

**Module** [java.base](#)**Package** [java.util](#)

## Class **Optional**<T>

[java.lang.Object](#)  
[java.util.Optional](#)<T>**Type Parameters:**

T - the type of value

```
public final class Optional<T>
    extends Object
```

A container object which may or may not contain a non-null value. If a value is present, `isPresent()` returns true and `get()` returns the value.

Additional methods that depend on the presence or absence of a contained value are provided, such as `orElse()` (returns a default value if no value is present) and `ifPresent()` (performs an action if a value is present).

This is a [value-based](#) class; use of identity-sensitive operations (including reference equality (`==`), identity hash code, or synchronization) on instances of `Optional` may have unpredictable results and should be avoided.

**API Note:**

`Optional` is primarily intended for use as a method return type where there is a clear need to represent "no result," and where using `null` is likely to cause errors. A variable whose type is `Optional` should never itself be `null`; it should always point to an `Optional` instance.

**Since:**

1.8

### Method Summary

**All Methods**   **Static Methods**   **Instance Methods**   **Concrete Methods**

| Modifier and Type              | Method  | Description  |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| static <T> <b>Optional</b> <T> | <b>empty()</b>  | Returns an empty <code>Optional</code> instance.   |
| boolean                        | <b>equals</b> ( <code>Object</code> obj)                      | Indicates whether some other object is "equal to" this <code>Optional</code> .                     |
| <b>Optional</b> <T>            | <b>filter</b> ( <code>Predicate</code> <? super T> predicate) | If a value is present, and the value matches the given predicate, returns an <code>Optional</code> |

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
|  | <b>Optional</b> <? extends U>> mapper)  | mapping function to the value, otherwise returns an empty Optional.   |
| <b>T</b>   | <b>get()</b>  | If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise throws NoSuchElementException.  |
| <b>int</b>   | <b>hashCode()</b>   | Returns the hash code of the value, if present, otherwise 0 (zero) if no value is present.  |
| <b>void</b>  | <b>ifPresent</b> ( <b>Consumer</b> <? super T> action)                                    | If a value is present, performs the given action with the value, otherwise does nothing.  |
| <b>void</b>  | <b>ifPresentOrElse</b> ( <b>Consumer</b> <? super T> action, <b>Runnable</b> emptyAction) | If a value is present, performs the given action with the value, otherwise performs the given empty-based action.   |
| <b>boolean</b>   | <b>isPresent()</b>  | If a value is present, returns true, otherwise false.   |
| <b>&lt;U&gt; Optional&lt;U&gt;</b>                             | <b>map</b> ( <b>Function</b> <? super T,? extends U> mapper)                              | If a value is present, returns an Optional describing (as if by <b>ofNullable(T)</b> ) the result of applying the given mapping function to the value, otherwise returns an empty Optional. |
| <b>static &lt;T&gt; Optional&lt;T&gt; of</b> (T value)         |   | Returns an Optional describing the given non-null value.  |
| <b>static &lt;T&gt; Optional&lt;T&gt; ofNullable</b> (T value) |   | Returns an Optional describing the given value, if non-null, otherwise returns an empty Optional.   |
| <b>Optional&lt;T&gt;</b>                                       | <b>or</b> ( <b>Supplier</b> <? extends <b>Optional</b> <? extends T>> supplier)           | If a value is present, returns an Optional describing the value, otherwise returns an Optional produced by the supplying function.  |
| <b>T</b>   | <b>orElse</b> (T other)   | If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise returns other.  |
| <b>T</b>   | <b>orElseGet</b> ( <b>Supplier</b> <? extends T> supplier)                                | If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise returns the result produced by the supplying function.  |
| <b>&lt;X extends Throwable&gt; T</b>                           | <b>orElseThrow</b> ( <b>Supplier</b> <? extends X> exceptionSupplier)                     | If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise throws an exception produced by the exception supplying function.   |

of this Optional suitable for debugging.

## Methods inherited from class `java.lang.Object`

`clone`, `finalize`, `getClass`, `notify`, `notifyAll`, `wait`, `wait`, `wait`

## Method Detail

### **empty**

```
public static <T> Optional<T> empty()
```

Returns an empty `Optional` instance. No value is present for this `Optional`.

#### **API Note:**

Though it may be tempting to do so, avoid testing if an object is empty by comparing with `==` against instances returned by `Optional.empty()`. There is no guarantee that it is a singleton. Instead, use `isPresent()`.

#### **Type Parameters:**

T - The type of the non-existent value

#### **Returns:**

an empty `Optional`

### **of**

```
public static <T> Optional<T> of(T value)
```

Returns an `Optional` describing the given non-null value.

#### **Type Parameters:**

T - the type of the value

#### **Parameters:**

value - the value to describe, which must be non-null

#### **Returns:**

an `Optional` with the value present

#### **Throws:**

`NullPointerException` - if value is null

Returns an `Optional` describing the given value, if non-null, otherwise returns an empty `Optional`.

**Type Parameters:**

T - the type of the value

**Parameters:**

value - the possibly-null value to describe

**Returns:**

an `Optional` with a present value if the specified value is non-null, otherwise an empty `Optional`

**get**

```
public T get()
```

If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise throws `NoSuchElementException`.

**API Note:**

The methods `orElse` and `orElseGet` are generally preferable to this method, as they return a substitute value if the value is absent, instead of throwing an exception.

**Returns:**

the non-null value described by this `Optional`

**Throws:**

`NoSuchElementException` - if no value is present

**See Also:**

`isPresent()`

**isPresent**

```
public boolean isPresent()
```

If a value is present, returns true, otherwise false.

**Returns:**

true if a value is present, otherwise false

**ifPresent**

```
public void ifPresent(Consumer<? super T> action)
```

THROWS:

[NullPointerException](#) - if value is present and the given action is null

### ifPresentOrElse

```
public void ifPresentOrElse(Consumer<? super T> action,  
                           Runnable emptyAction)
```

If a value is present, performs the given action with the value, otherwise performs the given empty-based action.

#### Parameters:

action - the action to be performed, if a value is present

emptyAction - the empty-based action to be performed, if no value is present

#### Throws:

[NullPointerException](#) - if a value is present and the given action is null, or no value is present and the given empty-based action is null.

#### Since:

9

### filter

```
public Optional<T> filter(Predicate<? super T> predicate)
```

If a value is present, and the value matches the given predicate, returns an [Optional](#) describing the value, otherwise returns an empty [Optional](#).

#### Parameters:

predicate - the predicate to apply to a value, if present

#### Returns:

an [Optional](#) describing the value of this [Optional](#), if a value is present and the value matches the given predicate, otherwise an empty [Optional](#)

#### Throws:

[NullPointerException](#) - if the predicate is null

### map

```
public <U> Optional<U> map(Function<? super T,? extends U> mapper)
```

**API Note:**

This method supports post-processing on `Optional` values, without the need to explicitly check for a return status. For example, the following code traverses a stream of URIs, selects one that has not yet been processed, and creates a path from that URI, returning an `Optional<Path>`:

```
Optional<Path> p =
    uris.stream().filter(uri -> !isProcessedYet(uri))
        .findFirst()
        .map(Paths::get);
```

Here, `findFirst` returns an `Optional<URI>`, and then `map` returns an `Optional<Path>` for the desired URI if one exists.

**Type Parameters:**

U - The type of the value returned from the mapping function

**Parameters:**

mapper - the mapping function to apply to a value, if present

**Returns:**

an `Optional` describing the result of applying a mapping function to the value of this `Optional`, if a value is present, otherwise an empty `Optional`

**Throws:**

`NullPointerException` - if the mapping function is null

**flatMap**

```
public <U> Optional<U> flatMap(Function<? super T,? extends Optional<? extends U>> mapper)
```

If a value is present, returns the result of applying the given `Optional`-bearing mapping function to the value, otherwise returns an empty `Optional`.

This method is similar to `map(Function)`, but the mapping function is one whose result is already an `Optional`, and if invoked, `flatMap` does not wrap it within an additional `Optional`.

**Type Parameters:**

U - The type of value of the `Optional` returned by the mapping function

**Parameters:**

mapper - the mapping function to apply to a value, if present

**Returns:**

the result of applying an `Optional`-bearing mapping function to the value of this `Optional`, if a value is present, otherwise an empty `Optional`

**Throws:**

`NullPointerException` - if the mapping function is null or returns a null result

```
public Optional<T> or(Supplier<? extends Optional<? extends T>> supplier)
```

If a value is present, returns an `Optional` describing the value, otherwise returns an `Optional` produced by the supplying function.

**Parameters:**

`supplier` - the supplying function that produces an `Optional` to be returned

**Returns:**

returns an `Optional` describing the value of this `Optional`, if a value is present, otherwise an `Optional` produced by the supplying function.

**Throws:**

`NullPointerException` - if the supplying function is null or produces a null result

**Since:**

9

**stream**

```
public Stream<T> stream()
```

If a value is present, returns a sequential `Stream` containing only that value, otherwise returns an empty `Stream`.

**API Note:**

This method can be used to transform a `Stream` of optional elements to a `Stream` of present value elements:

```
Stream<Optional<T>> os = ..  
Stream<T> s = os.flatMap(Optional::stream)
```

**Returns:**

the optional value as a `Stream`

**Since:**

9

**orElse**

```
public T orElse(T other)
```

If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise returns `other`.

**orElseGet**

```
public T orElseGet(Supplier<? extends T> supplier)
```

If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise returns the result produced by the supplying function.

**Parameters:**

`supplier` - the supplying function that produces a value to be returned

**Returns:**

the value, if present, otherwise the result produced by the supplying function

**Throws:**

`NullPointerException` - if no value is present and the supplying function is null

**orElseThrow**

```
public <X extends Throwable> T orElseThrow(Supplier<? extends X> exceptionSupplier)  
    throws X extends Throwable
```

If a value is present, returns the value, otherwise throws an exception produced by the exception supplying function.

**API Note:**

A method reference to the exception constructor with an empty argument list can be used as the supplier. For example, `IllegalStateException::new`

**Type Parameters:**

`X` - Type of the exception to be thrown

**Parameters:**

`exceptionSupplier` - the supplying function that produces an exception to be thrown

**Returns:**

the value, if present

**Throws:**

`X` - if no value is present

`NullPointerException` - if no value is present and the exception supplying function is null

`X extends Throwable`



indicates whether some other object is "equal to" this Optional. The other object is considered equal if:

- it is also an `Optional` and;
- both instances have no value present or;
- the present values are "equal to" each other via `equals()`.

**Overrides:**

`equals` in class `Object`

**Parameters:**

obj - an object to be tested for equality

**Returns:**

true if the other object is "equal to" this object otherwise false

**See Also:**

`Object.hashCode()`, `HashMap`

**hashCode**

```
public int hashCode()
```

Returns the hash code of the value, if present, otherwise 0 (zero) if no value is present.

**Overrides:**

`hashCode` in class `Object`

**Returns:**

hash code value of the present value or 0 if no value is present

**See Also:**

`Object.equals(java.lang.Object)`, `System.identityHashCode(java.lang.Object)`

**toString**

```
public String toString()
```

Returns a non-empty string representation of this `Optional` suitable for debugging. The exact presentation format is unspecified and may vary between implementations and versions.

**Overrides:**

`toString` in class `Object`

**Implementation Requirements:**

If a value is present the result must include its string representation in the result. Empty and present `Optionals` must be unambiguously differentiable.

**Returns:**

[OVERVIEW](#) [MODULE](#) [PACKAGE](#) [CLASS](#) [USE](#) [TREE](#) [DEPRECATED](#) [INDEX](#) [HELP](#)

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