

SADI Tutelab 5

Java Collections Framework & Generics

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What are the main interfaces in Java Collection Framework (JCF)?

- Collection
 - Set
 - SortedSet
 - NavigableSet
 - List
 - Queue
 - Deque
- Map
 - SortedMap
 - NavigableMap

Indexed / Keyed

Array

List

SortedMap

Map

Queue

SortedSet

Set

Ordered



What is the advantage of using the Java Collection or Map classes (as opposed to building your own)?

- Why do extra work?
- There WILL be bugs
- I mean, do you really want to do MORE work for no reason?
- Interoperability with other packages
- I mean, WHY!?!???!!!!??!?
- Customisation
(but you could just write a wrapper class)
- (Theoretically) better performance
(if you write a stripped down version)

- Examine the class/interface structure of the `java.util.ArrayList<E>` class in the Java API documentation and explain how abstract classes and interfaces have been used to facilitate reusability and extensibility.
- What about generics, how and why are they used?

ArrayList<E>

- `Collection<E>` **extends** `Iterable<E>`
Defines `add`, `contains`, `remove`, `clear`, `size` & `toArray` methods
Allows Collections to be handled as `Collection` type rather than specific collection type (i.e. `List`, `Set`)
 - `List<E>` **extends** `Collection<E>`
Defines `add (at index)`, `get`, `set`, `remove (at index)` & `listIterator` methods
Allows Lists to be handled as `List` type rather than concrete subtype.
- `AbstractCollection<E>` **implements** `Collection<E>`
Provides basic `contains`, `toArray`, `remove` & `clear` operations based on `iterator()`.
 - `AbstractList<E>` **extends** `AbstractCollection<E>` **implements** `List<E>`
Provides basic `removeRange`, `iterator`, `listIterator` & `subList` operations based on `get()` `set()`, `add()` and `remove()` (which are unimplemented)
Basic List can be implemented with override of:
 - `get(int)`, `size()` (unmodifiable)
 - `set(int, E)` (modifiable)
 - `add(int, E)`, `remove(int)` (variable size list)
 - `ArrayList<E>` **extends** `AbstractList<E>`
implements `List<E>`, `RandomAccess` ...
Completely reimplements almost all inherited methods! (for efficiency)

ArrayList<E> vs ArrayList

- Generics allow compile time checking of add, set, sort, remove & forEach method parameters.
- Generics remove need for casting after get, remove(index) & set method calls or when using Iterator/ListIterator/Splitter

// Positional Access Operations

```
@SuppressWarnings("unchecked")
E elementData(int index) {
    return (E) elementData[index];
}
```

When is it more suitable to use a LinkedList over an ArrayList?

Operation	ArrayList	LinkedList
get(0), get(N-1), get(x)	O(1)	O(1), O(1), O(N/4)
add(0), add(N-1), add(x)	O(N), O(1) or O(N), O(N/2)	O(1), O(1), O(N/4)
remove(0), remove(N-1), remove(x)	O(N), O(1), O(N/2)	O(1), O(1), O(N/4)
Iterator.add/remove(0), Iterator(N-1), Iterator(x)	O(N), O(1), O(N/2)	O(1), O(1), O(1)

<https://twitter.com/joshbloch/status/583813919019573248>

Why not ~~Zeidberg~~ ArrayDeque?
<https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/ArrayDeque.html>

Does the sub-interface Set introduce any additional methods to Collection interface?
Does it introduce any additional constraints?

Extra methods defined
by Set<E>:

Extra constraints
introduced by Set<E>:

None...

Methods redeclared for
javadoc purposes

- no duplicate elements
- requires equals() and hashCode() of elements to follow standard rules

What is the difference between Map and Collection classes?

What are the constraints imposed by the Map interface?

Collection<E>

- Elements
- Duplicates okay (except Sets)
- add(E)
- contains(E)

Map<K, V>

- Key-Value pairs
- No duplicate Keys
- put(K, V)
- containsKey(K)
- containsValue(V)

Why does the Vector class provide methods such as addElement(Object o) in addition to add(Object o) defined in the interface Collection?

- Vector JavaDoc:
Since: JDK1.0
- Collection/List JavaDoc:
Since: JDK1.2
- As of the Java 2 platform v1.2, this class was retrofitted to implement the List interface, making it a member of the Java Collections Framework.
- Older methods were left in for backwards compatibility

Which collection(s) will be suitable for:

- List of Goods received. New entries to be added at the end reflecting the date and time of goods receipt.
- A text editor storing each line as an element in a list. Users are allowed to add, delete or alter any part of the document.

List of Goods received.

New entries to be added at the end reflecting the date and time of goods receipt.

- ArrayList is a solid first choice:
 - New elements are added to the end
 - Minimal removals likely
- A Queue might be an option if random access is not important:
 - ArrayDeque
 - PriorityQueue if ordering is important and entries may be added in an incorrect order

A text editor storing each line as an element in a list. Users are allowed to add, delete or alter any part of the document.

- ArrayList may be suitable
 - may suffer from insertion/deletion partway through the document
- A Queue
 - probably impractical due to lack of random access methods
- LinkedList is the only real JCF List alternative
 - Iterator should be used where possible
- To be honest, a text editor usually spends most of its time waiting for the user to do something so processing efficiency is not the most important factor most of the time