

A Brief History of Java™



1991

Leadership at Sun Microsystems brainstorm a stealth project (The 'Green Project') to explore consumer electronic opportunities. Technical investments begin on the Oak programming language, later re-named to Java.



1995

• Java 1.0

Java makes its debut — With almost 16 million users worldwide, the internet era has begun, and Java emerges into the limelight when Sun announces it to the world during the SunWorld conference.



Java 1.2

1998

With over 2 million downloads of Java 1.1, Sun Microsystems releases Java 1.2 at the JavaOne conference (attracting over 15,000 attendees).



2000

• Java 1.3

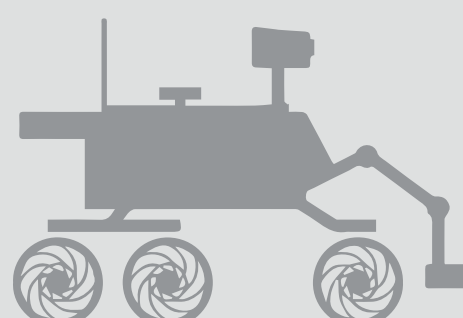
The breadth of devices leveraging Java technology expands from ATM machines, mobile phones, game machines, cameras, point-of-sale terminals, to desktops, smart cards and more.



Java 1.4

2002

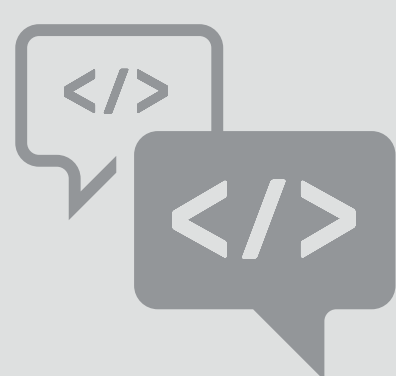
During a JavaOne conference keynote demo, Sun showcases how Java can be applied end-to-end from the application to the database to interface with a diverse mix of client devices.



2004

• Java 1.5

There are now 4 million Java developers worldwide with Java powering 650 million desktop users, 1.5 billion devices, as well as Java technology powering the Mars Rover (Spirit) as it touches down on Mars.



Java 1.6

2006

Sun Microsystems release Java to open source development in a move to drive further adoption of the technology. It's made available under the GNU General Public License, the same license used by the Linux operating system.



2014

• Java 8

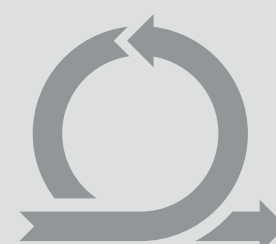
The most significant top-to-bottom changes to the Java language appear, including the addition of functional programming features such as lambdas.



Java 9

2017

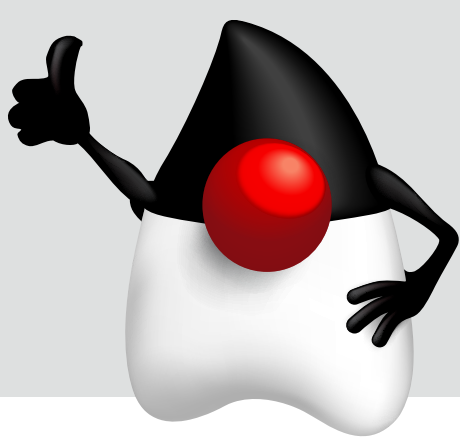
Oracle introduces modularity into the Java platform, making it easier for developers to construct and maintain libraries. It is when Oracle also announces a shift to a six-month release cadence to deliver innovation to developers faster.



2019

• Java 12

Java 12 is the third release under the six-month release cadence and continues to introduce new innovation at a faster pace for developers.



Did you know: Java Duke was originally designed by Joe Palrang, the graphic artist at Sun Microsystems, also known for his work on popular animated movies such as Shrek, Over the Hedge, and Flushed Away.

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