

```
public int compareTo(Object o)
```

=> obj1.compareTo(obj2)

returns -ve iff obj1 has to come before obj2

returns +ve iff obj1 has to come after obj2

returns 0 if both are equal

eg#1.

```
System.out.println("A".compareTo("Z")); //A should come before Z so -ve
```

```
System.out.println("Z".compareTo("K")); //Z should come after K so +ve
```

```
System.out.println("A".compareTo("A")); //Both are equal zero
```

```
System.out.println("A".compareTo(null)); //NullPointerException
```

Comparable

=> compareTo()

It is meant for the default natural sorting order.

Comparator

=> compare()

It is meant for customized sorting order.

Scenario

When to go for Comparable and Comparator?

1st category

Predefined Comparable classes like String and Wrapper class

=> Default natural sorting order is already available

=> If not satisfied, then we need to go for Comparator

2nd Category

Predefined NonComparable classes like StringBuffer

=> Default natural sorting order not available so go for Comparator only ways

3rd Category

Our Own classes like Employee, Student, Customer

=> Person who is writing this classes are responsible for implementing comparable interface to promote Natural sorting order.

=> Person who is using this class, can define his own natural sorting order by implementing Comparator interface.

Comparable and Comparator

Comparable => Meant for default natural sorting order

Comparator => Meant for customized sorting order

Comparable => part of java.lang package

Comparator => part of java.util package

Comparable => only one method compareTo()

Comparator => 2 methods compare(), equals()

Comparable => It is implemented by Wrapper class and String class

Comparator => It is implemented by Collator and RuleBaseCollator(GUI based API)

