

# The Java® Language Specification SE 8 Edition

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Table 1: Data sheet for The Java® Language Specification

Title	The Java® Language Specification
Acronym	Java
Version	SE 8 Edition
Document Number	
Release Date	13 February 2015
Reference	<a href="https://docs.oracle.com/javase/specs/jls/se8/html/">https://docs.oracle.com/javase/specs/jls/se8/html/</a>

**Note:** The following is an excerpt from the official site. It is provided here as a convenience and is not authoritative. Refer to the original document as the authoritative reference.

## Introduction

*The Java® programming language is a general-purpose, concurrent, class-based, object-oriented language. It is designed to be simple enough that many programmers can achieve fluency in the language. The Java programming language is related to C and C++ but is organized rather differently, with a number of aspects of C and C++ omitted and a few ideas from other languages included. It is intended to be a production language, not a research language, and so, as C. A. R. Hoare suggested in his classic paper on language design, the design has avoided including new and untested features.*

*The Java programming language is strongly and statically typed. This specification clearly distinguishes between the compile-time errors that can and must be detected at compile time, and those that occur at run time. Compile time normally consists of translating programs into a machine-independent byte code representation. Run-time activities include loading and linking of the classes needed to execute a program, optional machine code generation and dynamic optimization of the program, and actual program execution.*

*The Java programming language is a relatively high-level language, in that details of the machine representation are not available through the language. It includes automatic storage management, typically using a garbage collector, to avoid the safety problems of explicit deallocation (as in C's free or C++'s delete). High-performance garbage-collected implementations can have bounded pauses to support systems programming and real-time applications. The language does not include any unsafe constructs, such as array accesses without index checking, since such unsafe constructs would cause a program to behave in an unspecified way.*

*The Java programming language is normally compiled to the bytecode instruction set and binary*

*format defined in The Java Virtual Machine Specification, Java SE 8 Edition.*

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