

Multithreading in Java

Multithreading is a Java feature that allows concurrent execution of two or more parts of a program for maximum utilization of CPU. Each part of such program is called a thread. So, threads are light-weight processes within a process.

Threads can be created by using two mechanisms:

- 1. Extending the Thread class
- 2. Implementing the Runnable Interface

Thread creation by extending the Thread class

We create a class that extends the java.lang.Thread class. This class overrides the run() method available in the Thread class. A thread begins its life inside run() method. We create an object of our new class and call start() method to start the execution of a thread. Start() invokes the run() method on the Thread object.

```
// Java code for thread creation by extending
// the Thread class
class MultithreadingDemo extends Thread {
        public void run()
                try {
                        // Displaying the thread that is running
                        System.out.println(
                                 "Thread " + Thread.currentThread().getId()
                                + " is running");
                }
                catch (Exception e) {
                        // Throwing an exception
                        System.out.println("Exception is caught");
                }
        }
}
// Main Class
public class Multithread {
        public static void main(String[] args)
                int n = 8; // Number of threads
                for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
                        MultithreadingDemo object
                                 = new MultithreadingDemo();
                        object.start();
```



```
}
}
```

Thread creation by implementing the Runnable Interface

We create a new class which implements java.lang.Runnable interface and override run() method. Then we instantiate a Thread object and call start() method on this object.

```
// Java code for thread creation by implementing
// the Runnable Interface
class MultithreadingDemo implements Runnable {
        public void run()
        {
                try {
                        // Displaying the thread that is running
                        System.out.println(
                                 "Thread " + Thread.currentThread().getId()
                                + " is running");
                }
                catch (Exception e) {
                        // Throwing an exception
                        System.out.println("Exception is caught");
                }
        }
}
// Main Class
class Multithread {
        public static void main(String[] args)
        {
                int n = 8; // Number of threads
                for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
                        Thread object
                                 = new Thread(new MultithreadingDemo());
                        object.start();
                }
        }
}
```

Thread Class vs Runnable Interface

1. If we extend the Thread class, our class cannot extend any other class because Java doesn't support multiple inheritance. But, if we



- implement the Runnable interface, our class can still extend other base classes.
- 2. We can achieve basic functionality of a thread by extending Thread class because it provides some inbuilt methods like yield(), interrupt() etc. that are not available in Runnable interface.
- 3. Using runnable will give you an object that can be shared amongst multiple threads.

Types Of Threads In Java

1) User Thread:

User threads are threads which are created by the application or user. They are high priority threads. JVM (Java Virtual Machine) will not exit until all user threads finish their execution. JVM wait for these threads to finish their task. These threads are foreground threads.

2) Daemon Thread:

Daemon threads are threads which are mostly created by the JVM. These threads always run in background. These threads are used to perform some background tasks like garbage collection and house-keeping tasks. These threads are less priority threads. JVM will not wait for these threads to finish their execution. JVM will exit as soon as all user threads finish their execution. JVM doesn't wait for daemon threads to finish their task.