Abstract class in Java

A class which is declared with the abstract keyword is known as an abstract class in Java. It can have abstract and non-abstract methods (method with the body).

Before learning the Java abstract class, let's understand the abstraction in Java first.

Abstraction in Java

Abstraction is a process of hiding the implementation details and showing only functionality to the user.

Another way, it shows only essential things to the user and hides the internal details, for example, sending SMS where you type the text and send the message. You don't know the internal processing about the message delivery.

Abstraction lets you focus on what the object does instead of how it does it.

Ways to achieve Abstraction

There are two ways to achieve abstraction in java

1. Abstract class (0 to 100%)
2. Interface (100%)

Abstract class in Java

A class which is declared as abstract is known as an **abstract class**. It can have abstract and non-abstract methods. It needs to be extended and its method implemented. It cannot be instantiated.

Points to Remember

- An abstract class must be declared with an abstract keyword.
- It can have abstract and non-abstract methods.
- It cannot be instantiated.
- It can have constructors and static methods also.
- It can have final methods which will force the subclass not to change the body of the method.

Example of abstract class

```
abstract class A{}
```

Abstract Method in Java

A method which is declared as abstract and does not have implementation is known as an abstract method.

Example of abstract method

```
abstract void printStatus();//no method body and abstract
```

Example of Abstract class that has an abstract method

In this example, Bike is an abstract class that contains only one abstract method run. Its implementation is provided by the Honda class.

```
abstract class Bike{

  abstract void run();

}

class Honda4 extends Bike{

void run(){System.out.println("running safely");}

public static void main(String args[]){

 Bike obj = new Honda4();

 obj.run();

}

}
```

Test it Now

```
running safely
```

Understanding the real scenario of Abstract class

In this example, Shape is the abstract class, and its implementation is provided by the Rectangle and Circle classes.

Mostly, we don't know about the implementation class (which is hidden to the end user), and an object of the implementation class is provided by the **factory method**.

A **factory method** is a method that returns the instance of the class. We will learn about the factory method later.

In this example, if you create the instance of Rectangle class, draw() method of Rectangle class will be invoked.

File: TestAbstraction1.java

```
abstract class Shape{

abstract void draw();

}

//In real scenario, implementation is provided by others i.e. unknown by end user

class Rectangle extends Shape{

void draw(){System.out.println("drawing rectangle");}

}

class Circle1 extends Shape{

void draw(){System.out.println("drawing circle");}

}

//In real scenario, method is called by programmer or user

class TestAbstraction1{
```

```
public static void main(String args[]){

Shape s=new Circle1();//In a real scenario, object is provided through method, e.g., getShape() method

s.draw();

}

}
```

Test it Now

```
drawing circle
```

Another example of Abstract class in java

File: TestBank.java

```
abstract class Bank{
abstract int getRateOfInterest();
}
class SBI extends Bank{
int getRateOfInterest(){return 7;}
}
class PNB extends Bank{
int getRateOfInterest(){return 8;}
}

class TestBank{
public static void main(String args[]){
Bank b;
b=new SBI();
System.out.println("Rate of Interest is: "+b.getRateOfInterest()+" %");
b=new PNB();
System.out.println("Rate of Interest is: "+b.getRateOfInterest()+" %");
}}
```

Test it Now

```
Rate of Interest is: 7 %
Rate of Interest is: 8 %
```

Abstract class having constructor, data member and methods

An abstract class can have a data member, abstract method, method body (non-abstract method), constructor, and even main() method.

File: TestAbstraction2.java

```
//Example of an abstract class that has abstract and non-abstract methods
 abstract class Bike{
   Bike(){System.out.println("bike is created");}
   abstract void run();
   void changeGear(){System.out.println("gear changed");}
 }
//Creating a Child class which inherits Abstract class
 class Honda extends Bike{
 void run(){System.out.println("running safely..");}
 }
//Creating a Test class which calls abstract and non-abstract methods
 class TestAbstraction2{
 public static void main(String args[]){
  Bike obj = new Honda();
  obj.run();
  obj.changeGear();
 }
}
```

Test it Now

```
       bike is created
       running safely..
       gear changed
```

Rule: If there is an abstract method in a class, that class must be abstract.

```
class Bike12{
abstract void run();
}
```

Test it Now

```
compile time error
```

Rule: If you are extending an abstract class that has an abstract method, you must either provide the implementation of the method or make this class abstract.

Interface in Java

An **interface in java** is a blueprint of a class. It has static constants and abstract methods.

The interface in Java is *a mechanism to achieve abstraction*. There can be only abstract methods in the Java interface, not method body. It is used to achieve abstraction and multiple inheritance in Java.

In other words, you can say that interfaces can have abstract methods and variables. It cannot have a method body.

Java Interface also **represents the IS-A relationship**.

It cannot be instantiated just like the abstract class.

Since Java 8, we can have **default and static methods** in an interface.

Since Java 9, we can have **private methods** in an interface.

Why use Java interface?

There are mainly three reasons to use interface. They are given below.

- It is used to achieve abstraction.
- By interface, we can support the functionality of multiple inheritance.
- It can be used to achieve loose coupling.

How to declare an interface?

An interface is declared by using the interface keyword. It provides total abstraction; means all the methods in an interface are declared with the empty body, and all the fields are public, static and final by default. A class that implements an interface must implement all the methods declared in the interface.

Syntax:

```
interface <interface_name>{

    // declare constant fields
    // declare methods that abstract
    // by default.
}
```

Internal addition by the compiler

The Java compiler adds public and abstract keywords before the interface method. Moreover, it adds public, static and final keywords before data members.

In other words, Interface fields are public, static and final by default, and the methods are public and abstract.

The relationship between classes and interfaces

A class extends another class, an interface extends another interface, but a **class implements an interface**.

Java Interface Example

In this example, the Printable interface has only one method, and its implementation is provided in the A6 class.

```
interface printable{
void print();
}
class A6 implements printable{
public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}

public static void main(String args[]){
A6 obj = new A6();
obj.print();
 }
}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
Hello
```

Java Interface Example: Drawable

In this example, the Drawable interface has only one method. Its implementation is provided by Rectangle and Circle classes. In a real scenario, an interface is defined by someone else, but its implementation is provided by different implementation providers. Moreover, it is used by someone else. The implementation part is hidden by the user who uses the interface.

File: TestInterface1.java

```
//Interface declaration: by first user
interface Drawable{
void draw();
}
//Implementation: by second user
class Rectangle implements Drawable{
public void draw(){System.out.println("drawing rectangle");}
}
class Circle implements Drawable{
public void draw(){System.out.println("drawing circle");}
}
//Using interface: by third user
class TestInterface1{
public static void main(String args[]){
Drawable d=new Circle();//In real scenario, object is provided by method e.g. getDrawable()
d.draw();
}}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
drawing circle
```

Java Interface Example: Bank

Let's see another example of java interface which provides the implementation of Bank interface.

File: TestInterface2.java

```
interface Bank{

float rateOfInterest();

}

class SBI implements Bank{

public float rateOfInterest(){return 9.15f;}

}

class PNB implements Bank{

public float rateOfInterest(){return 9.7f;}

}

class TestInterface2{

public static void main(String[] args){

Bank b=new SBI();

System.out.println("ROI: "+b.rateOfInterest());

}}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
ROI: 9.15
```

Multiple inheritance in Java by interface

If a class implements multiple interfaces, or an interface extends multiple interfaces, it is known as multiple inheritance.

```
interface Printable{

void print();

}
```

```
interface Showable{

void show();

}

class A7 implements Printable,Showable{

public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}

public void show(){System.out.println("Welcome");}



public static void main(String args[]){

A7 obj = new A7();

obj.print();

obj.show();

 }

}
```

Test it Now

```
Output:Hello
       Welcome
```

Q) Multiple inheritance is not supported through class in java, but it is possible by an interface, why?

As we have explained in the inheritance chapter, multiple inheritance is not supported in the case of class because of ambiguity. However, it is supported in case of an interface because there is no ambiguity. It is because its implementation is provided by the implementation class. For example:

```
interface Printable{
void print();
}
interface Showable{
void print();
}

class TestInterface3 implements Printable, Showable{
public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}
public static void main(String args[]){
TestInterface3 obj = new TestInterface3();
obj.print();
 }
}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
Hello
```

As you can see in the above example, Printable and Showable interface have same methods but its implementation is provided by class TestTnterface1, so there is no ambiguity.

Interface inheritance

A class implements an interface, but one interface extends another interface.

```
interface Printable{

void print();
}

interface Showable extends Printable{

void show();

}

class TestInterface4 implements Showable{

public void print(){System.out.println("Hello");}

public void show(){System.out.println("Welcome");}



public static void main(String args[]){

TestInterface4 obj = new TestInterface4();

obj.print();

obj.show();

 }

}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
Hello
Welcome
```

Java 8 Default Method in Interface

Since Java 8, we can have method body in interface. But we need to make it default method. Let's see an example:

File: TestInterfaceDefault.java

```
interface Drawable{

void draw();

default void msg(){System.out.println("default method");}

}

class Rectangle implements Drawable{

public void draw(){System.out.println("drawing rectangle");}

}

class TestInterfaceDefault{

public static void main(String args[]){

Drawable d=new Rectangle();

d.draw();
d.msg();

}}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
drawing rectangle
default method
```

Java 8 Static Method in Interface

Since Java 8, we can have static method in interface. Let's see an example:

File: TestInterfaceStatic.java

```
interface Drawable{
void draw();
static int cube(int x){return x*x*x;}
}
class Rectangle implements Drawable{
public void draw(){System.out.println("drawing rectangle");}
}

class TestInterfaceStatic{
public static void main(String args[]){
Drawable d=new Rectangle();
d.draw();
System.out.println(Drawable.cube(3));
}}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
drawing rectangle
27
```

Difference between abstract class and interface

Abstract class and interface both are used to achieve abstraction where we can declare the abstract methods. Abstract class and interface both can't be instantiated.

But there are many differences between abstract class and interface that are given below.

Abstract class	Interface
1) Abstract class can **have abstract and non-abstract** methods.	Interface can have **only abstract** methods. Since Java 8, it can have **default and static methods** also.
2) Abstract class **doesn't support multiple inheritance**.	Interface **supports multiple inheritance**.
3) Abstract class **can have final, non-final, static and non-static variables**.	Interface has **only static and final variables**.
4) Abstract class **can provide the implementation of interface**.	Interface **can't provide the implementation of abstract class**.
5) The **abstract keyword** is used to declare abstract class.	The **interface keyword** is used to declare interface.
6) An **abstract class**can extend another Java class and implement multiple Java interfaces.	An **interface** can extend another Java interface only.
7) An **abstract class**can be extended using keyword "extends".	An **interface class**can be implemented using keyword "implements".
8) A Java**abstract class**can have class members like private, protected, etc.	Members of a Java interface are public by default.

9)**Example:**
public abstract class Shape{
public abstract void draw();
}
	Example:
	public interface Drawable{
	void draw();
	}

Simply, abstract class achieves partial abstraction (0 to 100%) whereas interface achieves fully abstraction (100%).

Example of abstract class and interface in Java

Let's see a simple example where we are using interface and abstract class both.

```
//Creating interface that has 4 methods
interface A{
void a();//bydefault, public and abstract
void b();
void c();
void d();
}

//Creating abstract class that provides the implementation of one method of A interface
abstract class B implements A{
public void c(){System.out.println("I am C");}
}

//Creating subclass of abstract class, now we need to provide the implementation of rest of the methods
class M extends B{
public void a(){System.out.println("I am a");}
public void b(){System.out.println("I am b");}
public void d(){System.out.println("I am d");}
}

//Creating a test class that calls the methods of A interface
class Test5{
public static void main(String args[]){
A a=new M();
a.a();
a.b();
a.c();
a.d();
}}
```

Test it Now

Output:

```
I am a
I am b
I am c
I am d
```

Java Package

A **java package** is a group of similar types of classes, interfaces and sub-packages.

Package in java can be categorized in two form, built-in package and user-defined package.

There are many built-in packages such as java, lang, awt, javax, swing, net, io, util, sql etc.

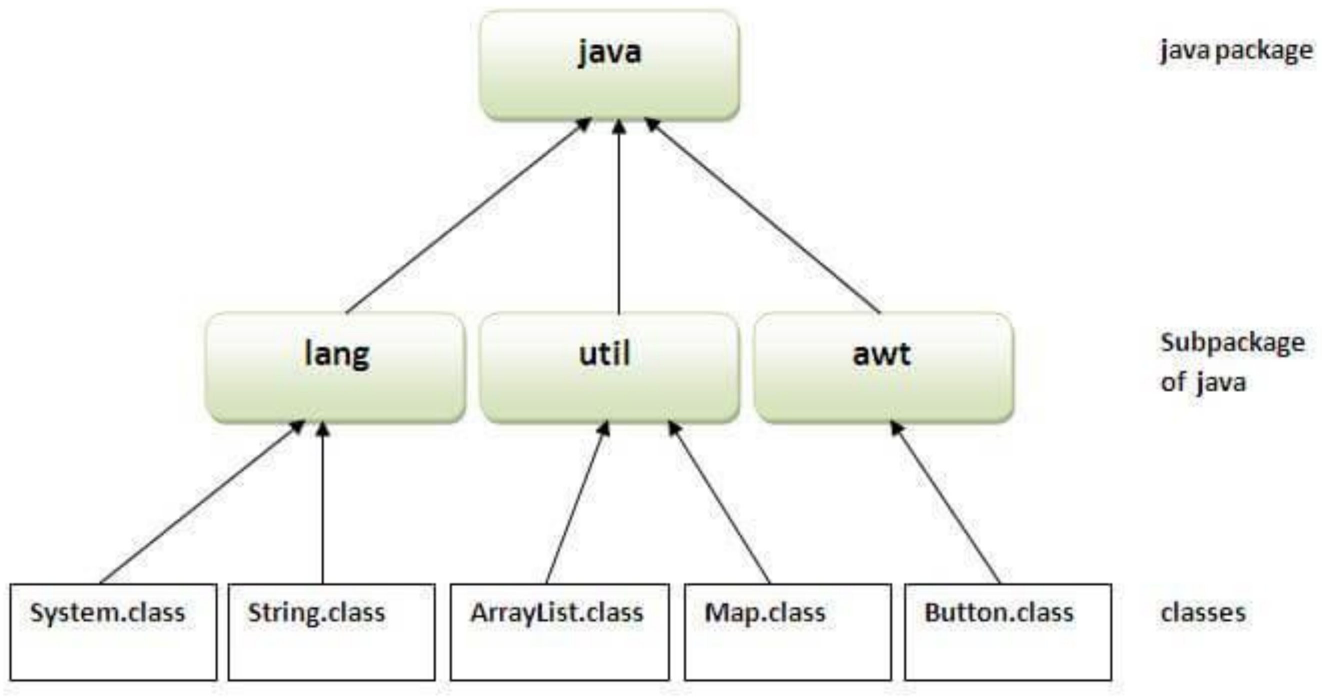
Here, we will have the detailed learning of creating and using user-defined packages.

Advantage of Java Package

1) Java package is used to categorize the classes and interfaces so that they can be easily maintained.

2) Java package provides access protection.

3) Java package removes naming collision.



Simple example of java package

The **package keyword** is used to create a package in java.

```
//save as Simple.java
package mypack;
public class Simple
{
public static void main(String args[])
{
    System.out.println("Welcome to package");
    }
  }
```

How to compile java package

If you are not using any IDE, you need to follow the **syntax** given below:

1. javac -d directory javafilename

For **example**

1. javac -d . Simple.java

The -d switch specifies the destination where to put the generated class file. You can use any directory name like /home (in case of Linux), d:/abc (in case of windows) etc. If you want to keep the package within the same directory, you can use . (dot).

How to run java package program

You need to use fully qualified name e.g. mypack.Simple etc to run the class.

To Compile: javac -d . Simple.java

To Run: java mypack.Simple

```
Output:Welcome to package
```

The -d is a switch that tells the compiler where to put the class file i.e. it represents destination.

The . represents the current folder.

How to access package from another package?

There are three ways to access the package from outside the package.

1. import package.*;
2. import package.classname;
3. fully qualified name.

1) Using packagename.*

If you use package.* then all the classes and interfaces of this package will be accessible but not subpackages.

The import keyword is used to make the classes and interface of another package accessible to the current package.

Example of package that import the packagename.*

```
//save by A.java
package pack;
public class A{
  public void msg(){System.out.println("Hello");}
}
//save by B.java
package mypack;
import pack.*;

class B{
  public static void main(String args[]){
   A obj = new A();
   obj.msg();
  }
}
```

```
Output:Hello
```

2) Using packagename.classname

If you import package.classname then only declared class of this package will be accessible.

Example of package by import package.classname

```
//save by A.java

package pack;
public class A{
  public void msg(){System.out.println("Hello");}
}
```

```
//save by B.java
package mypack;
import pack.A;

class B{
  public static void main(String args[]){
   A obj = new A();
   obj.msg();
  }
}
```

```
Output:Hello
```

3) Using fully qualified name

If you use fully qualified name then only declared class of this package will be accessible. Now there is no need to import. But you need to use fully qualified name every time when you are accessing the class or interface.

It is generally used when two packages have same class name e.g. java.util and java.sql packages contain Date class.

Example of package by import fully qualified name

```
//save by A.java
package pack;
public class A{
  public void msg(){System.out.println("Hello");}
}
```

```
//save by B.java
package mypack;
class B{
  public static void main(String args[]){
```

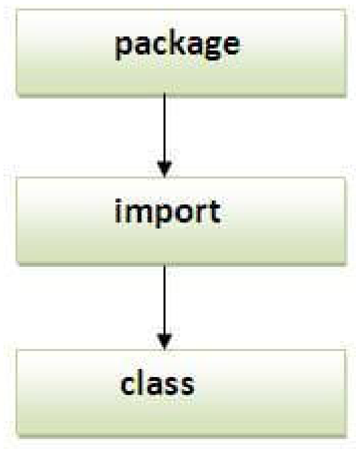
```
  pack.A obj = new pack.A();//using fully qualified name
  obj.msg();
 }
}
```

```
Output:Hello
```

Note: If you import a package, subpackages will not be imported.

If you import a package, all the classes and interface of that package will be imported excluding the classes and interfaces of the subpackages. Hence, you need to import the subpackage as well.

Note: Sequence of the program must be package then import then class.



Subpackage in java

Package inside the package is called the **subpackage**. It should be created **to categorize the package further**.

Let's take an example, Sun Microsystem has definded a package named java that contains many classes like System, String, Reader, Writer, Socket etc. These classes represent a particular group e.g. Reader and Writer classes are for Input/Output operation, Socket and ServerSocket classes are for networking etc and so on. So, Sun has subcategorized the java package into subpackages such as lang, net, io etc. and put the Input/Output related classes in io package, Server and ServerSocket classes in net packages and so on.

The standard of defining package is domain.company.package e.g. com.javatpoint.bean or org.sssit.dao.

Example of Subpackage

```
package com.javatpoint.core;
class Simple{
  public static void main(String args[]){
   System.out.println("Hello subpackage");
  }
}
```

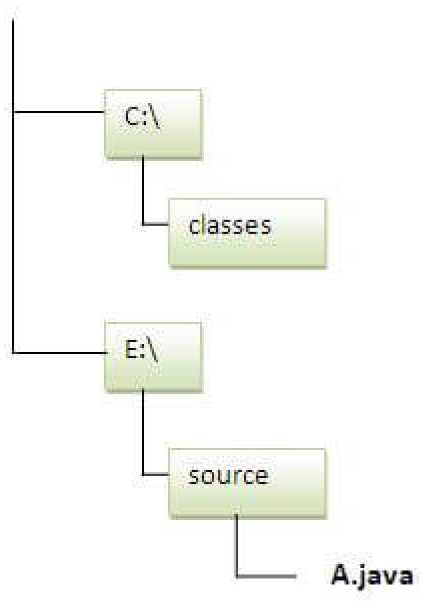
To Compile: javac -d . Simple.java

To Run: java com.javatpoint.core.Simple

```
Output:Hello subpackage
```

How to send the class file to another directory or drive?

There is a scenario, I want to put the class file of A.java source file in classes folder of c: drive. For example:



```
//save as Simple.java
package mypack;
public class Simple{
 public static void main(String args[]){
    System.out.println("Welcome to package");
   }
}
```

To Compile:

e:\sources> javac -d c:\classes Simple.java

To Run:

To run this program from e:\source directory, you need to set classpath of the directory where the class file resides.

```
e:\sources> set classpath=c:\classes;.;

e:\sources> java mypack.Simple
```

Another way to run this program by -classpath switch of java:

The -classpath switch can be used with javac and java tool.

To run this program from e:\source directory, you can use -classpath switch of java that tells where to look for class file. For example:

```
e:\sources> java -classpath c:\classes mypack.Simple
```

```
Output:Welcome to package
```

Rule: There can be only one public class in a java source file and it must be saved by the public class name.

```java
//save as C.java otherwise Compilte Time Error

class A{}
class B{}
public class C{}
```

How to put two public classes in a package?

If you want to put two public classes in a package, have two java source files containing one public class, but keep the package name same. Fo

```java
//save as A.java

package javatpoint;
public class A{}
```

```java
//save as B.java

package javatpoint;
public class B{}
```

Access Modifiers in java

There are two types of modifiers in java: **access modifiers** and **non-access modifiers**.
The access modifiers in java specifies accessibility(scope) of a data member, method, constructor or class.
There are 4 types of java access modifiers:

1. private
2. default
3. protected
4. public

1) private access modifier

The private access modifier is accessible only within class.

Simple example of private access modifier

In this example, we have created two classes A and Simple. A class contains private data member and private method. We are accessing these private members from outside the class, so there is compile time error.

```
class A
{
private int data=40;
private void msg(){System.out.println("Hello java");
}
}
public class Simple
{
public static void main(String args[])
{
A obj=new A();
System.out.println(obj.data);//Compile Time Error
obj.msg();//Compile Time Error
}
}
```

Role of Private Constructor

If you make any class constructor private, you cannot create the instance of that class from outside the class. For example:

```
class A
{
private A()
{}//private constructor
void msg(){System.out.println("Hello java");}
}
public class Simple{
 public static void main(String args[])
{
  A obj=new A();//Compile Time Error
 }
}
```

2) default access modifier

If you don't use any modifier, it is treated as **default** bydefault. The default modifier is accessible only within package.

Example of default access modifier

In this example, we have created two packages pack and mypack. We are accessing the A class from outside its package, sinc cannot be accessed from outside the package.

```
//save by A.java
package pack;
class A{
void msg(){System.out.println("Hello");}
}
//save by B.java
package mypack;
import pack.*;
class B{
public static void main(String args[]){
 A obj = new A();//Compile Time Error
 obj.msg();//Compile Time Error
 }
}
```

In the above example, the scope of class A and its method msg() is default so it cannot be accessed from outside the package.

3) protected access modifier

The **protected access modifier** is accessible within package and outside the package but through inheritance only.
The protected access modifier can be applied on the data member, method and constructor. It can't be applied on the class.

Example of protected access modifier

In this example, we have created the two packages pack and mypack. The A class of pack package is public, so can be accessed from outside the package. But msg method of this package is declared as protected, so it can be accessed from outside the class only through inheritance.

```
//save by A.java
package pack;
public class A
{
protected void msg(){System.out.println("Hello");
}
}
//save by B.java
package mypack;
import pack.*;

class B extends A
{
 public static void main(String args[])
{
B obj = new B();
 obj.msg();
}
}
```

```
Output:Hello
```

4) public access modifier

The **public access modifier** is accessible everywhere. It has the widest scope among all other modifiers.

Example of public access modifier

```
//save by A.java
package pack;
public class A
{
public void msg()
{System.out.println("Hello");}
}
//save by B.java
package mypack;
import pack.*;
class B
{
public static void main(String args[]){
A obj = new A();
 obj.msg();
}
}
```

```
Output:Hello
```

Understanding all java access modifiers

Let's understand the access modifiers by a simple table.

Access Modifier	within class	within package	outside package by subclass only
Private	Y	N	N
Default	Y	Y	N
Protected	Y	Y	Y
Public	Y	Y	Y

Java access modifiers with method overriding

If you are overriding any method, overridden method (i.e. declared in subclass) must not be more restrictive.

```
class A{
protected void msg(){System.out.println("Hello java");}
}

public class Simple extends A{
```

```
void msg(){System.out.println("Hello java");}//C.T.Error
 public static void main(String args[]){
   Simple obj=new Simple();
   obj.msg();
   }
}
```

The default modifier is more restrictive than protected. That is why there is compile time error

Garbage collector:

Java Garbage Collection

In java, garbage means unreferenced objects.

Garbage Collection is process of reclaiming the runtime unused memory automatically. In other words, it is a way to destroy the unused objects.

To do so, we were using free() function in C language and delete() in C++. But, in java it is performed automatically. So, java provides better memory management.

Advantage of Garbage Collection

- It makes java **memory efficient** because garbage collector removes the unreferenced objects from heap memory.
- It is **automatically done** by the garbage collector(a part of JVM) so we don't need to make extra efforts.

How can an object be unreferenced?

There are many ways:

- By nulling the reference
- By assigning a reference to another
- By anonymous object etc.

1) By nulling a reference:

```
Employee e=new Employee();
e=null;
```

2) By assigning a reference to another:

```java
Employee e1=new Employee();
Employee e2=new Employee();
e1=e2;//now the first object referred by e1 is available for garbage collection
```

3) By anonymous object:

```java
new Employee();
```

---

finalize() method

The finalize() method is invoked each time before the object is garbage collected. This method can be used to perform cleanup processing. This method is defined in Object class as:

```java
protected void finalize(){}
```

Note: The Garbage collector of JVM collects only those objects that are created by new keyword. So if you have created any object without new, you can use finalize method to perform cleanup processing (destroying remaining objects).

gc() method

The gc() method is used to invoke the garbage collector to perform cleanup processing. The gc() is found in System and Runtime classes.

```java
public static void gc(){}
```

Note: Garbage collection is performed by a daemon thread called Garbage Collector(GC). This thread calls the finalize() method before object is garbage collected.

Simple Example of garbage collection in java

```java
public class TestGarbage1{
 public void finalize(){System.out.println("object is garbage collected");}
 public static void main(String args[]){
  TestGarbage1 s1=new TestGarbage1();
  TestGarbage1 s2=new TestGarbage1();
  s1=null;
  s2=null;
  System.gc();
 }
}
```

Test it Now

```
       object is garbage collected
       object is garbage collected
```

Note: Neither finalization nor garbage collection is guaranteed.