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JAVA 2 核 LI编程

第1卷:基础篇 (第6版,影印版)



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Sun microsystems

(美) Cay S. Horstmann, Gary Cornell 著

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Java 2 核 心 编 程

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List of Tables, Code Examples, and Figures

Tables

- 1-1: The Growth of the Java Standard Edition API, 11
- 2-1: Java directory tree, 18
- 3-1: Java integer types, 39
- 3-2: Floating-point types, 40
- 3-3: Special characters, 41
- 3-4: Operator precedence, 49
- 3-5: Growth of an investment at different interest rates, 83
- 4-1: UML notation for class relationships, 93
- 7-1: Standard colors, 258
- 7-2: System colors, 260
- 8-1: Event handling summary, 298
- 8-2: Sample cursor shapes, 307
- 8-3: Predefined action table names, 317
- 8-4: Input map conditions, 319
- 9-1: The accessor methods of the ButtonModel interface, 340
- 9-2: MaskFormatter symbols, 361

- 9-3: Adding a Spring to an Overconstrained Component, 441
- 10-1: Applet positioning attributes, 503
- 10-2: showDocument arguments, 515
- 10-3: jar program options, 524
- 11-1: Timing data, 576
- 11-2: File handler configuration parameters, 584
- 11-3: Log file pattern variables, 584
- 11-4: HPROF options, 609
- 11-5: Debugging commands, 616
- 12-1: Basic character encodings (in rt.jar), 634
- 12-2: Extended Character Encodings (in i18n.jar), 634
- 12-3: Required character encodings, 697
- 12-4: Regular expression syntax, 700
- 12-5: Predefined character class names, 701



Code Examples

oae	Examples		
2-1:	Welcome.java, 20	8-2:	PlafTest.java, 290
2-2:	ImageViewer.java, 28	8-3:	Sketch.java, 302
2-3:	WelcomeApplet.html, 30		MouseTest.java, 309
2-4:	WelcomeApplet.java, 32	8-5:	ActionTest.java, 320
	FirstSample.java, 38	8-6:	MulticastTest.java, 325
3-2:	InputTest.java, 57	8-7:	CustomEventTest.java, 331
3-3:	Retirement.java, 65	9-1:	Calculator.java, 347
3-4:	Retirement2.java, 66	9-2:	TextTest.java, 353
3-5:	LotteryOdds.java, 70	9-3:	FormatTest.java, 363
	BigIntegerTest.java, 75	9-4:	TextAreaTest.java, 372
3-7:	LotteryDrawing.java, 80	9-5:	TextEditTest.java, 376
3-8:	CompoundInterest.java, 83	9-6:	CheckBoxTest.java, 379
3-9:	LotteryArray.java, 86	9-7:	RadioButtonTest.java, 383
4-1:	CalendarTest.java, 102	9-8:	BorderTest.java, 386
4-2:	EmployeeTest.java, 106	9-9:	ComboBoxTest.java, 390
4-3:	StaticTest.java, 117	9-10:	SliderTest.java, 394
4-4:	ParamTest.java, 122	9-11:	SpinnerTest.java, 400
4-5:	ConstructorTest.java, 129	9-12:	MenuTest.java, 416
4-6:	PackageTest.java, 134	9-13:	ToolBarTest.java, 422
4-7:	Employee.java, 134	9-14:	BoxLayoutTest.java, 428
5-1:	ManagerTest.java, 150	9-15:	FontDialog.java, 434
5-2:	PersonTest.java, 160	9-16:	SpringLayoutTest.java, 441
5-3:	EqualsTest.java, 167	9-17:	CircleLayoutTest.java, 447
5-4:	ArrayListTest.java, 175	9-18:	OptionDialogTest.java, 455
5-5:	ReflectionTest.java, 185	9-19:	DialogTest.java, 464
5-6:	ObjectAnalyzerTest.java, 190	9-20:	DataExchangeTest.java, 468
5-7:	ArrayGrowTest.java, 193	9-21:	FileChooserTest.java, 478
5-8:	MethodPointerTest.java, 197	9-22:	ColorChooserTest.java, 486
6-1:	EmployeeSortTest.java, 203	10-1:	NotHelloWorldApplet.java, 494
6-2:	TimerTest.java, 209	10-2:	Calculator.html, 497
6-3:	CloneTest.java, 213		CalculatorApplet.java, 497
6-4:	InnerClassTest.java, 218		PopupCalculatorApplet.java, 501
6-5:	AnonymousInnerClassTest.java,	10-5:	Chart.java, 508
	226	10-6:	Bookmark.html, 516
6-6:	StaticInnerClassTest.java, 228	10-7:	Left.html, 517
	ProxyTest.java, 232	10-8:	Right.html, 517
	SimpleFrameTest.java, 239	10-9:	Bookmark.java, 517
	CenteredFrameTest.java, 244		AppletFrame.java, 521
7-3:	NotHelloWorld.java, 250	10-11:	Calculator Applet Application. java,
	DrawTest.java, 256		522
	FillTest.java, 261		ResourceTest.java, 529
	FontTest.java, 266		WebStartCalculator.java, 537
	ImageTest.java, 272		CustomWorld.java, 547
8-1:	ButtonTest.java, 282	10-15:	SystemInfo.java, 550

Tables, Examples, and Figures



- 10-16: PreferencesTest.java, 553
 - 11-1: StackTraceTest.java, 570
 - 11-2: ExceptTest.java, 572
 - 11-3: ExceptionalTest.java, 578
 - 11-4: LoggingImageViewer.java, 587
 - 11-5: ConsoleWindow.java, 601
 - 11-6: EventTracer.java, 603
 - 11-7: EventTracerTest.java, 605
 - 11-8: RobotTest.java, 606
- 11-9: WordCount.java, 612
- 11-10: BuggyButtonTest.java, 614
- 11-11: BuggyButtonFrame.java, 614

Figures

- 1-1: The Jmol applet, 9
- 2-1: Compiling and running Welcome.java, 19
- 2-2: Starting Sun ONE Studio, 21
- 2-3: The edit window of Sun ONE Studio, 22
- 2-4: The output window of Sun ONE Studio, 22
- 2-5: Error messages in Sun ONE Studio, 23
- 2-6: Starting a new program in Sun ONE Studio, 23
- 2-7: Compiling a program with Emacs, 24
- 2-8: Running a program from within Emacs, 25
- 2-9: Locating compilation errors in TextPad, 26
- 2-10: Running a Java program from TextPad, 26
- 2-11: Running the ImageViewer application, 27
- 2-12: The WelcomeApplet applet as viewed by the applet viewer, 30
- 2-13: Running the WelcomeApplet applet in a browser, 31
- 3-1: Legal conversions between numeric types, 48
- 3-2: The three panes of the API documentation, 54
- 3-3: Class description for the String class, 54

- 11-12: BuggyButtonPanel.java, 615
 - 12-1: ZipTest.java, 642
- 12-2: DataFileTest.java, 651
- 12-3: RandomFileTest.java, 657
- 12-4: ObjectFileTest.java, 662
- 12-5: ObjectRefTest.java, 672
- 12-6: SerialCloneTest.java, 68212-7: FindDirectories.java, 686
- 12-8: CRC.java, 692
- 12-9: NIOCRC.java, 692
- 12-10: RegexTest.java, 702
- 12-11: HrefMatch.java, 704
 - 3-4: Method summary of the String class, 55
 - 3-5: Detailed description of a String method, 55
 - 3-6: An input dialog, 56
 - 3-7: Flowchart for the if statement, 61
 - 3-8: Flowchart for the if/else statement, 62
 - 3-9: Flowchart for the if/else if (multiple branches), 63
- 3-10: Flowchart for the while statement, 64
- 3-11: Flowchart for the do/while statement, 67
- 3-12: Flowchart for the for statement, 68
- 3-13: Flowchart for the switch statement, 72
- 3-14: Copying an array variable, 78
- 3-15: Copying values between arrays, 78
- 3-16: A two-dimensional array, 85
- 4-1: A class diagram, 94
- 4-2: Procedural vs. OO programming, 95
- 4-3: Creating a new object, 97
- 4-4: Object variables that refer to the same object, 97
- 4-5: Returning a reference to a mutable data field, 112
- 4-6: Modifying a numeric parameter has no lasting effect, 119
- 4-7: Modifying an object parameter has a lasting effect, 120



- 4-8: Swapping object parameters has no lasting effect, 121
- 4-9: Changing the warning string in an applet window, 138
- 5-1: Employee inheritance hierarchy, 152
- 5-2: Inheritance diagram for Person and its subclasses, 158
- 6-1: Copying and cloning, 210
- 6-2: A shallow copy, 211
- 6-3: An inner class object has a reference to an outer class object, 217
- 7-1: The Windows look and feel of Swing, 237
- 7-2: The Motif look and feel of Swing, 237
- 7-3: The Metal look and feel of Swing, 238
- 7-4: The simplest visible frame, 239
- 7-5: Inheritance hierarchy for the JFrame and JPanel classes, 242
- 7-6: A simple graphical program, 246
- 7-7: The internal structure of a JFrame, 247
- 7-8: 2D rectangle classes, 253
- 7-9: The bounding rectangle of an ellipse, 254
- 7-10: Relationships between the shape classes, 254
- 7-11: Rectangles and ellipses, 255
- 7-12: Filled rectangles and ellipses, 261
- 7-13: Typesetting terms illustrated, 265
- 7-14: Drawing the baseline and string bounds, 266
- 7-15: Window with tiled graphics image, 271
- 8-1: Event notification, 279
- 8-2: A panel filled with buttons, 280
- 8-3: Switching the Look and Feel, 290
- 8-4: A window listener, 293
- 8-5: Inheritance diagram of the AWT event classes, 295
- 8-6: Relationship between event sources and listeners, 299
- 8-7: A sketch program, 302
- 8-8: A mouse test program, 305

- 8-9: Buttons display the icons from the Action objects, 318
- 8-10: All frames listen to the Close all command, 324
- 8-11: Using custom timer events to simulate rainfall, 330
- 9-1: Model and view of a text field, 336
- 9-2: Two separate views of the same model, 337
- 9-3: A window place, 338
- 9-4: Interactions between model, view, and controller objects, 339
- 9-5: A panel with three buttons, 341
- 9-6: A panel with six buttons managed by a flow layout, 342
- 9-7: Changing the panel size rearranges the buttons automatically, 342
- 9-8: Border layout, 343
- 9-9: A single button managed by a border layout, 345
- 9-10: A panel placed at the south end of the frame, 345
- 9-11: A calculator, 346
- 9-12: Text field example, 351
- 9-13: The FormatTest program, 363
- 9-14: A text area, 371
- 9-15: Testing text editing, 375
- 9-16: Check boxes, 379
- 9-17: A radio button group, 382
- 9-18: Testing border types, 386
- 9-19: A combo box, 389
- 9-20: Sliders, 393
- 9-21: Several variations of the JSpinner component, 398
- 9-22: A menu with a submenu, 406
- 9-23: Icons in menu items, 409
- 9-24: A checked menu item and menu items with radio buttons, 410
- 9-25: A pop-up menu, 411
- 9-26: Keyboard mnemonics, 413
- 9-27: Accelerators, 414
- 9-28: Disabled menu items, 415
- 9-29: A tool bar, 419
- 9-30: Dragging the tool bar, 420
- 9-31: Dragging the tool bar to another border, 420

Tables, Examples, and Figures



- 9-32: Detaching the tool bar, 420
- 9-33: A tool tip, 421
- 9-34: Inheritance hierarchy for the Component class, 425
- 9-35: Box layouts, 428
- 9-36: Font dialog box, 431
- 9-37: Dialog box grid used in design, 431
- 9-38: A spring, 437
- 9-39: Summing springs, 437
- 9-40: Equally Spaced Buttons, 438
- 9-41: Springs and Struts, 439
- 9-42: Lining up Columns, 439
- 9-43: Horizontal springs attached to a component, 440
- 9-44: Circle layout, 446
- 9-45: Geometric traversal order, 451
- 9-46: An option dialog, 453
- 9-47: The OptionDialogTest program, 454
- 9-48: An About dialog box, 463
- 9-49: Password dialog box, 466
- 9-50: File chooser dialog box, 473
- 9-51: A file dialog with a preview accessory, 478
- 9-52: The "swatches" pane of a color chooser, 484
- 9-53: The HSB pane of a color chooser, 484
- 9-54: The RGB pane of a color chooser, 485
- 10-1: Applet inheritance hierarchy, 493
- 10-2: Viewing an applet in the applet viewer, 495
- 10-3: Viewing an applet in a browser, 496
- 10-4: A calculator applet, 497
- 10-5: A pop-up window inside a browser, 501
- 10-6: Applet alignment, 503
- 10-7: A chart applet, 507
- 10-8: A bookmark applet, 516
- 10-9: The calculator as an application, 519
- 10-10: The calculator as an applet, 519

- 10-11: Displaying a resource from a JAR file, 527
- 10-12: Launching Java Web Start, 533
- 10-13: The Calculator delivered by Java Web Start, 533
- 10-14: The Java Web Start Application Manager, 534
- 10-15: A Java Web Start Security Advisory, 534
- 10-16: The WebStartCalculator Application, 537
- 10-17: The customized Hello World program, 546
- 11-1: Exception hierarchy in Java, 559
- 11-2: A program that generates exceptions, 572
- 11-3: A log handler that displays records in a window, 584
- 11-4: The console window, 601
- 11-5: The EventTracer class at work, 602
- 11-6: Breakpoints in the Sun ONE Studio debugger, 619
- 11-7: Stopping at a Breakpoint, 620
- 12-1: Input and Output stream hierarchy, 625
- 12-2: Reader and Writer hierarchy, 626
- 12-3: A sequence of filtered stream, 628
- 12-4: The ZipTest program, 642
- 12-5: Two managers can share a mutual employee, 669
- 12-6: Here, Harry is saved three times, 670
- 12-7: An example of object serialization, 671
- 12-8: Objects saved in random order, 672
- 12-9: The graphical version of the serialver program, 680
- 12-10: Reading an object with fewer data fields, 681
- 12-11: Reading an object with more data fields, 682

Preface

To the Reader

In late 1995, the Java programming language burst onto the Internet scene and gained instant celebrity status. The promise of Java technology was that it would become the *universal glue* that connects users with information, whether that information comes from Web servers, databases, information providers, or any other imaginable source. Indeed, Java is in a unique position to fulfill this promise. It is an extremely solidly engineered language that has gained acceptance by all major vendors, except for Microsoft. Its built-in security and safety features are reassuring both to programmers and to the users of Java programs. Java even has built-in support that makes advanced programming tasks, such as network programming, database connectivity, and multithreading, straightforward.

Since 1995, Sun Microsystems has released five major revisions of the Java Software Development Kit. Over the course of the last 7 years, the Application Programming Interface (API) has grown from about 200 to just over 3,000 classes. The API now spans such diverse areas as user interface construction, database management, internationalization, security, and XML processing.

The book you have in your hand is the first volume of the sixth edition of the Core Java book. With the publishing of each edition, the book followed the release of the Java Software Development Kit as quickly as possible, and each time, we rewrote the book to take advantage of the newest Java features.

As with the previous editions of this book, we still target serious programmers who want to put Java to work on real projects. We still guarantee no nervous text or dancing tooth-shaped characters. We think of you, our reader, as a programmer with a solid background in a programming language. But you do not need to know C++ or object-oriented programming. Based on the responses we have received to the earlier editions of this book, we remain confident that experienced Visual Basic, C, or COBOL programmers will have no trouble with this book. (You don't even need any experience in building graphical user interfaces for Windows, Unix, or the Macintosh.)

What we do is assume you want to:

Write real code to solve real problems;



Don't like books filled with toy examples (such as kitchen appliances or fruit trees).

In this book you will find lots of sample code that demonstrates almost every language and library feature that we discuss. We kept the sample programs purposefully simple to focus on the major points, but, for the most part, they aren't fake and they don't cut corners. They should make good starting points for your own code.

We assume you are willing, even eager, to learn about all the advanced features that Java puts at your disposal. For example, we give you a detailed treatment of:

- Object-oriented programming
- · Reflection and proxies
- · Interfaces and inner classes
- · The event listener model
- · Graphical user interface design with the Swing UI toolkit
- · Exception handling
- Stream input/output and object serialization

We still don't spend much time on the fun but less serious kind of Java programs whose sole purpose is to liven up your Web page. There are quite a few sources for this kind of material already—we recommend John Pew's book *Instant Java*, also published by Sun Microsystems Press.

Finally, with the explosive growth of the Java class library, a one-volume treatment of all the features of Java that serious programmers need to know is no longer possible. Hence, we decided to break the book up into two volumes. The first volume, which you hold in your hands, concentrates on the fundamental concepts of the Java language, along with the basics of user-interface programming. The second volume goes further into the enterprise features and advanced user-interface programming. It includes detailed discussions of:

- Multithreading
- · Distributed objects
- Databases
- Advanced GUI components
- Native methods
- XML Processing

- · Network programming
- · Collection classes
- · Advanced graphics
- Internationalization
- IavaBeans

When writing a book, errors and inaccuracies are inevitable. We'd very much like to know about them. But, of course, we'd prefer to learn about each of them only once. We have put up a list of frequently asked questions, bugs fixes, and workarounds in a Web page at http://www.horstmann.com/corejava.html. Strategically placed at the end of the FAQ (to encourage you to read through it first) is a form you can use to report bugs and suggest improvements. Please don't be disappointed if we don't answer every query or if we don't get back to you immediately. We do read all e-mail and appreciate your input to make future editions of this book clearer and more informative.

We hope that you find this book enjoyable and helpful in your Java programming.

About This Book

Chapter 1 gives an overview of the capabilities of Java that set it apart from other programming languages. We explain what the designers of the language set out to do and to what extent they succeeded. Then, we give a short history of how Java came into being and how it has evolved.

In Chapter 2, we tell you how to download and install the Java SDK from http://java.sun.com/j2se. We also describe how to download and install the Core Java program examples for



this book from www.phptr.com/corejava. Then we guide you through compiling and running three typical Java programs, a console application, a graphical application, and an applet.

Chapter 3 starts the discussion of the Java language. In this chapter, we cover the basics: variables, loops, and simple functions. If you are a C or C++ programmer, this is smooth sailing because the syntax for these language features is essentially the same as in C. If you come from a non-C background such as Visual Basic or COBOL, you will want to read this chapter carefully.

Object-oriented programming (OOP) is now in the mainstream of programming practice, and Java is completely object-oriented. Chapter 4 introduces encapsulation, the first of two fundamental building blocks of object orientation, and the Java language mechanism to implement it, that is, classes and methods. In addition to the rules of the Java language, we also give advice on sound OOP design. Finally, we cover the marvelous <code>javadoc</code> tool that formats your code comments as a set of hyperlinked web pages. If you are familiar with C++, then you can browse through this chapter quickly. Programmers coming from a non-object-oriented background should expect to spend some time mastering OOP concepts before going further with Java.

Classes and encapsulation are only one part of the OOP story, and Chapter 5 introduces the other, namely, inheritance. Inheritance lets you take an existing class and modify it according to your needs. This is a fundamental technique for programming in Java. The inheritance mechanism in Java is quite similar to that in C++. Once again, C++ programmers can focus on the differences between the languages.

Chapter 6 shows you how to use Java's notion of an *interface*. Interfaces let you go beyond the simple inheritance model of Chapter 5. Mastering interfaces allows you to have full access to the power of Java's completely object-oriented approach to programming. We also cover a useful technical feature of Java called *inner classes*. Inner classes help make your code cleaner and more concise.

In Chapter 7, we begin application programming in earnest. We show how you can make windows, how to paint on them, how to draw with geometric shapes, how to format text in multiple fonts, and how to display images.

Chapter 8 is a detailed discussion of the event model of the AWT, the abstract windows toolkit. (We discuss the event model that was added to Java 1.1, not the obsolete and simplistic 1.0 event model.) You'll see how to write the code that responds to events like mouse clicks or key presses. Along the way you'll see how to handle basic GUI elements like buttons and panels.

Chapter 9 discusses the Swing GUI toolkit in great detail. The Swing toolkit allows you to build a cross-platform graphical user interface. You'll learn all about the various kinds of buttons, text components, borders, sliders, list boxes, menus, and dialog boxes. However, some of the more advanced components are discussed in Volume 2.

After you finish Chapter 9, you finally have all mechanisms in place to write applets, those miniprograms that can live inside a Web page, and so applets are the topic of Chapter 10. We show you a number of useful and fun applets, but more importantly, we look at applets as a method of program deployment. We then describe how to package applications in JAR files, and how to deliver applications over the internet with the Java Web Start mechanism. Finally, we explain how Java programs can store and retrieve configuration information once they have been deployed.

Chapter 11 discusses *exception handling*, Java's robust mechanism to deal with the fact that bad things can happen to good programs. For example, a network connection can become unavailable in the middle of a file download, a disk can fill up, and so on. Exceptions give you an efficient way of separating the normal processing code from the error handling. Of course, even after hardening your program by handling all exceptional conditions, it still might fail to work as expected. In the second half of this chapter, we give you a large number of useful debugging tips. Finally, we guide you through sample sessions with various



tools: the JDB debugger, the debugger of an integrated development environment, a profiler, a code coverage testing tool, and the AWT robot.

We finish the book with input and output handling. In Java, all I/O is handled through so-called *streams*. Streams let you deal in a uniform manner with communicating with any source of data, such as files, network connections, or memory blocks. We include detailed coverage of the reader and writer classes, which make it easy to deal with Unicode. We show you what goes on under the hood when you use the object serialization mechanism, which makes saving and loading objects easy and convenient. Finally, we cover several libraries that have been added to SDK 1.4: the "new I/O" classes that contain support for advanced and more efficient file operations, and the regular expression library.

An appendix lists the Java language keywords.

Conventions

As is common in many computer books, we use courier type to represent computer code.



There are many C++ notes that explain the difference between Java and C++. You can skip over them if you don't have a background in C++ or if you consider your experience with that language a bad dream of which you'd rather not be reminded.



Notes and tips are tagged with "note" and "tip" icons that look like these.





When there is danger ahead, we warn you with a "Caution" icon.



Java comes with a large programming library or Application Programming Interface (API). When using an API call for the first time, we add a short summary description tagged with an API icon at the end of the section. These descriptions are a bit more informal, but we hope also a little

more informative than those in the official on-line API documentation. We now tag each API note with the version number in which the feature was introduced, to help the readers who don't use the "bleeding edge" version of Java.

Programs whose source code is on the web are listed as examples, for instance **Example 2–4: WelcomeApplet.java.**

Sample Code

The web site for this book at http://www.phptr.com/corejava contains all sample code from the book, in compressed form. You can expand the file either with one of the familiar unzipping programs or simply with the jar utility that is part of the Java Software Development Kit. See Chapter 2 for more information about installing the Software Development Kit and the sample code.

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Contents

Preface, xvii To the Reader, xvii About This Book, xviii Conventions, xx Sample Code, xx
Acknowledgments, xxi
Chapter 1
An Introduction to Java, 1 Java as a Programming Tool, 2 Advantages of Java, 2 The Java "White Paper" Buzzwords, 3 Simple, 4 Object Oriented, 4 Distributed, 5 Robust, 5 Secure, 5 Architecture Neutral, 6 Portable, 7 Interpreted, 7 High Performance, 7 Multithreaded, 8 Dynamic, 8 Java and the Internet, 8 A Short History of Java, 9 Common Misconceptions About Java, 11
Chapter 2
The Java Programming Environment, 15 Installing the Java Software Development Kit, 15



```
Setting the Execution Path, 16
            Installing the Library Source and Documentation, 17
            Installing the Core Java Program Examples, 17
            Navigating the Java Directories, 17
     Development Environments, 18
     Using the Command Line Tools, 19
            Troubleshooting Hints, 20
     Using an Integrated Development Environment, 21
           Locating Compilation Errors, 22
     Compiling and Running Programs from a Text Editor, 24
     Graphical Applications, 27
     Applets, 29
  Chapter 3
Fundamental Programming Structures in Java, 35
     A Simple Java Program, 35
     Comments, 38
     Data Types, 39
           Integers, 39
           Floating-Point Types, 40
           The Character Type, 41
           The boolean Type, 42
     Variables, 42
     Assignments and Initializations, 43
           Constants, 43
     Operators, 44
           Increment and Decrement Operators, 45
           Relational and boolean Operators, 45
           Bitwise Operators, 46
           Mathematical Functions and Constants, 47
           Conversions Between Numeric Types, 47
           Casts, 48
           Parentheses and Operator Hierarchy, 49
     Strings, 49
           Concatenation, 50
           Substrings, 50
           String Editing, 50
           Testing Strings for Equality, 52
           Reading the On-line API Documentation, 53
           Reading Input, 56
           Formatting Output, 57
     Control Flow, 60
           Block Scope, 60
           Conditional Statements, 61
           Indeterminate Loops, 64
           Determinate Loops, 68
           Multiple Selections—the switch Statement, 70
           Breaking Control Flow, 71
           Big Numbers, 74
     Arrays, 76
```



Array Initializers and Anonymous Arrays, 77 Copying Arrays, 77 Command Line Parameters, 79 Sorting an Array, 79 Multidimensional Arrays, 82 Ragged Arrays, 85

Chapter 4

Objects and Classes, 89

Introduction to Object-Oriented Programming, 89

The Vocabulary of OOP, 91

Objects, 91

Relationships Between Classes, 92

Contrasting OOP with Traditional Procedural Programming Techniques, 94

Using Existing Classes, 96

Objects and Object Variables, 96

The GregorianCalendar Class of the Java Library, 98

Building Your Own Classes, 104

An Employee Class, 104

Using Multiple Source Files, 107

Analyzing the Employee Class, 108

First Steps with Constructors, 108

The Methods of the Employee Class, 110

Method Access to Private Data, 113

Private Methods, 113

Final Instance Fields, 113

Static Fields and Methods, 114

Static Fields, 114

Constants, 114

Static Methods, 115

Factory Methods, 116

The main Method, 116 Method Parameters, 118

Object Construction, 124

Overloading, 124

Default Field Initialization, 124

Default Constructors, 125

Explicit Field Initialization, 125

Parameter Names, 126

Calling Another Constructor, 127

Initialization Blocks, 127

Object Destruction and the finalize Method, 131

Packages, 131

Using Packages, 132

Documentation Comments, 139

How to Insert Comments, 139

Class Comments, 139

Method Comments, 140

Field Comments, 140

General Comments, 141