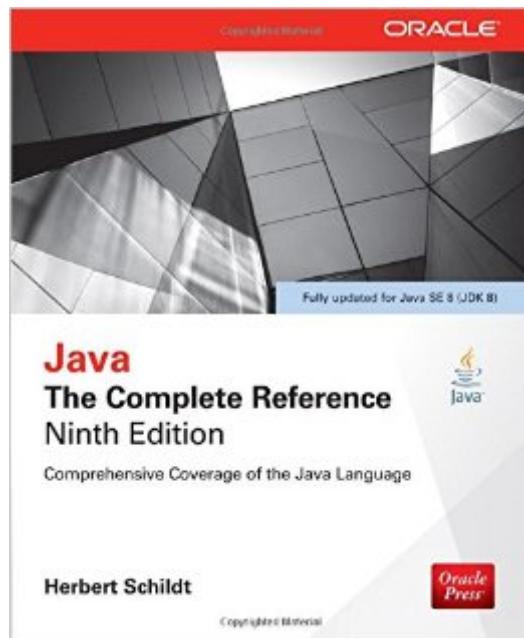


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Java: The Complete Reference, Ninth Edition



Synopsis

The Definitive Java Programming Guide Fully updated for Java SE 8, Java: The Complete Reference, Ninth Edition explains how to develop, compile, debug, and run Java programs. Bestselling programming author Herb Schildt covers the entire Java language, including its syntax, keywords, and fundamental programming principles, as well as significant portions of the Java API library. JavaBeans, servlets, applets, and Swing are examined and real-world examples demonstrate Java in action. New Java SE 8 features such as lambda expressions, the stream library, and the default interface method are discussed in detail. This Oracle Press resource also offers a solid introduction to JavaFX. Coverage includes: Data types, variables, arrays, and operators Control statements Classes, objects, and methods Method overloading and overriding Inheritance Interfaces and packages Exception handling Multithreaded programming Enumerations, autoboxing, and annotations The I/O classes Generics Lambda expressions String handling The Collections Framework Networking Event handling AWT and Swing The Concurrent API The Stream API Regular expressions JavaFX JavaBeans Applets and servlets Much, much more

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The first impression after reading this book for one day -- it is definitely not a complete reference. Many important points are covered too shallow. For example, while discussing Properties, the author mentions that this API is sort of obsolete, but he doesn't mention Preferences. In fact, Preferences

are not mentioned at all (at least I couldn't find it in the Index). Another example -- StringTokenizer class, for which the author dedicates two pages, but doesn't mention how it is different from String.split, e.g. from the performance point of view. There are javadocs for ArrayList, but it doesn't say how it grows and when it shrinks. I was unable to find some of the important contracts, e.g. what has the higher priority for a TreeSet -- Comparator's 0, or element's equals returning false? Those are rather trivial questions, naturally appearing while reading the book, but unfortunately you'll have to google for it. The author provides virtually no hints about the implementation of the library and the language, which I believe is essential for understanding most of the design decisions. This is absolutely unacceptable for a reference book. There are two other annoying things: 1. The book is full of Javadocs, I would say 1/3 of the book is Oracle javadocs, which I personally find rather useless. It looks like something completely artificial, added just to extend this (already enormous) volume. 2. The book is very thick, while the binding and cover are very soft and unsubstantial. It had some signs of wear already after one day of reading! If you use this book regularly as a reference, it will wear out very soon. Having said that, I must mention that some of the topics are covered well, concise and right to the point.

A little background: Started programming as a child on my family's Mac II GS. I enjoyed freaking my mom out when I would make the computer count forever via an infinite loop. I self taught myself to program on my TI 83 in middle school, html and adobe photoshop in high school, css in college, Perl for bioinformatics purposes. Skip to now... realizing that somewhere along the line I forgot about my love to program so I self taught myself beginners C++ using TheNewBoston's YouTube tutorial videos. To sum it all up, I've a sporadic programming background... but nothing substantial in terms of profession/life goals.. Until this book. This book teaches at the perfect speed, and provides examples in a logical "here is the newbie way that works... but here is a better way... and yet here is an even BETTER way!". So you learn in a very easy step by step way. Treat this book as you would any math book, and work out EVERY SINGLE example, as well as try to work out what the console output would look like in your head or on paper and check it against the System.out provided (in the text). And then, after a few chapters, go back and try to do the 'Try This' programs and retake the quizzes to keep the info fresh, and see where your strengths and weaknesses lie. Other notes: I use JavaFX (IntelliJ IDEA) because I plan to eventually make a GUI program. I believe having a beginners knowledge in C++ has made me understand Java on a deeper level than those without. And this background has enabled me to learn Java faster and more efficiently.

Some reviewers have said this book is too big to read through. I'll put that to the test. This book is BIG but written very nicely. It is a reference book, yes, but can be read through comfortably. It is clear and succinct without embellishment. There are plenty of examples throughout each section to apply the outlined knowledge. I especially like how some sections include the *why* of the way things are. It helps with understanding. I am an experienced programmer coming from many other object-oriented languages and wanted a way to learn Java without the fluff. This book is perfect in that respect. It is in no way a novice guide to programming. If you are not familiar--at least conceptually--and experienced with OOP/OOD (among other things), come back later for this massive text. Otherwise, it's worth the splurge at ~\$45 for nearly 1300 pages. It is well-organized and written with great clarity.

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