# Outline Covering Java SE 9

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LOLH

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# 1 Java SE 9 Introduction

# 2 Classes

The class is the logical construct upon which the Java language is built because it defines the shape and nature of an object, and therefore forms the basis for object-oriented programming in Java.

### 2.1 Class Fundamentals

A class defines a new data type. Once defined, this new type can be used to create objects of that type. A class is therefore a *template* for an object, and an *object* is an *instance* of a class. *Object* and *instance* are often used interchangeably.

### 2.1.1 General Form of a Class

When you define a class, you declare its exact form and nature. You do this by specifying the data that it contains and the code that operates on that data. A class is declared by use of the class keyword.

```
class classname {
  type instance-variable1;
  type instance-variable2;
  ...
  type instance-variableN;

  type method-name1 (parameter-list {
    body of method
  }

  type method-name2 (parameter-list {
    body of method
  }
  ...
  type method-nameN (parameter-list {
    body of method
  }
}
```

GeneralForm 2.1: Class Declaration — General Form

The data, or variables, defined within a class are called *instance variables*. The code is contained within *methods*. Collectively, the methods and variables defined within a class are called *members* of the class. In most cases, the instance variables are acted upon and accessed by the methods defined for that class. As a general rule, it is the methods that determine how a class' data can be used.

Each instance of the class (that is, each object of the class) contains its own copy of the instance variables. The data for one object is separate and unique from the data for another. Changes to the instance variables of one object have no effect on the instance variables of another.

Java classes do not need to have a 'main()' method; you only need to specify one if that class is the starting point for the program.

In general, you use the *dot operator* to access both the instance variables and the methods within an object. Although commonly referred to as the dot *operator*, the formal specification for Java categorizes the . as a *separator*.

# 2.2 Declaring Objects

Because a class creates a new data type, you can use this type to declare objects of that type. Obtaining objects of a class is a two-step process.

- 1. Declare a variable of the class type; this variable does not define an object. Instead, it is simply a variable that can *refer* to an object.
- 2. Acquire an actual, physical copy of the object and assign it to the variable; you can do this using the new operator. The new operator dynamically allocates (at run time) memory for an object, and returns a reference to to. This reference is (essentially) the address in memory of the object allocated by new. This reference is then stored in the variable. In Java, all class objects must be dynamically allocated.

# Example Declaration, Allocation, and Assignment

```
Box mybox; // 1. declare a variable
mybox = new Box(); // 2. allocate a Box object
```

These two declarations can be combined into a single declaration, and usually are:

```
Box mybox = new Box();
```

The mybox variable simply holds the memory address of the actual Box object. The class name followed by parenthese specifies the *constructor* for the class.

### 2.3 Methods

### General Form of a Method Declaration

```
type name (parameter-list) {
  body of method
}
```

GeneralForm 2.2: Method Declaration — General Form

type specifies the type of data returned by the method. This can be any valid type, including class types that you create. If the method does not return a value, its return type must be void.

name is the name of the method. This can be any legal identifier.

parameter-list is a sequence of type and identifier pairs separated by commas. Parameters are essentially variables that receive the value of the arguments passed to the method when it is called. If the method has no parameters, then the parameter list will be empty.

Methods that have a return type other than **void** return a value to the calling routine using a return statement:

```
return value
```

where *value* is the value returned.

### 2.4 Constructors

Java allows objects to initialize themselves when they are created. This automatic initialization is performed through the use of a constructor.

A constructor initializes an object immediately upon creation. It has the same name as the class in which it resides and is syntactically similar to a method. Once defined, the constructor is automatically called when the object is created, before the new operator completes. Constructors have no return type. It is the constructor's job to initialize the internal state of an object so that the code creating an instance will have fully initialized, usable object immediately.

# 2.5 The this Keyword

Sometimes a method will need to refer to the object that invoked it. To allow this, Java defines the this keyword. this can be used inside any method to refer to the *current* object. That is, this is always a reference to the object on which the method was invoked. You can use this anywhere a reference to an object of the current class' type is permitted.

### 2.5.1 Instance Variable Hiding

It is illegal to declare two local variables with the same name inside the same or enclosing scope. However, you can have local variables, including formal parameters to methods, which overlap with the names of the class' instance variables. For these cases, the local variables *hide* the instance variables of the same name.

Because this lets you refer directly to the object, you can use it to resolve any namespace collisions that might occur between instance variables and local variables. So, this.width = width is an example of a local variable (width) hiding an instance variable (also width), with this allowing an assignment between them.

### 2.6 A Stack Class

To see a practical application of object-oriented programming, here is one of the archetypal examples of encapsulation: the stack. A stack stores data using first-in, last-out ordering. That is, a stack is like a stack of plates on a table — the first plate put down on the table is the last plate to be used. Stacks are controlled through two operations traditionally called push and pop. To put an item on top of the stack, you will use push. To take an item off the stack, you will use pop. It is easy to encapsulate the entire stack mechanism.

Here is a class called Stack that implements a stack for up to ten integers, plus test class called TestStack:

# Stack.java

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

The called chunk < TestStack Main Method> is first defined at "Stack TestStack Subsection", page 8.

### 2.6.1 Stack Instance Variables

```
<Stack Instance Variables> =
  int[] stck = new int[10];
  int tos;
```

This chunk is called by {Stack.java}; see its first definition at "A Stack Class", page 6.

#### 2.6.2 Stack Constructor Subsection

```
<Stack Constructor> \( \) // initialize top-of-stack tos
    Stack() {
      tos = -1;
    }
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk name
{Stack.java}

See "A Stack Class", page 6.

StackImproved.java}

See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.
```

### 2.6.3 Stack Instance Methods Subsection

```
<Stack Instance Methods> ≡

<Stack Push>

<Stack Pop>
```

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

```
Chunk nameFirst definition point{Stack.java}See "A Stack Class", page 6.{StackImproved.java}See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk nameFirst definition point<Stack Pop>See "Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection", page 8.<Stack Push>See "Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection", page 8.
```

### 2.6.3.1 Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection

```
<Stack Push> =
   // Push an item onto the stack
   void push(int item) {
    if (tos == 9)
       System.out.println("Stack is full.");
    else
       stck[++tos] = item;
}
```

This chunk is called by *Stack Instance Methods*; see its first definition at "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

```
<Stack Pop> =
   // Pop an item from the stack
   int pop() {
     if (tos < 0) {
        System.out.println("Stack underflow.");
        return 0;
     } else
        return stck[tos--];
     }
}</pre>
```

This chunk is called by *Stack Instance Methods*; see its first definition at "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

### 2.6.4 Stack TestStack Subsection

```
<TestStack Main Method> \( \)
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Stack mystack1 = new Stack();
        Stack mystack2 = new Stack();

        // push some numbers onto the stack
        for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)
            mystack1.push(i);
        for (int i = 10; i < 20; i++)
            mystack2.push(i);

        // pop those numbers off the stack
        System.out.println("Stack in mystack1:");
        for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++)</pre>
```

```
System.out.println(mystack1.pop());
System.out.println("Stack in mystack2:");
for (int i + 0; i < 10; i++)
    System.out.println(mystack2.pop());
}</pre>
```

This chunk is called by {TestStack.java}; see its first definition at "A Stack Class", page 7.

# 3 Methods and Classes

This chapter examines several topics relating to methods and classes, including

- overloading
- parameter passing
- recursion
- access control
- keywords static and final
- String class
- Arrays
- nested and inner classes
- command-line arguments and varargs

# 3.1 Overloading Methods

It is possible to define two or more methods within the same class that share the same name as long as their parameter declarations are different. When this is the case, the methods are said to be *overloaded*, and the process is referred to as *method overloading*. Method overloading is one of the ways that Java supports polymorphism.

When an overloaded method is invoked, Java uses the type and number of arguments as its guid to determine which version of the overloaded method to actually call. Thus, overloaded methods must differ in the type or number of their parameters. While overloaded methods may have different return types, their eturn type alone is inusfficient to distinguish two versions of a method. When Java encounters a call to an overloaded method, it simply executes the version of the method whose parameters match the arguments used in the call.

The match between arguments and parameters need not always be exact. In some cases, Java's automatic type conversions can play a role in overload resolution. For example, if there is a method with one double parameter, and that method is invoked with a single int argument, then, when no exact match is found, Java will automatically convert the integer into a double, and this conversion will be used to resolve the call. Java will employ automatic type conversion only if no exact match is found.

Method overloading supports polymorphism because it is one way that Java implements the one interface, multiple methods paradigm. That is, Java does not need to rename each similar method just because it has a slightly different parameter requirements. The value of overloading is that it allows related methods to be accessed by use of a common name, representing the general action that is being performed, and leaves to the compiler the choice of the right specific version for a particular circumstance. The programmer need only remember the general operation being performed. Through the application of polymorphism, several names have been reduced to one. Overloading can help manage greater complexity.

# 3.1.1 Overloading Constructors

You can also overload constructor methods.

# 3.2 Objects as Parameters

It is both correct and common to pass objects to methods as well as primitive types. One of the most common uses of object parameters involves constructors. Frequently you will want to construct a new object so that it is initially the same as some existing object. To do this, you must define a constructor that takes an object of its class as a parameter. Providing many forms of constructors is usually required to allow objects to be constructed in a convenient and efficient manner.

# 3.3 Argument Passing

In general, there are two ways that a computer language can pass an argument to a sub-routine:

- 1. call-by-value
- 2. call-by-reference

Java uses call-by-value to pass all arguments, although the precise effect differs between whether a primitive type or a reference type is passed.

When you pass a primitive type to a method, it is passed by value. Thus, a copy of the argument is made, and what occurs to the parameter that receives the argument has no effect outside the method.

When you pass an object to a method, the situation changes; objects are passed by what is effectively call-by-reference. When you pass a variable of a class type, you pass a reference to the method and the parameter receiving it will refer to the same object. This effectively means that objects act as if they are passed to methods by use of call-by-reference. Changes to the object inside the method do affect the object used as an argument. However, when an object reference is passed to a method, the reference itself is passed by use of call-by-value; therefore, that reference will continue to refer to the object, even though the object itself may be modified.

# 3.4 Returning Objects

A method can return any type of data, including class types that you create.

Since all objects are dynamically allocated using new, you don't need to worry about an object going out-of-scope because the method in which it was created terminates. The object will continue to exist as long as there is a reference to it somewhere in your program. When there are no references to it, the object will be reclaimed the next time garbage collection takes place.

### 3.5 Recursion

Recursion is the process of defining something in terms of itself. In programming, it is also what allows a method to call itself. A method that calls itself is said to be recursive.

When a method calls itself, new local variables and parameters are allocated storage on the stack, and the method code is executed with these new variables from the start. As each recursive call returns, the old local variables and parameters are removed from the stack, and execution resumes at the point of the call inside the method. Recursive versions of many routines may execute a bit slower than the iterative equivalent because of the added overhead of the additional method calls. A large number of recursive calls to a method could cause a stack overrun. Because storage for parameters and local varibles is on the stack and each new call creates a new copy of these variables, it is possible that the stack could be exhausted. If this occurs, the Java run-time system will cause an exception.

The main advantage to recursive methods is that they can be used to create clearer and simpler versions of several algorithms than can their iterative relatives. For example, the QuickSort sorting algorithm is quite difficult to implement in an iterative way. Also, some types of AI-related algorithms are most easily implemented using recursive solutions.

### 3.6 Access Control

Encapsulation provides another important attribute besides linking data with code: access control. Through encapsulation, you can control what parts of a program can access the members of a class. By controlling access, you can prevent misuse. Thus, when correctly implemented, a class creates a black box which may be used, but the inner workings of which are not open to tampering. The classes introduced earlier do not completely meet this goal. For example, the Stack class provides the methods push() and pop() as a controlled interface to the stack, this interface is not enforced — it is possible for another part of the program to bypass these methods and access the stack directly. This could lead to trouble.

How a member can be accessed is determined by the access modifier attached to its declaration. Java supplies a rich set of access modifiers. Some aspects of access control are related mostly to inheritance or packages (and now modules). Those ideas will be discussed later. Here, let's examine access control as it relates to a single class.

### Access Modifiers

Java's access modifiers are:

- public
- private
- protected (applies only to inheritance)
- default access level

### public vs private Access

When a member of a class is modified by public, then that member can be accessed by any other code. When a member of a class is specified as private, then that member can only be accessed by other members of its class. Thus, the method main() is always preceded by the public modifier. It must be called by code that is outside the program — the Java run-time system.

### Default Access — No Access Modifier

When no access modifier is used, then by default the member of a class is public within its own package, but cannot be accessed outside of its package. In the classes developed so far, all members of a class have used the default access mode. However, this is typically

not what you will want to be the case. Usually, you will want to restrict access to the data members of a class — allowing access only through methods. There will also be times when you will want to define methods that are private to a class.

### Access Modifier Syntax

An access modifier precedes the rest of a member's type specification. That is, it must begin a member's declaration statement. As an example:

```
public int i;
private double j;

private int myMethod(int a, char b) {
    ...
}
```

### **Access Control and Inheritance**

Consult the chapter on Chapter 4 "Inheritance", page 18, for more on the topic of access control in relation to inheritance.

### 3.6.1 An Improved Stack Class

### StackImproved.java

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<Stack Constructor>

<Stack Instance Methods>

<Stack Private Instance Variables>

First definition point

See "Stack Constructor Subsection", page 7.

See "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.
```

### Stack Private Instance Variables

```
<Stack Private Instance Variables> =
  /* Now, both stck and tos are private. This means
      that they cannot be accidentally or maliciously
      altered in a way that would be harmful to the stack.
      */
      private int[] stck = new int[10];
```

 $<sup>^{1}\,</sup>$  Notice how all of the prior code except what is changed can easily be reused using TexiWebJr's modular system.

```
private int tos;
```

This chunk is called by {StackImproved.java}; see its first definition at "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

Now both stck, which holds the stack, and tos, which is the index of the top of the stack, are specified as private. This means that they cannot be accessed or altered except through push() and pop(). Making tos private, for example, prevents other parts of your program from inadvertently setting it to a value that is beyond the end of the stck array. In other words, the following code, added to the end of the TestStack.java program (see "Stack TestStack Subsection", page 8), would be illegal and the program would not compile:

```
mystack1.tos = -2;
mystack2.stck[3] = 100;
```

# 3.7 static Keyword

There will be times when you want to define a class member that will be used independently of any object of that class. Normally, a class member must be accessed in conjunction with an object of its class. However, it is possible to create a member that can be used by itself without reference to a specific instance. To create such a member, precede its declaration with the keyword static. When a member is declared static, it can be accessed before any objects of its class are created, and without reference to any object.

You can declare both methods and variables to be static. Instance variables declared as static are essentially global variables. When objects of its class are declared, no copy of a static variable is made. Instead, all instances of the class share the same static variable.

#### Restrictions on static Methods

Methods declared as static have several restrictions:

- they can only directly call other static methods of their class;
- they can only directly access static variables of their class;
- they cannot refer to this or super in any way;

#### static Block

If you need to do computation in order to initialize your static variables, you can declare a static block that gets executed exactly once, when the class is first loaded (static initialization block).

```
class UseStatic {
  static int a = 3;
  static int b;

static {
   b = a * 4;
  }
}
```

As soon as the UseStatic class is loaded, all of the static statements are run. First, a is set to '3', then the static block executes and initializes b to 'a \* 4' or '12'. Then main() is called (not shown).

#### Use of static Members Outside Their Class

Outside of the class in which they are defined, static methods and variables can be used independently of any object. To do so, you need only specify the name of their class followed by the dot operator: classname.method(). classname is the name of the class in which the static method is declared. A static variable can be accessed in the same way. This is how Java implements a controlled version of global methods and global variables.

# 3.8 final Keyword

A field can be declared as final. Doing so prevents its contents from being modified, making it, esentially, a constant. This means that you must initialize a final field when it is declared. You can do this in one of two ways: when it is declared, or within a constructor.

In addition to fields, both method parameters and local variables can be declared as final. Declaring a parameter as final prevents it from being changed within the method. Declaring a local variable final prevents it from being assigned a value more than once.

The keyword final can also be applied to methods, but its meaning is different than when applied to variables. This usage of final is described in the next chapter (see Chapter 4 "Inheritance", page 18).

# 3.9 Arrays Revisited

Arrays are implemented as objects. Because of this, there is a special array attribute that you will want to take advantage of. Specifically, the size of an array—that is, the number of elements that an array can hold—is found in its length instance variable. All arrays have this variable, and it will always hold the size of the array. Keep in mind that the value of length has nothing to do with the number of elements that are actually in use. It only reflects the number of elements taht the array is designed to hold.

### 3.10 Nested and Inner Classes

It is possible to define a class within another class; such classes are known as nested classes. The scope of a nested class is bounded by the scope of its enclosing class. A nested class does not exist independently of its enclosing class. A nested class has access to the members, including private members, of the enclosing class. However, the enclosing class does not have access to the members of the nested class. A nested class that is declared directly within its enclosing class scope is a member of its enclosing class. It is also possible to declare a nested class that is local to a block.

### Static Nested Class

There are two types of nested class: *static* and *inner*. A static nested class is one that has the **static** modifer applied. Because it is static, it must access the non-static members of its enclosing class through an object. That is, it cannot refer to non-static members of its enclosing class directly. Static nested classes are seldom used.

### Inner Class

The most important type of nested class is the *inner* class. An inner class is a non-static nested class. It has access to all of the variables and methods of its outer class and may refer to them directly in the same way that other non-static members of the outer class do.

An instance of an inner class can be created only in the context of its enclosing class. The Java compiler will report an error otherwise. In general, an inner class instance is often created by code within its enclosing scope.

It is possible to define inner classes within any block scope, including within the block defined by a method or even within the body of a for loop.

# Handling Events

While nested classes are not applicable to all situations, they are particularly helpful when handling events. See Chapter 16 "Event Handling", page 56. There are also anonymous inner classes, inner classes that don't have a name.

# 3.11 The String Class

Every string you create is an object of type String. Even string constants are String objects. For example, in the statement System.out.println("This is a String, too");, the quote is a String object.

Objects of type String are immutable; once a String object is created, its contents cannot be altered. Java defines peer classes of String, called StringBuffer and StringBuilder, which allow strings to be altered, so all of the normal string manipulations are still available.

# Constructing String Objects and Concatenating Strings

Strings can be constructed in a variable of ways. The easiest is to use a statement:

```
String myString = "this is a test";

Java defines one operator for String objects: +. It is used to concatenate two strings.

String myString = "I" + " like " + "Java.";
```

# String Methods

The String class contains several methods that you can use.

- boolean equals(secondStr)
- int length()
- char charAt(index)

# 3.12 Using Command-Line Arguments

Sometimes you will want to pass information into a program when you run it. This is accomplished by passing *command-line arguments* to main(). A command-line argument is the information that directly follows the program's name on the command line when it is executed. To access the command-line arguments inside a Java program, access the String

arguments passed to the args parameter of main(). The first command-line argument is stored at args[0], the second at args[1], and so on. All command-line arguments are passed as strings. You must convert numeric values to their internal forms manually. See Chapter 10 "java.lang", page 48.

# 3.13 Varargs: Variable-Length Arguments

Beginning with JDK 5, Java has included a feature that simplifies the creation of methods that need to take a variable number of arguments. This feature is called *varargs* and it is short for *variable-length arguments*. A method that takes a variable number of arguments is called a *variable-arity method*, or simply *varargs method*.

A variable-length argument is specified by three period (...). For example: static void vaTest (int ... v) {. This syntax tells the compiler that vaTest() can be called with zero or more arguments. As a result, v is implicitly declared as an array of type int[]. Thus, inside vaTest(), v is accessed using the normal array syntax.

A method can have *normal* parameters along with a variable-length parameter, but the variable-length parameter must be the final parameter declared by the method. Further, there can be only one varargs parameter.

```
int doIt(int a, int b, double c, int ... vals) {
```

After the first three arguments, any remaining arguments are passed to vals.

# Overloading Vararg Methods

You can overload a method that takes a variable-length argument (i.e., it can be given a different type, or additional parameters can be included, or a non varargs parameter).

Note that unexpected errors can result when overloading a method that takes a variable-length argument. These errors involve ambiguity because it is possible to create an ambiguous call to an overloaded varargs method. In such a case, the program will not compile. While each individual method declaration might be valid, the call might yet be ambiguous.

# 4 Inheritance

Inheritance is a cornerstone of object-oriented programming because it allows the creation of hierarchical classifications. Using inheritance, you can create a general class taht defines traits common to a set of related items. This class can then be inherited by other, more specific classes, each adding those things that are unique to them.

A class that is inherited is called a *superclass*. The class that does the inheriting is called a *subclass*. A subclass is a specialized version of a subclass. It inherits all of the members defined by the superclass and adds its own, unique elements.

# 5 Packages

Packages are containers for classes. They are used to keep the class namespace compartmentalized, i.e., to prevent collisions between file names. Packages are stored in a hierarchical manner and are explicitly imported into new class definitions.

# 5.1 Introduction to Packages

Java provides a mechanism for partitioning the class namespace into manageble chunks: the *PACKAGE*. The package is both a naming and a visibility control mechanism. In other words, you can use the package mechanism to define classes inside a package that are not accessible by code outside the package; and you can define class members that are exposed only to other members of the same package.

# 5.2 Defining Packages

To create a package ("define" a package), include the package command as the first statement in a Java source file. Thereafter, any classes declared within that file will belong to the specified package. The package statement defines a namespace in which classes are stored. Without the package statement, classes are put into the default package (which has no name).

# General Form of package statement

```
package pkg

GeneralForm 5.1: Package Statement — General Form pkg is the name of the package. For example:

package mypackage;
```

# File System Directories

Java uses the file system directories to store packages. Therefore, the .class files for any classes you declare to be part of mypackage must be stored in a directory called mypackage. The directory name must match the package name exactly.

More than one file can include the same package statement. The package statement simply specifies to which package the classes defined in a file belong. It does not exclude other classes in other files from being part of that same package. Most real-world packages are spread across many files.

# Hierarchy of Packages

You can create a hierarch of packages. To do so, separate each package name form the one above it by use of a period. The general form of a multileveled package statement is:

```
package pkg1[.pkg2[.pkg3]]
```

GeneralForm 5.2: Package Statement — Multilevel Form

A package hierarchy must be reflected in the file system of your Java development system. For example a package declared as:

```
package a.b.c;
```

needs to be stored in directory a/b/c.

Be sure to choose package names carefully; you cannot rename a package without renaming the directory in which the classes are stored.

# 5.3 Finding Packages and CLASSPATH

Packages are mirrored by directories. How does the Java run-time system know where to look for packages?

'cwd'

By default, the Java run-time system uses the currect working directory as its starting point. Thus, if your package is in a subdirectory of the current directory, it will be found.

#### CLASSPATH

You can specify a directory path or paths by setting the CLASSPATH environment variable.

### -classpath

You can use the -classpath option with java and javac to specify the path to your classes.

#### module path

Beginning with JDK 9, a package can be part of a module, and thus found on the module path.

# Example Finding a Package

Consider the following package specification:

```
package mypack;
```

In order for programs to find mypack, the program can be executed from a directory immediadely above mypack, or the CLASSPATH must be set to include the path to mypack or the -classpath option must specify the path to mypack when the program is run via java.

When the second or third of the above options is used, the class path must not include mypack itself. It must simply specify the path to just above mypack. For example, if the path to mypack is

```
/MyPrograms/Java/mypack
then the class path to mypack is
/MyPrograms/Java
```

# 5.4 Packages and Member Access

Packages add another dimension to access control. Classes and packages are both means of encapsulating and containing the name space and scope of variables and methods. *Packages* act as containiners for classes and other subordinate packages. *Classes* act as containers for data and code. The class is Java's smallest unit of abstraction. As it relates to the interplay between classes and packages, Java addresses four categories of visibility for class members:

- Subclasses in the same package
- Non-subclasses in the same package

- Subclasses in different packages
- Classes that are neither in the same package nor subclasses

The three access modifiers

- private
- public
- protected

provide a variaty of ways to produce many levels of access required by these categories.

Category	Private	None	Protected	public
Same Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Same package subclass	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Same package non-subclass	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Different package subclass	No	No	Yes	Yes
Different package noni-subclass	No	No	No	Yes

Table 5.1: Package Access Table — Shows all combinations of the access control modifiers

# 5.5 Importing Packages

Java includes the import statement to bring certain classes, or entire packages, into visibility. Once imported, a class can be referred to directly, using only its name. The import statement is a convenience to the programmer and is not technically needed to write a complete Java program.

In a Java source file, import statements occur immediately following the package statement (if one exists) and before any class definitions. This is the general form of the import statement:

```
import pkg1[.pkg2].(classname \mid *);
GeneralForm 5.3: Import Statement — General Form
```

Here, pkg1 is the name of a top-level package, and pkg2 is the name of a subordinate package inside the outerpackage separated by a dot (.). There is no limit on the depth of a package hierarchy. Finally, you can specify either an explicit classname or a star (\*), which indicates that the Java compiler should import the entire package.

```
import java.util.Date;
imort java.io.*;
```

All of the standard Java SE classes included with Java begin with the name java. The basic language functions are stored in a package called java.lang. Normally, you have to import every package or class that you want to use, but since Java is useless without much of the functionality in java.lang, it is implicitly imported by the compiler for all programs. This is equivalent to the following line being at the top of all your programs:

```
import java.lang.*;
```

The import statement is *optional*. Any place you use a class name, you can use its *fully* qualified name, which includes its full package hierarchy.

When a package is imported, only those items within the package declared as public will be available to non-subclasses in the importing code.

# 6 Interfaces

Using the keyword interface, you can fully abstract a class' interface from its implementation. That is, using interface, you can specify what a class must do, but not how to do it. Interfaces are syntactically similar to classes, but they lack instance variables, and, as a general rule, their methods are declared without any body. Once it is defined, any number of classes can implement an interface. Also, one class can implement any number of interfaces. To implement an interfece, a class must provide the complete set of methods required by the interface. Each class is free to determine the details of its own implementation. By providing the interface keyword, Java allws you to fully utilize the "one interface, multiple methods" aspect of polymorphism.

Interfaces are designed to support dynamic method resolution at run time. Normally, in order for a method to be called from one class to another, both classes need to be present at compile time so the Java compiler can check to ensure that the method signatures are compatible. This requirement by itself makes for a static and nonextensible classing environment. Inevitably in a system like this, functionality gets pushed up higher and higher in the class hierarchy so that the mechanisms will be available to more and more subclasses. Interfaces are designed to avoid this problem. They disconnect the definition of a method or set of methods from the inheritance hierarchy. Since interfaces are in a different hierarchy from classes, it is possible for classes that are unrelated in terms of class hierarchy to implement the same interface. This is where the real power of interfaces is realized.

# 6.1 Defining Interfaces

An interface is defined much like a class. Here is a simplified general form of an interface definition:

```
access interface name {
  return-type method-name1(parameter-list);
  return-type method-name2(parameter-list);

  type final-varname1 = value
    type final-varname2 = value
    ...
  return-type method-nameN(parameter-list);
  type final-varnameN = value
}
```

GeneralForm 6.1: Interface Definition — Simplified General Form

When no access modifier is included, then default access results, and the interface is only available to other members of the package in which it is declared. When it is declared as public, the interface can be used by code outside its package. In this case, the interface must be the only public interface declared in the file, and the file must have the same name as the interface. The methods that are declared have no bodies. They end with a semicolon after the parameter list. They are, essentially, abstract methods. Each class that includes such an interface must implement all of the methods.

#### Variable Declarations inside Interfaces

As the general form shows, variables can be declared inside interface declarations. They are implicitly final and static, meaning they cannot be changed by the implementing class. They must also be initialized. All methods and variables are implicitly public.

# 6.2 Implementing Interfaces

Once an interface has been defined, one or more classes can implement that interface. To implement an interface, include the implements clause in a class definition, and then create the methods required by the interface. The general form of a class that includes the implements clause looks like this:

```
class clasname [extends superclass] [implements interface [, interface. . . ] { class-body }
```

GeneralForm 6.2: Class Implementing Interface — General Form

The methods that implement an interface must be declared public. The type signature of the implementing method must match exactly the type signature specified in the interface definition.

It is both permissible and common for classes that implement interfaces to define additional members of their own.

# 6.3 Accessing Implementations Through Interface References

You can declare variables as object references that use an interface rather than a class type. Any instance of any class that implements the declared interface can be referred to by such a variable. When you call a method through one of these references, the correct version will be called based on the actual instance of the interface being referred to. This is one of the key features of interfaces. The method to be executed is looked up dynamically at run-time, allowing classes to be created later than the code which calls methods on them. The calling code can dispatch through an interface without having to know anything about the "callee." This process is similar to using a superclass reference to access a subclass object.

# 6.4 Partial Implementations

If a class includes an interface but does not implement the methds required by that interface, then that class must be declared as abstract. Any class that inherits the abstract class must implement the interface or be declared abstract itself.

### 6.5 Nested Interfaces

An interface can be declared a member of a class or another interface. Such an interface is called a *member interface* or a *nested interface*. A nested interface can be declared as public, private, or protected. This differs from a top-level interface, which must either be declared as public or use the default access level. When a nexted interface is used

outside of its enclosing scope, it must be qualified by the name of the class or interface of which it is a member. Thus, outside of the class or interface in which a nested interface is declared, its name must be fully qualified.

Version 0.1.12

# 6.6 Applying Interfaces

See detailed example . . .

### 6.7 Variables in Interfaces

You can use interfaces to import shared constants into multiple classes by simply declaring an interface that contains variables that are initialized to the desired values. When you include that interface in a class (when you "implement" the interface), all of those variable names will be in scope as constants. If an interface contains no methods, then any class that includes such an interface doesn't actually implement anything. It is as if that class were importing this constant fields into the class name space as final variables.

### 6.8 Interfaces Can Be Extended

One interface can inherit another by use of the keyword extends. The syntax is the same as for inheriting classes. When a class implements an interface that inherits another interface, it must provide implementations for all methods required by the interface inheritance chain.

### 6.9 Default Interface Methods

Prior to JDK 8, an interface could not define any implementation whatsoever. This meant that for all previous versions of Java, the methods specified by an interface were abstract, constaining no body. This is the traditional form of an interface. The release of JDK 8 changed this by adding a new capability to interface called the *default method*. A default method lets you define a default implementation for an interface method. It is possible for an interface method to provide a body, rather than being abstract.

A primary motivation for the default method was to provide a means by which interfaces could be expanded without breaking existing code. There must be implementations for all methods defined by an interface. If a new method were added to a popular, widely used interface, then the addition of that method would break existing code because no implementation would be found for that new method. The default method solves this problem by supplying an implementation that willbe used if no other implementation is explicitly provided. Thus, the addition of a default method will not cause preexisting code to break.

Another motivation for the default method was the desire to specify methods in an interface that are, essentially, optional, depending on how the interface is used.

### Interfaces Do No Maintain State and Cannot Be Created

It is important to point out that the addition of default methods does not change a key aspect of interface: its inability to maintain state information. An interface still cannot have instance variables, for example. Thus, the defining difference between an interface and a class is that a class can maintain state information, but an interface cannot. Furthermore,

it is still not possible to create an instance of an interface by itself. It must be implemented by a class.

### 6.10 Use Static Methods in an Interface

Another capability added to interface by JDK 8 is the ability to define one or more static methods. Like static methods in a class, a static method defined by an interface can be called independently of any object. Thus, no implementation of the interface is necessary, and no instance of the interface is required, in order to call a static method. Instead, a static method is called by specifying the interface name, followed by a period, followed by the method name. Here is the general form:

Interface Name.static Method Name

GeneralForm 6.3: Interface Static Method, Calling

Notice that this is similar to the way that a static method in a class is called. However, static interface methods are not inherited by either an implementing class or a subinterface.

### 6.11 Private Interface Methods

Beginning with JDK 9, an interface can include a private method. A private interface method can be called only by a default method or another private method defined by the same interface. Because a private interface method is specified **private**, it cannot be used by code outside the interface in which it is defined. This restriction includes subinterfaces because a private inteface method is not inherited by a subinterface.

The key benefit of a private interface method is that it lets two or more default methods use a common piece of code, thus avoiding code duplication.

# 7 Generics

Generics, introduced in J2SE 5.0, allows a type or method to operate on objects of various types while providing compile-time type safety. It adds compile-time type safety to the Collections Framework and eliminates the need of casting. In other words, generics allow you to abstract over types.

Through the use of generics, it is possible to create classes, interfaces, and methods that will work in a type-safe manner with various kinds of data. Many algorithms are logically the same no matter what type of data they are being applied to. For example, the mechanism that supports a stack is the same whether that stack is storing items of type Integer, String, Object, or Thread. With generics, you can define an algorithm once, independently of any specific type of data, and then apply that algorithm to a wide variety of data types without any additional effort.

Perhaps the one feature of Java that has been most significantly affected by generics is the *Collections Framework*. A *collection* is a group of objects. The Collections Framework defines several classes, such as lists and maps, that manage collections. The collection classes have always been able to work with any type of object. The benefit that generics adds is that the collection classes can now be used with complete type safety.

This chapter describes the syntax, theory, and use of generics. It also shows how generics provide type safety for some previously difficult cases.

### 7.1 Motivation for Generics

### Code Fragment Without Generics

Here is a typical code fragment abstracting over types by using Object and type casting.

```
List myIntList = new LinkedList(); // 1
myIntList.add(new Integer(0)); // 2
Integer x = (Integer) myIntList.iterator().next(); // 3
```

The cast on line 3 is annoying, although essential. The compiler can guarantee only that an Object will be returned by the iterator. This therefore adds both clutter and the possibility of a run-time error.

# Code Fragment with Generics

Generics allow a programmer to mark their intent to restrict a list to a particular data type. Here is a version of the same code that uses generics.

```
List<Integer> myIntList = new LinkedList<Integer>(); // 1'
myIntList.add(new Integer(0)); // 2'
Integer x = myIntList.iterator().next(); // 3'
```

In line 1, the type declaration for the variable myIntList specifies that it is to hold a List of Integers: 'List<Integer>'. List is a generic interface that takes a type parameter (Integer). The type parameter is also specified when creating the List object ('new LinkedList<Integer>()'). Also, the cast on line 3 is gone.

So has this just moved the clutter around, from a type cast to a type parameter? No, because this has given the compiler the ability to check the type correctness of the program

at compile-time. When we say that myIntList is declared with type List<Integer>, this tells us something about the variable myIntList, which holds true wherever and whenever it is used, and the compiler will guarantee it. In contrast, the cast tells us something the programmer thinks is true at a single point in the code.

The net effect, especially in large programs, is improved readability and robustness.

### 7.2 What Are Generics

The term generics means parameterized types. Parameterized types are important because they enable you to create classes, interfaces, and methods in which the type of data upon which they operate is specified as a parameter. Using generics, it is possible to create a single class, for example, that automatically works with different types of data. A class, interface, or method that operates on a parameterized type is called generic, as in generic class or generic method.

Java has always given the ability to create generalized classes, interfaces, and methods by operating through references of type Object. Generics added the type safety that was lacking. They also streamlined the process, because it is no longer necessary to explicitly employ casts to translate between Object and the type of data that is being operate upon. With generics, all casts are automatic and implicit.

# 7.3 A Simple Generics Example

The following program defines two classes. The first is the generic class Gen, and the second is GenDemo, which uses Gen.

```
{SimpleGenerics.java} ≡

< Class Gen>

< Class GenDemo>
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name First definition point

< Class Gen> See "Class Gen¡T¿", page 29.

< Class GenDemo> See "Class GenDemo", page 30.

### 7.3.1 Class Gen<T>

This is a simple generic class. The class Gen is declared with a parameter of '<T>':

```
class Gen<T> {
```

'T' is the name of a *type parameter*. This name is used as a placeholder for the actual type that will be passed to **Gen** when an object is created. Thus, 'T' is used within **Gen** whenever the type parameter is needed.

Notice that 'T' is contained within '< >'. This syntax can be generalized. Whenever a type parameter is being declared, it is specified within angle brackets.

Because Gen uses a type parameter, Gen is a *generic class*, which is also called a *parameterized type*.

### Outline of Class Gen<T>

Class Gen contains four parts:

- an instance variable declaration
- a constructor
- a method returning the instance variable
- a method describing the type of the instance variable

```
<Class Gen> ≡
    class Gen<T> {
        <Instance Variable ob of Type T>
        <Constructor taking parameter of Type T>
        <Method returning object of type T>
        <Method showing type of T>
}
```

This chunk is called by {SimpleGenerics.java}; see its first definition at "A Simple Generics Example", page 28.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

# Implementation of Class Gen<T>

'T' is used to declare an object called ob. 'T' is a placeholder for the actual type that will be specified when a Gen object is created. Thus, ob will be an object of the type passed to 'T'.

```
<Instance Variable ob of Type T> \equiv
T ob; // declare an object of type T
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen;T;", page 29.

### The Constructor

Here is the constructor for Gen. Notice that its parameter, o, is of type 'T'. This means that the actual type of o is determined by the type passed to 'T' when a Gen object is created. Because both the parameter o and the member variable ob are of type 'T', they will both be the same actual type when a Gen object is created.

```
<Constructor taking parameter of Type T> \( \) // Pass the constructor a reference to
    // an object of type T
    Gen (T o) {
        ob = o;
      }
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen;T;", page 29.

### Instance Methods getob() and showType()

The type parameter 'T' can also be used to specify the return type of a method, as here in getob(). Because ob is also of type 'T', its type is compatible wih the return type specified by getob().

```
<Method returning object of type T> =
    // Return ob
    T getob() {
        return ob;
    }
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen;T;", page 29.

The method showType() displays the type of 'T' by calling getName() on the Class object return by the call to getClass() on ob. The getClass() method is defined by Object and is thus a member of all class types. It returns a Class object that corresponds to the type of the class of the object on which it is called. Class defines the getName() method, which returns a string representation of the class name.

```
<Method showing type of T > =
    // Show type of T
    void showType() {
        System.out.println("Type of T is " + ob.getClass().getName();
    }
```

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen; T;", page 29.

#### 7.3.2 Class GenDemo

The GenDemo class demonstrates the generic Gen class.

But first, take note: The Java compiler does not actually create different versions of Gen, or of any other generic class. The compiler removes all generic type information, substituting the necessary casts, to make your code behave as if a specific version of Gen were created. There is really only one version of Gen that actually exists.

The process of removing generic type information is called *type erasure*.

GenDemo first creates a version of Gen for integers and calls the methods defined in Gen on it. It then does the same for a String object.

```
<Class GenDemo> =
    // Demonstrate the generic class
    class GenDemo {
        public static void main(String args[]) {
            <Create a Gen object for Integers>
            <Create a Gen object for Strings>
        }
    }
}
```

This chunk is called by {SimpleGenerics.java}; see its first definition at "A Simple Generics Example", page 28.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name	First definition point
<pre><create a="" for="" gen="" integers="" object=""></create></pre>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer",
Charles a Con abject for Chairman	page 31.
<pre><create a="" for="" gen="" object="" strings=""></create></pre>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type String", page 32.

# 7.3.2.1 Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer

```
<Create a Gen object for Integers> ≡
     <Integer Type Parameter>
     <Reference to Integer Instance>
     <Show Type>
     <Get Value>
```

This chunk is called by *Class GenDemo*; see its first definition at "Class GenDemo", page 30. The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name	First definition point
<get value=""></get>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 32.
<integer parameter="" type=""></integer>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.
<reference instance="" integer="" to=""></reference>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 32.
<show type=""></show>	See "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 32.

## **Integer Type Declaration**

A reference to an Integer is declared in iOb. Here, the type 'Integer' is specified within the angle brackets after Gen. 'Integer' is a type argument that is passed to Gen's type parameter, 'T'. This effectively creates a version of Gen in which all references to 'T' are translated into references to 'Integer'. Thus, ob is of type 'Integer', and the return type of getob() is of type 'Integer'.

```
<Integer Type Parameter> =
Gen<Integer> iOb;
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers>*; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

# Reference Assignment

The next line assigns to iOb a reference to an instance of an 'Integer' version of the Gen class. When the Gen constructor is called, the type argument 'Integer' is also specified. This is because the type of the object (in this case iOb to which the reference is being assigned is of type Gen<Integer>. Thus, the reference returned by new must also be of type Gen<Integer>. If it isn't, a compile-time error will result. This type checking is one of the main benefits of generics because it ensures type safety.

Notice the use of autoboxing to encapsulate the value 88 within an Integer object.

```
<Reference to Integer Instance> = iOb = new Gen<Integer>(88);
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

The automatic autoboxing could have been written explicitly, like so:

```
iOb = new Gen<Integer>(Integer.valueOf(88));
```

but there would be no value to doing it that way.

# Showing the Reference's Type

The program then uses Gen's instance method to show the type of ob, which is an 'Integer' in this case.

```
<Show\ Type> \equiv iOb.showType();
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

# Showing the Reference's Value

The program now obtains the value of ob by assiging ob to an 'int' variable. The return type of getob() is 'Integer', which unboxes into 'int' when assigned to an 'int' variable (v). There is no need to cast the return type of getob() to 'Integer'.

```
<Get Value> \( \)
int v = iOb.getob();
System.out.println("value: " + v);
System.out.println();
```

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

# 7.3.2.2 Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type String

```
<Create a Gen object for Strings> \( // \) Create a Gen object for Strings.
Gen<String> str0b = new Gen<String>("Generics Test");

// Show the type of data used by str0b
str0b.showType();

// Get the value of str0b. Again, notice
// that no cast is needed.
String str = str0b.getob();
System.out.println("value: " + str);
```

This chunk is called by *Class GenDemo*; see its first definition at "Class GenDemo", page 30.

#### 7.4 Notes About Generics

# 7.4.1 Generics Work Only with Reference Types

When declaring an instance of a generic type, the type argument passed to the type parameter must be a reference type. It cannot be a primitive type, such as 'int' or 'char'.

You can use the type wrappers to encapsulate a primitive type. Java's autoboxing and auto-unboxing mechanism makes the use of the type wrapper transparent.

# 7.4.2 Generic Types Differ Based on their Type Arguments

A reference of one specific version of a generic type is not type-compatible with another version of the same generic type. In other words, the following line of code is an error and will not compile:

```
iOb = strOb; // Gen<Integer> != Gen<String>
```

These are references to different types because their type arguments differ.

# 7.4.3 Generics and Subtyping

Is the following legal?

```
List<String> ls = new ArrayList<String>(); // 1
List<Object> lo = ls; // 2
```

Line 1 is legal. What about line 2? This boils down to the question: "is a List of String a List of Object." Most people instinctively answer, "Sure!"

Now look at these lines:

```
lo.add(new Object()); // 3
String s = ls.get(0); // 4: Attempts to assign an Object to a String!
```

Here we've aliased 1s and 1o. Accessing 1s, a list of String, through the alias 1o, we can insert arbitrary objects into it. As a result 1s does not hold just Strings anymore, and when we try and get something out of it, we get a rude surprise.

The Java compiler will prevent this from happening of course. Line 2 will cause a compile time error.

The take-away is that, if Foo is a subtype (subclass or subinterface) of Bar, and G is some generic type declaration, it is not the case that G<Foo> is a subtype of G<Bar>.

# 7.4.4 How Generics Improve Type Safety

Generics automatically ensure the type safety of all operations involving a generic class, such as Gen. They eliminate the need for the coder to enter cases and to type-check code by hand.

# 7.5 A Generic Class with Two Type Parameters

You can declare more than one type parameter in a generic type. To specify two or more type parameters, use a comma-separated list. When an object is created, the same number of type arguments must be passed as there are type parameters. The type arguments can be the same or different.

### 7.5.1 Example of Code with Two Type Parameters

```
\{ {\tt TwoTypeParameters.java} \} \equiv $< Class TwoGen > $< Class SimpGen > $
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name First definition point 
< Class SimpGen> See "Class SimpGen", page 35. 
< Class TwoGen> See "Class TwoGen", page 34.

### 7.5.1.1 Class TwoGen

```
<Class\ TwoGen> \equiv
<Class\ Declaration>
<Two\ Instance\ Variables\ Declarations>
<Constructor\ of\ Two\ Parameters>
<Instance\ Methods\ Show\ and\ Get>
```

This chunk is called by {TwoTypeParameters.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 34.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

#### Class Declaration

Notice how TwoGen is declared. It specifies two type parameters: 'T' and 'V', separated by a comma. Because it has two type parameters, two type arguments must be passed to TwoGen when an object is created.

```
< Class\ Declaration> \equiv class TwoGen<T, V> {
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 34.

#### Instance Variables Declarations

```
<Two Instance Variables Declarations> =
T ob1;
V ob2;
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 34.

#### Constructor

```
<Constructor of Two Parameters> =
TwoGen(T o1, V 02) {
   ob1 = o1;
```

```
ob2 = o2;
}
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 34.

#### Instance Methods Show and Get

```
<Instance Methods Show and Get> =
   void showTypes() {
       System.out.println("Type of T is " + ob1.getClass().getName());
       System.out.println("Type of V is " + ob2.getClass().getName());
   }

   T getob1() {
      return ob1;
   }

   V getob2() {
      return ob2;
   }
```

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*>; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 34.

# 7.5.1.2 Class SimpGen

Two type arguments must be supplied to the constructor. In this case, the two type parameters are 'Integer' and 'String'.

```
<Class SimpGen> \( \)
    class SimpGen {
        public static void main(String args[]) {
            TwoGen<Integer, String> tgObj =
                new TwoGen<Integer, String>(88, "Generics");

            // Show the types
            tgObj.showTypes();

            // Obtain and show values
            int v = tgObj.getob1();
            System.out.println("value: " + v);

            String str = thObj.getob2();
            System.out.println("value: " + str);
            }
        }
}
```

This chunk is called by {TwoTypeParameters.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 34.

### 7.6 The General Form of a Generic Class

The generics syntax shown above can be generalized. Here is the syntax for declaring a generic class:

```
class class-name<type-param-list> { . . .

Here is the full syntax for declaring a reference to a generic class and instance creation:

class-name<type-arg-list> var-name =
```

new class-name<type-arg-list>(cons-arg-list);

GeneralForm 7.1: General Form for Declaring and Creating a Reference to a Generic Class

# 7.7 Bounded Types

Sometimes it can be useful to limit the types that can be passed to a type parameter. Java provides bounded types. When specifying a type parameter, you can create an upper bound that declares the superclass from which all type arguments must be derived. This is accomplished through the use of an extends clause when specifying the type parameter:

```
< T  extends superclass >
```

This specifies that T can only be replaced by superclass or subclasses of superclass. Thus, superclass defines an inclusive, upper limit.

# Interface Type as a Bound

In addition to using a class type as a bound, you can also use an interface type. In fact, youi can specify multiple interfaces as bounds. Furthermore, a bound can include both a class type and one or more interfaces. In this case, the class type must be specified first. When a bound includes an interface type, only type arguments that implement that interface are legal.

When specifying a bound that has a class and an interface, or multiple interfaces, use the & operator to connnect them.

```
class Gen<T extends MyClass & MyInterface> { ...
```

Any type argument passed to 'T' must be a subclass of MyClass and implement MyInterface.

# 7.8 Using Wildcard Arguments

#### 7.8.1 Wildcard Motivation

Consider the problem of writing a routine that prints out all the elements in a collection. Here's how you might write it in an older version of the language (i.e., a pre-5.0 release):

```
void printCollection(Collection c) {
    Iterator i = c.iterator();
    for (k = 0; k < c.size(); k++) {
        System.out.println(i.next());
    }
}</pre>
```

And here is a naive attempt at writing it using generics (and the new for loop syntax):

```
for (Object e : c) {
        System.out.println(e);
}
```

The problem is that this new version is much less useful than the old one. Whereas the old code could be called with any kind of collection as a parameter, the new code only takes Collection<Object>, which, as we've just demonstrated, is *not* a supertype of all kinds of collections!

So what is the supertype of all kinds of collections? It's written <code>Collection<?></code> (pronounced collection of unknown), that is, a collection whose element type matches anything. It's called a wildcard type. We can write:

```
void printCollection(Collection<?> c) {
    for (Object e : c) {
        System.out.println(e);
    }
}
```

and now, we can call it with any type of collection. Notice that inside printCollection(), we can still read elements from c and give them type Object. This is always safe, since whatever the actual type of the collection, it does contain objects. It isn't safe to add arbitrary objects to it however:

```
Collection<?> c = new ArrayList<String>();
c.add(new Object()); // Compile time error
```

Since we don't know what the element type of c stands for, we cannot add objects to it. The add() method takes arguments of type E, the element type of the collection. When the actual type parameter is ?, it stands for some unknown type. Any parameter we pass to add would have to be a subtype of this unknown type. Since we don't know what type that is, we cannot pass anything in. The sole exception is null, which is a member of every type.

On the other hand, given a List<?>, we can call get() and make use of the result. The result type is an unknown type, but we always know that it is an object. It is therefore safe to assign the result of get() to a variable of type Object or pass it as a parameter where the type Object is expected.

# 7.8.2 Wildcard Syntax

Sometimes type safety can get in the way of perfectly acceptable constructs. In such cases, there is a *wildcard* argument that can be used. The wildcard argument is specified by the ?, and it represents an unknown type. It would be used in place of a type parameter, for example:

```
boolean sameAvg(Stats<?> ob) {
  if(average() == ob.average())
    return true;
  return false;
}
```

Here, 'Stats<?>' matches any Stats object (Integer, Double), allowing any two Stats objects to have their averages compared. The wildcard does not affect what type of Stats object can be created. That is governed by the extends clause in the Stats declaration. The wildcard simply matches any *valid* Stats object.

### 7.8.3 Bounded Wildcards

Wildcard arguments can be bounded in much the same way that a type parameter can be bounded (the *bounded wildcard argument*. A bounded wildcard is especially important when you are creating a generic type that will operate on a class hierarchy.

A bounded wildcard specifies either an upper bound or a lower bound for the type argument. This enables you to restrict the types of objects upon which a method will operate.

# Upper Bounded Wildcard

The most common bounded wildcard is the upper bound, which is created using an extends clause. In general, to establish an upper bound for a wildcard, use the following type of wildcard expression:

<? extends superclass>

GeneralForm 7.2: General Form of Upper Bounded Wildcard Syntax

where *superclass* is the name of the class that serves as the upper bound. This is an inclusive clause.

### Lower Bounded Wildcard

You can also specify a lower bound for a wildcard by adding a **super** clause to a wildcard declaration. Here is its general form:

<? super subclass>

GeneralForm 7.3: General Form of Lower Bounded Wildcard Syntax

Only classes that are superclasses of *subclass* are acceptable arguments

# 7.9 Creating a Generic Method

It is possible to declare a generic method that uses one or more type parameters of its own. It is also possible to create a generic method that is enclosed within a non-generic class.

#### Generalized Form

```
< type-param-list > ret-type meth-name ( param-list ) { . . . }
```

GeneralForm 7.4: General Form for Declaring a Generic Method

# 7.9.1 Example of Generic Method

The following program declares a non-generic class called GenMethDemo and a static generic method within that class called isIn(). The isIn() method determines if an object is a member of an array. It can be used with any type of object and array as long as the array contains objects that are compatible with the type of the object being sought.

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

```
Chunk name

<GenMethDemo Main>
<See "GenMethDemo Main", page 39.
<Static Method isIn>
See "Method isIn()", page 39.
```

# 7.9.1.1 Method isIn()

The **type parameters** are declared *before* the return type of the method.

```
<Static Method isIn> =
    static <T extends Comparable<T>, V extends T> boolean isIn(T x, V[] y) {
    for (int i = 0; i < y.length; i++)
        if (x.equals(y[i]) return true;
    return false;
}</pre>
```

This chunk is called by {GenMethDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Generic Method", page 39.

The type T is **upper-bounded** by the Comparable interface, which must be of the same type as T. Likewise, the second type, V, is also **upper-bounded** by T. Thus, V must be either the same type as T or a subclass of T. This relationship enforces that isIn() can be called only with arguments that are compatible with each other.

While isIn() is static in this case, generic methods can be either static or non-static; there is no restriction in this regard.

# **Explicitly Including Type Arguments**

There is generally no need to specify type arguments when calling this method from within the main routine. This is because the type arguments are automatically discerned, and the types of T and V are adjusted accordingly.

Although type inference will be sufficient for most generic method calls, you can explicitly specify the type argument if needed. For example, here is how the first call to <code>isIn()</code> looks when the type arguments are specified:

```
GenMethDemo.<Integer, Integer>isIn(2, nums)
```

#### 7.9.1.2 GenMethDemo Main

```
<GenMethDemo Main> =
   public static void main(String args[]) {
    // call isIn() with Integer type
```

```
Integer nums[] = { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 };
if ( isIn(2, nums) )
  System.out.println("2 is in nums");
if (@isIn(7, nums))
  System.out.println("7 is not in nums");
System.out.println();
// call isIn() with String type
String strs[] = { "one", "two", "three", "four", "five" };
if ( isIn("two", strs))
  System.out.println("two is in strs");
if (!isIn("seven", strs))
  System.out.println("seven is not in strs");
// call isIn() with mixed types
// WILL NOT COMPILE! TYPES MUST BE COMPATIBLE
// if ( isIn("two", nums))
      System.out.println("two is in nums");
```

This chunk is called by {GenMethDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Generic Method", page 39.

### 7.10 Generic Constructors

It is possible for constructors to be generic, even if their class is not (see "Class Gen;T;", page 29). The syntax is the same (type parameters come first).

< type-param-list> constructor-name ( param-list ) { . . .

# 8 Enumerations

Enumerations were added by JDK 5. In earlier versions of Java, enumerations were implemented using final variables.

An enumeration is a list of named constants that define a new data type and its legal values. In other words, an enumeration defines a class type. An enumeration object can only hold values that were declared in the list. Other values are not allowed. An enumeration allows the programmer to define a set of values that a data type can legally have.

By making enumerations classes, the capabilities of the enumeration are greatly expanded. An enumeration can have:

- constructors
- methods
- instance variables

### 8.1 Enumeration Basics

An enumeration is created using the enum keyword.

```
enum Apple {
     Jonathon, GoldenDel, RedDel, Winesap, Cortland
}
```

## enumeration constants

The enum constants 'Jonathon', 'GoldenDel', etc. are called enumeration constants. The enumeration constants are declared as 'public static final' members of the enum. Their type is the type of the enumeration in which they are declared. These constants are called self-typed, in which "self" refers to the enclosing enumeration.

# enumeration objects

You can create a variable of an enumeration type. You do not instantiate an enum using new. Rather, you declare an enum variable like you do for primitive types: 'Apple ap'. Now, the variable ap can only hold values of type 'Apple'.

```
Apple ap;
ap = Apple.RedDel;
The enum type (i.e., Apple) must be part of the expression.
```

# Comparing for Equality; Switch

Two enumeration constants can be compared for equality using the == relational operator. Furthermore, an enumneration value can be used to control a switch statement. The enum prefix (type) is not required for switch.

```
switch(ap) {
  case Jonathon: ...
  case Winesap: ...
}
```

# **Printing Enum Types**

When an enumeration object is printed, its name is output (without the enum type): 'System.out.println(ap)' would produce 'RedDel'.

# 8.2 Enum Methods values() and valueOf()

All enumerations inherit two methods:

```
public static enum-type[]
values ()
[Method on Enum]
```

The values() method returns an array that contains a list of the enumeration constants.

```
public static enum-type
valueOf (String str)
[Method on Enum]
```

The valueOf() method returns the enumeration constant whose value corresponds to the string passed in *str*.

# Examples using values() and valueOf() Methods

'Apple allapples[] = Apple.values();' is an example of using the values() method to populate an array with enumeration constants.

```
for(Apple a : Apple.values()) {
   System.out.println(a);
}
```

is an example of iterating directly on the values() method.

```
Apple ap;
ap = Apple.valueOf("Winesap");
System.out.println("ap contains " + ap);
```

is an example of using the valueOf() method to obtain the enumeration constant corresponding to the value of a string.

# 8.3 Java Enumerations are Class Types

A Java enumeration is a class type. That is, enum defines a class, which has much the same capabilities as other classes. An enumeration can be given constructors, instance variables, and methods. It can even implement interfaces. Each enumeration constant is an object of its enumeration type. When an enumeration is given a constructor, the constructor is called when each enumeration constant is created. Also, each enumeration constant has its own copy of any instance variables defined by the enumeration.

```
enum Apple {
   Jonathon(10), GoldenDel(9), RedDel(12), Winesap(15), Cortland(8);
   private int price;
   Apple(int p) { price = p; }
   int getPrice() { return price; }
}
class EnumDemo {
```

```
public static void main (String[] args) {
    Apple ap;
}
```

In this example, the enumeration 'Apple' is given an instance variable price, a constructor, and an instance method 'getPrice()'. When the variable 'ap' is declared in 'main()', the constructor for 'Apple' is called once for each constant that is specified. The arguments to the constructor are placed in parentheses after the name of each constant. Thereafter, each enumeration constant has its own copy of 'price', which can be obtained by calling the instance method 'getPrice()'. In addition, there can be multiple overloaded constructors just as for any other class.

#### Restrictions on Enums

- An enumeration cannot inherit another class.
- An enum cannot be a superclass (enum cannot be extended).

The key is to remember that each enumeration constant is an object of the class in which it is defined.

#### 8.4 Enumerations Inherit Enum

All enumerations automatically inherit from one superclass: java.lang.Enum. This class defines several methods that are available for use by all enumerations.

```
ordinal() and compareTo()
```

```
final int [Method on Enum] ordinal ()
```

The ordinal() method returns a value that indicates an enumeration constant's position in the list of constants, called its *ordinal value*. In other words, calling ordinal() returns the ordinal value of the invoking constant (zero indexed).

```
final int [Method on Enum] compareTo (enum-type e)
```

The ordinal values of two constants can be compared using the compareTo() method. Both the invoking constant and e must be of the same enumeration enum-type. This method returns a negative value, a zero, or a positive value depending on whether the invoking constant's ordinal value is less than, equal to, or greater than the passed-in enumeration constant's ordinal value.

Compare for equality an invoking enum constant with a referenced enum constant.

An invoking enum constant can compare for equality itself with any other object by using equals() or, equivalently, ==, which overrides the equals() method defined in Object. equals() will return true only if both objects refer to the same constant within the same enumeration. (In other words, equals does not just compare ordinal values in general.)



# 9 String Handling

# 10 java.lang

Classes and interfaces defined by java.lang, which is automatically imported into all programs. Contains classes and interfaces that are fundamental to all of Java programming. Beginning with JDK 9, all of java.lang is part of the java.base module.

# java.lang includes the following classes

- Boolean
- Byte
- Character
  - Character.Subset
  - Character.UnicodeBlock
- Class
- ClassLoader
- ClassValue
- Compiler
- Double
- Enum
- Float
- InheritableThreadLocal
- Integer
- Long
- Math
- Module
  - ModuleLayer
  - ModuleLayer.Controller
- Number
- Object
- Package
- Process
  - ProcessBuilder
  - ProcessBuilder.Redirect
- Runtime
  - RuntimePermission
  - Runtime. Version
- SecurityManager
- Short
- StackFramePermission
- StackTraceElement
- StackWalker

- StrictMath
- String
  - StringBuffer
  - StringBuilder
- System
  - System.LoggerFinder
- Thread
  - ThreadGroup
  - ThreadLocal
- Throwable
- Void

# java.lang includes the following interfaces

- Appendable
- AutoClosable
- CharSequence
- Clonable
- Comparable
- Iterable
- ProcessHandle
  - ProcessHandle.Info
- Readable
- Runnable
- StackWalker.StackFrame
- System.Logger
- $\bullet \quad Thread. Uncaught Exception Handler \\$

# 10.1 Primitive Type Wrappers

Java uses primitive types for 'int', 'char', etc. for performance reasons. These primitives are not part of the object hierarchy; they are passed by-value, not by reference. Sometimes you may need to create an object representation for a primitive type. To store a primitive in a class, you need to wrap the primitive type in a class.

Java provides classes that correspond to each of the primitive types. These classes encapsulate or *wrap* the primitive types within a class. They are commonly referred to as *type wrappers*.

# 10.1.1 Number

#### 10.1.2 Double and Float

# 10.1.3 isInfinite() and isNaN()

- 10.1.4 Byte, Short, Integer, Long
- 10.1.5 Converting Numbers to and from String

# 11 java.util — Part 1: The Collections Framework

12 java.util — Part 2: Utility Classes

# 13 java.io — Input/Output

# 14 NIO

# 15 Networking

# 16 Event Handling

# 17 AWT: Working with Windows, Graphics, and Text

18 Using AWT Controls, Layout Managers, and Menus

# 19 Images

# 20 The Concurrency Utilities

# 21 The Stream API

22 Regular Expressions and Other Packages

# 23 Introducinvg Swing

# Appendix A The Makefile

```
 \begin{split} \{ \texttt{Makefile} \} &\equiv \\ & < \textit{Makefile CONSTANTS} > \\ & < \textit{Makefile DEFAULTS} > \\ & < \textit{Makefile TANGLE WEAVE} > \\ & < \textit{Makefile CLEAN} > \end{split}
```

The following table lists called chunk definition points.

Chunk name First definition point

<Makefile CLEAN>
See "Makefile Clean Targets", page 65.
<Makefile CONSTANTS>
See "Makefile Constants", page 64.
<Makefile DEFAULTS>
See "Makefile Default Targets", page 64.
<Makefile TANGLE WEAVE>
See "Makefile Tangle Weave Targets", page 64.

### A.1 Makefile Constants

```
<Makefile CONSTANTS> \equiv FILENAME := JavaSE9
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

# A.2 Makefile Default Targets

```
< Makefile\ DEFAULTS > \equiv .PHONY: all all: tangle weave
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

# A.3 Makefile Tangle Weave Targets

```
<Makefile TANGLE WEAVE> =
    .PHONY: tangle weave jrtangle jrweave
    tangle: jrtangle
    weave: jrweave

jrtangle: $(FILENAME).twjr
    jrtangle $(FILENAME).twjr

jrweave: $(FILENAME).texi

$(FILENAME).texi: $(FILENAME).twjr
    jrweave $(FILENAME).twjr > $(FILENAME).texi
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

# A.4 Makefile Clean Targets

```
<Makefile CLEAN> =
    .PHONY: clean
    clean:
        rm -f *~
        rm -f $(FILENAME).???
```

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

# Appendix B Code Chunk Summaries

This appendix presents alphabetical lists of all the file definitions, the code chunk definitions, and the code chunk references.

#### **B.1** Source File Definitions

```
This chunk is defined in "Example of Generic Method", page 39.

{Makefile}

This chunk is defined in "The Makefile", page 64.

{SimpleGenerics.java}

This chunk is defined in "A Simple Generics Example", page 28.

{Stack.java}

This chunk is defined in "A Stack Class", page 6.

{StackImproved.java}

This chunk is defined in "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

{TestStack.java}

This chunk is defined in "A Stack Class", page 7.

{TwoTypeParameters.java}

This chunk is defined in "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 34.
```

#### **B.2** Code Chunk Definitions

ger", page 31.

```
<Class Declaration>
           This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 34.
<Class Gen>
           This chunk is defined in "Class Gen;T;", page 29.
<Class GenDemo>
           This chunk is defined in "Class GenDemo", page 30.
< Class \ Simp Gen>
           This chunk is defined in "Class SimpGen", page 35.
<Class TwoGen>
           This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 34.
<Constructor of Two Parameters>
           This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 34.
<Constructor taking parameter of Type T>
           This chunk is defined in "Class Gen;T;", page 29.
<Create a Gen object for Integers>
           This chunk is defined in "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Inte-
```

<Create a Gen object for Strings>

This chunk is defined in "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type String", page 32.

<GenMethDemo Main>

This chunk is defined in "GenMethDemo Main", page 39.

<Get Value>

This chunk is defined in "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 32.

<Instance Methods Show and Get>

This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 35.

<Instance Variable ob of Type T>

This chunk is defined in "Class Gen;T;", page 29.

<Integer Type Parameter>

This chunk is defined in "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

<Makefile CLEAN>

This chunk is defined in "Makefile Clean Targets", page 65.

<Makefile CONSTANTS>

This chunk is defined in "Makefile Constants", page 64.

<Makefile DEFAULTS>

This chunk is defined in "Makefile Default Targets", page 64.

<Makefile TANGLE WEAVE>

This chunk is defined in "Makefile Tangle Weave Targets", page 64.

<Method returning object of type T>

This chunk is defined in "Class Gen;T;", page 30.

<Method showing type of T>

This chunk is defined in "Class Gen;T;", page 30.

<Reference to Integer Instance>

This chunk is defined in "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 32.

<Show Type>

This chunk is defined in "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 32.

<Stack Constructor>

This chunk is defined in "Stack Constructor Subsection", page 7.

 $<Stack\ Instance\ Methods>$ 

This chunk is defined in "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

<Stack Instance Variables>

This chunk is defined in "Stack Instance Variables", page 7.

<Stack Pop>

This chunk is defined in "Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection", page 8.

<Stack Private Instance Variables>

This chunk is defined in "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

<Stack Push>

This chunk is defined in "Stack Push and Pop Subsubsection", page 8.

<Static Method isIn>

This chunk is defined in "Method isIn()", page 39.

<TestStack Main Method>

This chunk is defined in "Stack TestStack Subsection", page 8.

<Two Instance Variables Declarations>

This chunk is defined in "Class TwoGen", page 34.

## **B.3** Code Chunk References

<Class Declaration>

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*>; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 34.

<Class Gen>

This chunk is called by {SimpleGenerics.java}; see its first definition at "A Simple Generics Example", page 28.

<Class GenDemo>

This chunk is called by {SimpleGenerics.java}; see its first definition at "A Simple Generics Example", page 28.

 $< Class \ Simp Gen>$ 

This chunk is called by {TwoTypeParameters.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 34.

<Class TwoGen>

This chunk is called by {TwoTypeParameters.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Code with Two Type Parameters", page 34.

<Constructor of Two Parameters>

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*>; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 34.

<Constructor taking parameter of Type T>

This chunk is called by *Class Gen*; see its first definition at "Class Gen; T;", page 29.

<Create a Gen object for Integers>

This chunk is called by *Class GenDemo*; see its first definition at "Class GenDemo", page 30.

<Create a Gen object for Strings>

This chunk is called by *Class GenDemo*; see its first definition at "Class GenDemo", page 30.

### $< GenMethDemo\ Main>$

This chunk is called by {GenMethDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Generic Method", page 39.

### <Get Value>

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers>*; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

### <Instance Methods Show and Get>

This chunk is called by *Class TwoGen*; see its first definition at "Class TwoGen", page 34.

## <Instance Variable ob of Type T>

This chunk is called by  $\langle Class\ Gen \rangle$ ; see its first definition at "Class Gen; T;", page 29.

## <Integer Type Parameter>

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

## <Makefile CLEAN>

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

## <Makefile CONSTANTS>

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

## <Makefile DEFAULTS>

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

### <Makefile TANGLE WEAVE>

This chunk is called by {Makefile}; see its first definition at "The Makefile", page 64.

### <Method returning object of type T>

This chunk is called by  $\langle Class\ Gen \rangle$ ; see its first definition at "Class Gen; T;", page 29.

## <Method showing type of T>

This chunk is called by  $\langle Class\ Gen \rangle$ ; see its first definition at "Class Gen; T;", page 29.

## <Reference to Integer Instance>

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

### <Show Type>

This chunk is called by *Create a Gen object for Integers*>; see its first definition at "Implementation of Class GenDemo with Type Integer", page 31.

#### <Stack Constructor>

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

## Chunk name First definition point

{Stack.java} See "A Stack Class", page 6.

{StackImproved.java} See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

### <Stack Instance Methods>

This chunk is called by the following chunks:

## Chunk name First definition point

{Stack.java} See "A Stack Class", page 6.

{StackImproved.java} See "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

#### <Stack Instance Variables>

This chunk is called by {Stack.java}; see its first definition at "A Stack Class", page 6.

## <Stack Pop>

This chunk is called by *Stack Instance Methods*; see its first definition at "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

## <Stack Private Instance Variables>

This chunk is called by {StackImproved.java}; see its first definition at "An Improved Stack Class", page 13.

### <Stack Push>

This chunk is called by *Stack Instance Methods*; see its first definition at "Stack Instance Methods Subsection", page 7.

## <Static Method isIn>

This chunk is called by {GenMethDemo.java}; see its first definition at "Example of Generic Method", page 39.

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