



# Introduction to Java

# What will be covered

- First Program
- Setting the path
- Compilation and Execution
- Setting the classpath
- Difference between path and classpath



```
// Your First Program
```

```
class HelloWorld {  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        System.out.println("Hello, World!");  
    }  
}
```

- Comments can be written with // for single line or /\*.....\*/ for multiline
- If the class is declared as public, name of the source file should be HelloWorld.java compulsorily.
- Even the main method should belong to the class. No variable or method can be written outside the class as java is object oriented programming language.

- Every application in Java must contain the main method. The Java compiler starts executing the code from the main method. The signature of the main method in Java is: `public static void main(String [] args)`
- If main method is declared with some other name, program will get compiled but can not get executed.
- `args` is `String []` which is command line arguments.
- `System` is a class in java library.  
`out` is a static object of `PrintStream` class  
`println()` is a method in `PrintStream` class.
- Hello, World! is printed to standard output (your screen).



- The path is required to be set for using tools such as javac, java, etc.
- There are two ways to set the path in Java:  
Temporary  
Permanent
- **To set the temporary path** of JDK, you need to follow the following steps:
  - Open the command prompt
  - Copy the path of the JDK/bin directory
  - Write in command prompt:  
`set path=%path%;copied_path`
  - %path% helps in appending the path in the existing path variable and not overwriting.

- **For setting the permanent path of JDK, you need to follow these steps:**
  - Go to MyComputer properties -> advanced system settings -> environment variables
  - System environment variables are globally accessed by all users.  
User environment variables are specific only to the currently logged-in user.
  - Select path from either system or user environment variables and append it in the existing path. In windows 10 it allows to create new entry
  - If multiple versions of java are installed, entry of that JDK/bin should be at the beginning which needs to be currently used.



- Tools like javac and java are used for compilation and execution of java programs. These tools are available in the bin directory of installation folder
- Save source file with .java extension.
- Open the command prompt and move to the location where .java file is saved
- Use javac tool for compilation. If it does not display any error message that means compilation is successful.
- After successful compilation, use java tool for executing the application

```
E:\javaprogs>javac Hello.java
```

```
E:\javaprogs>java Hello  
Hello World
```



- CLASSPATH is an environment variable which is used by Application ClassLoader to locate and load the .class files. The CLASSPATH defines the path, to find third-party and user-defined classes that are not extensions or part of Java platform.
- Include all the directories which contain .class files and JAR files when setting the CLASSPATH.
- The CLASSPATH has a directory name or file name (in case of jar or zip) at the end.
- The default value of CLASSPATH is a dot (.). It means the only current directory searched. The default value of CLASSPATH overrides when you set the CLASSPATH variable.
- Classpath can even be set using temporary or permanent way like path setting.



- Temporary setting of the classpath
- Open the command prompt  
set CLASSPATH=%CLASSPATH%;D:\myclasses;
- %CLASSPATH% helps in appending in the classpath so that existing classpath will not be overwritten.
- Permanent setting of the classpath
- Go to MyComputer properties -> advanced system settings -> environment variables
- Select classpath from either system or user environment variables and append the required path in the existing classpath. In windows 10 it allows to create new entry

# Difference between path and classpath

Path	Classpath
<p>It is used by the operating system to find the executable files (.exe).</p> <p>You are required to include the directory which contains .exe files.</p> <p>PATH environment variable once set, cannot be overridden.</p>	<p>It is used by Application ClassLoader to locate the .class file.</p> <p>You are required to include all the directories which contain .class and JAR files.</p> <p>The CLASSPATH environment variable can be overridden by using the command line option -cp or -CLASSPATH to both javac and java command.</p>