

# Variables

## boolean Data Type

In Java, the `boolean` primitive data type is used to store a value, which can be either `true` or `false`.

```
boolean result = true;
boolean isMarried = false;
```

## Strings

A String in Java is a Object that holds multiple characters. It is not a primitive datatype.

A String can be created by placing characters between a pair of double quotes ( `"` ).

To compare Strings, the `equals()` method must be used instead of the primitive equality comparator `==`.

```
// Creating a String variable
String name = "Bob";

// The following will print "false"
// because strings are case-sensitive
System.out.println(name.equals("bob"));
```

## int Data Type

In Java, the `int` datatype is used to store integer values. This means that it can store all positive and negative whole numbers and zero.

```
int num1 = 10;    // positive value
int num2 = -5;    // negative value
int num3 = 0;     // zero value
int num4 = 12.5;  // not allowed
```

## char Data Type

In Java, `char` is used to store a single character. The character must be enclosed in single quotes.

```
char answer = 'y';
```

## Primitive Data Types

Java's most basic data types are known as *primitive data types* and are in the system by default.

The available types are as follows:

- `int`
- `char`
- `boolean`
- `byte`
- `long`
- `short`
- `double`
- `float`

`null` is another, but it can only ever store the value `null`.

```
int age = 28;

char grade = 'A';

boolean late = true;

byte b = 20;

long num1 = 1234567;

short no = 10;
```

```
float k = (float)12.5;
```

```
double pi = 3.14;
```

## Static Typing

In Java, the type of a variable is checked at compile time. This is known as *static typing*. It has the advantage of catching the errors at compile time rather than at execution time.

Variables must be declared with the appropriate data type or the program will not compile.

```
int i = 10;           // type is int
char ch = 'a';       // type is char

j = 20;              // won't compile, no
                     // type is given
char name = "LiL";   // won't compile,
                     // wrong data type
```

## final Keyword

The value of a variable cannot be changed if the variable was declared using the **final** keyword. Note that the variable must be given a value when it is declared as **final**. **final** variables cannot be changed; any attempts at doing so will result in an error message.

```
// Value cannot be changed:
final double PI = 3.14;
```

## double Data Type

The **double** primitive type is used to hold decimal values.

```
double PI = 3.14;
double price = 5.75;
```

## Math Operations

Basic math operations can be applied to **int**, **double** and **float** data types:

- + addition
- - subtraction
- \* multiplication
- / division
- % modulo (yields the remainder)

These operations are not supported for other data types.

```
int a = 20;
int b = 10;

int result;

result = a + b;  // 30

result = a - b;  // 10

result = a * b;  // 200

result = a / b;  // 2

result = a % b;  // 0
```

## Comparison Operators

Comparison operators can be used to compare two values:

- `>` greater than
- `<` less than
- `>=` greater than or equal to
- `<=` less than or equal to
- `==` equal to
- `!=` not equal to

They are supported for primitive data types and the result of a comparison is a boolean value `true` or `false`.

```
int a = 5;  
int b = 3;
```

```
boolean result = a > b;  
// result now holds the boolean value  
true
```

## Compound Assignment Operators

Compound assignment operators can be used to change and reassign the value of a variable using one line of code. Compound assignment operators include `+=`, `-=`, `*=`, `/=`, and `%=`.

```
int number = 5;
```

```
number += 3; // Value is now 8  
number -= 4; // Value is now 4  
number *= 6; // Value is now 24  
number /= 2; // Value is now 12  
number %= 7; // Value is now 5
```

## Increment and Decrement Operators

The increment operator, (`++`), can increase the value of a number-based variable by `1` while the decrement operator, (`--`), can decrease the value of a variable by `1`.

```
int numApples = 5;  
numApples++; // Value is now 6
```

```
int numOranges = 5;  
numOranges--; // Value is now 4
```

## Order of Operations

The order in which an expression with multiple operators is evaluated is determined by the order of operations: parentheses → multiplication → division → modulo → addition → subtraction.