



# Set and Map

Introduction to the Set and Map  
data structures in Java



# Set - a collection of unique elements

- Set is an interface in java.util
- Elements of a set are unique - no duplicates allowed
- Three implementations:
  - HashSet (unordered)
  - TreeSet (ordered by value "sorted")
  - LinkedHashSet (insert order)

# Set - when to use

- There cannot be any duplicates
  - A deck of cards
  - You want to count unique occurrences
    - hashCode() and equals() must be correct for sets to work!
  - You collect objects but want to ignore duplicates
- Use TreeSet<T> when you want elements to be “sorted”
- Use LinkedHashSet<T> when you want to retain insert order

# Set - some set operations

```
Set<SomeType> s1 = ...
Set<SomeType> s2 = ...
boolean isSuperSet = s1.containsAll(s2); // s2 is a subset of s1

s1.addAll(s2); // the union of s1 and s2 - all elements in both, uniquely

s1.retainAll(s2); // intersection - only the elements common to both sets

s1.removeAll(s2); // Set difference, keep the elements of s1 NOT also in s2

// Copy constructor - create a new set (e.g. HashSet) from a collection
s1 = new HashSet<SomeType>(s2); // s2 can be any collection removing dupes
```

# Set - creating sets - from a stream

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    Set<String> uniqueArgs =  
        Arrays.asList(args)  
            .stream()  
            .collect(Collectors.toSet());  
    // do something with uniqueArgs;  
}
```

# Set - creating sets - in a for-each-loop

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    Set<String> uniqueArgs = new HashSet<>();  
    for (String arg : args) {  
        uniqueArgs.add(arg);  
    }  
    // do something with uniqueArgs;  
}
```

# Set - creating sets - copy constructor

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    Set<String> uniqueArgs =  
        new HashSet<>(Arrays.asList(args));  
    // do something with uniqueArgs;  
}
```

# Further reading

- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/collections/interfaces/set.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/HashSet.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/TreeSet.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/LinkedHashSet.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/Collection.html>

Up next: Map!



# Map - a dictionary of sorts

- Key-Value pairs
- Keys are a Set! No duplicate keys!
- Sometimes called “associative array”
- Similar to Properties
- Useful for storing settings etc
  - language => English
  - os => GNU/Linux
- One object for a relation (mapping) of keys and values
  - Don't use two parallel arrays for this for emacs sake
- Is an interface in `java.util`
  - Not part of the collections hierarchy, but is its ugly cousin

# Map - when to use

- You have a set of related values and want to group them in one object
- You want to look up values easily, using an object (such as String) as the key
- You want lookups to be fast
  - You DON'T want to search an array or a List for an object whose key you already have
- HashMap is a fast implementation
- TreeMap keeps the keys in a sorted set

# Map - Some operations

```
Map<String, Integer> studentScore = new HashMap<>();  
studentScore.put("Henrik Sandklef", 5);  
studentScore.put("Rikard Fröberg", 4);
```

```
Integer henrikGrade = studentScore.get("Henrik Sandklef");
```

```
// Clear all key-values:  
studentScore.clear();
```

```
// Transfer all key-values to other map:  
someOtherMap.putAll(studentScore); // replacing existing keys
```

```
// copyConstructor:  
Map<String, Integer> copyMap = new HashMap<>(studentScore);
```

# Map - Some operations

```
// Iterate over the keys:
for (String student : studentScore.keySet()) {
    if (studentScore.get(student) > 3 ) {
        System.out.println(student + " has an OK score.");
    } else {
        System.out.println(student + " should study more.");
    }
}
```

# Counting word frequencies - “random” order

```
import java.util.*;

public class WordFrequency {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Map<String, Integer> frequencies = new HashMap<>();
        for (String arg : args) {
            Integer frequency = frequencies.get(arg);
            if (frequency == null) { // arg didn't exist "
                frequency = 0;
            }
            frequencies.put(arg, frequency + 1);
        }
        System.out.println(frequencies);
    }
}

$ javac WordFrequency.java && java WordFrequency it put the lotion on its skin or it gets
the hose again
{the=2, or=1, again=1, skin=1, its=1, hose=1, lotion=1, it=2, gets=1, put=1, on=1}
```

# Counting word frequencies - lexicographical order

```
import java.util.*;

public class WordFrequency {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        Map<String, Integer> frequencies = new TreeMap<>();
        for (String arg : args) {
            Integer frequency = frequencies.get(arg);
            if (frequency == null) { // arg didn't exist "
                frequency = 0;
            }
            frequencies.put(arg, frequency + 1);
        }
        System.out.println(frequencies);
    }
}

$ javac WordFrequency.java && java WordFrequency it put the lotion on its skin or it gets
the hose again
{again=1, gets=1, hose=1, it=2, its=1, lotion=1, on=1, or=1, put=1, skin=1, the=2}
```

# Could you spot the difference?

- Always program against the interface type Map (same goes for Set, List etc)
- Changing from HashMap to TreeMap made the order of the keys (as shown in the toString()) be sorted

# Further reading

- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/tutorial/collections/interfaces/map.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/Map.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/HashMap.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/TreeMap.html>
- <https://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/java/util/LinkedHashMap.html>