

## **Introduction to Javadoc**

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### **Overview**

- What is Javadoc
- Problems Javadoc addresses
- How Javadoc works
- What is needed to generate Javadoc
- Who should write Javadoc
- Limitations of Javadoc
- Win prizes!

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### **What is Javadoc**

- Creates documentation from source code comments
- Uses doclets to generate documents in a number of formats
- Produces up-to-date API documentation
- Enables developers to create a reference for their own code

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**What is needed to generate Javadoc?**

- Java Development Kit (JDK) – required
- An IDE like NetBeans and Eclipse – optional

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**Similar tools**

- CppDoc
- NDoc
- Doxygen
- Key: Use the appropriate tool for the programming language and target reader

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**Now, a demo...**

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### **Who should write Javadoc?**

“Here at Java Software, the doc comments are not owned exclusively by writers or programmers, but their ownership is shared between them. It is a basic premise that writers and programmers honor each other’s capabilities and both contribute to the best doc comments possible.”

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### **Types of partnerships**

- Engineer writes – writer revises
- Writer writes in source code with Engineer input
- Engineer and writer collaborate on specs, which become the basis for source code comments
- Key: Pick the partnership that works best for you and the project

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### **How to modify Javadoc**

- Build options
- Doclets

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**Now, another demo...**

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**Limitations of Javadoc**

- Provides only API documentation
- Difficult to write lengthy explanations
- Difficult to generate doclets

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**Providing additional information**

- Overview topic
- Incorporate Javadoc as part of online help or guide

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### **Options for doclets**

- Use an existing doclet  
<http://www.doclet.com>
- Use a third-party doclet tool
- Learn Java and how to develop doclets

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### **Summary**

- Javadoc saves time in developing API documentation and keep it in sync
- Javadoc is a collaborative effort
- Javadoc provides a good API reference, but you need more material to create a complete developers guide
- See “Javadoc Resources” for related Web sites

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### **Contact me**

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# Javadoc Resources

## Javadoc Information on the Sun Web Site

### Javadoc Tool

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/javadoc/index.jsp>

Home page with links to information about Javadoc and the latest Javadoc information.

### How to Write Doc Comments for the Javadoc Tool

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/javadoc/writingdoccomments/index.html>

Sun's guidelines for writing comments for Javadoc, including when to use different types of tags and style conventions.

### Requirements for Writing Java API Specifications

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/javadoc/writingapispecs/index.html>

Sun's guidelines for writing API specifications in general. Helpful to determine the amount and structure of information for documentation.

### Doclet Overview

<http://java.sun.com/j2se/1.4.2/docs/tooldocs/javadoc/overview.html>

How to create doclets. Includes some code samples.

### Java Forums - Javadoc Tool

<http://forum.java.sun.com/forum.jspa?forumID=41>

Sun's forum for Javadoc developers. More civilized than TECHWR-L.

## Other Sources of Javadoc Information

### ANT Script Options for Generating Javadoc

<http://ant.apache.org/manual/CoreTasks/javadoc.html>

Supported options and command syntax for generating Javadoc from an ANT build script.

## Doclet Resources

### Doclet.com

<http://www.doclet.com/>

Links to a variety of doclet resources, including tools, downloadable doclets, and documentation for creating doclets.

### DocFlexor by Filgris Works

[http://www.filigris.com/products/docflexor\\_for\\_javadoc/about.php](http://www.filigris.com/products/docflexor_for_javadoc/about.php)

A graphic designer for creating doclet extensions. Interface enables you to modify most (but not all) options supported by doclets.

### AurigaDoclet by Auriga Logic

<http://aurigadoclet.sourceforge.net/>

A Javadoc doclet that can generate Java API document in FO, PDF, PostScript, PCL, and SVG formats.

### Javadoc Doclet eXtension (JDcX)

<http://www.swe.uni-linz.ac.at/research/jdcx/>

A small framework for building configurable and flexible doclets. Written by Rudolf Ramler of Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria.

## General Java Information

### New to Java Center on the Sun Web Site

<http://java.sun.com/>

Starting point for all things Java. Get an introduction to the Java platform, follow a tutorial, and learn how to get started with Java.

### NetBeans and Eclipse

<http://www.netbeans.org/>

<http://www.eclipse.org/>

Free and popular open-source integrated development environments (IDE) for Java development.