

## Chapter 1 : Horstmann, Scala for the Impatient, 2nd Edition | Pearson

*Core Java for the Impatient [Cay S. Horstmann] on calendrierdelascience.com \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. The release of Java SE 8 introduced significant enhancements that impact the Core Java technologies and APIs at the heart of the Java platform.*

You are reading this review most likely because somebody recommended that book to you and you wanted to learn about it more. When I was looking for new Java books some time ago, almost every forum or blog was recommending to give Core Java a try. The first edition of this book was released in covering the very first edition of Java. Today, 20 years later, we can read the tenth edition covering Java 8. The first thing that you will notice about this book is its size – the book consist of a little over pages. While Core Java covers Java fundamentals in detail, it also goes quite far beyond them as well. Finishing this book will give you a solid understanding of the most important parts of Java. One thing that actually made me worried about Core Java is if it contains fillers. If you ever saw in a book an n-th example showing the same very simple concept, or some unnecessary story, it was most likely a filler to increase page count to required amount. It consist of really well written text with all concepts explained simply and shorty. No unnecessary extended examples or talking about unrelated things. Those pages are pure knowledge. When you open the book, the first thing you will see is the table of contents. A quite big table of contents – it takes good 14 pages. I really like its construction, because it allows to use the book as a reference when you want to recall something during actual programming. You can find the entire table of contents at the end of this review to get the idea what the book covers. The general construction and structure of the book makes it very easy to read. There may be chapters that you are not interested in, like a big section about GUI programming. When you will look at the table of contents you will always get a clear image of what given chapter covers. Core Java begins with a general description of the Java Platform. The author also discusses a few common misconceptions and stereotypes about Java. After learning about the ideas and concepts behind Java, you will learn how to prepare your work environment. The next chapter consist of about 80 pages and discusses the fundamental structures of Java. Data types, operators, basic input and output and control flow are examples of what is covered. What I liked in this chapter is that Cay Horstmann explains this topic very simply and clearly. He does not focuses on explanations what a variable or a for-loop is – he assumes that you know what those elements. He focuses instead on explaining how those elements are implemented and used specifically in Java. After learning about the fundamentals about basic Java structures, you will learn the most important concept in Java – object oriented programming. The first chapter discussing this concept is about the absolute basics: The next chapter covers inheritance and related concepts like polymorphism. Finally you will learn about interfaces and inner classes, as well as lambda expressions a new feature that came with Java 8. While lambdas are characteristic to functional programming, Java engineers implemented them in a very elegant way using functional interfaces. The author also covers the Reflection API that allows to work with classes and objects at runtime. After solid portion of knowledge about object oriented programming, you will learn about one of my most favorite mechanisms in Java – exceptions. Java has a very well implemented exceptions mechanism allowing to handle errors in elegant and efficient way. Beside exceptions, the author covers also assertions and logging mechanisms. In this chapter the author explains in an interesting way how generic programming is utilized in Java and how to write own generic code. In the next chapter Cay Horstmann covered Java collections. This chapter covers all you need to start working with tools like lists, tree sets, queues, stacks or maps. A solid part of the book, consisting of almost pages, is dedicated for programming GUIs graphical user interfaces using Swing. If you are not interested in this topic, you can safely skip those chapters. You will not miss any important concepts about the core Java itself. Chapter 13 discusses how proper Java applications deployment is done. This topic is very often not covered in detail, so finding it in Core Java was a nice surprise. The last chapter is dedicated for concurrency. Cay Horstmann took this chapter very seriously and got it discussed a little further that just fundamentals. With this chapter, you will learn how to write multi-threaded applications, utilizing the potential of multi-core processors. This book requires prior

knowledge of common programming concepts like control structures, data types, variables. Without prior experience in programming it will be difficult for you to understand the book. On the other hand, I have used this book for preparations for my OCA exam. The book covered all the exam requirements in very detail, making me very relaxed before the exam and allowed to pass it very easily. I am now using it in preparation for OCP exam and I can recommend it for anybody preparing for those exams. Summarizing, this is a wonderful book about Java, and one of the best books in general in my opinion. If you are a programmer seriously thinking about Java, then this is a mandatory position on your bookshelf. Buy Core Java Volume I: I found people often asked on Internet forums about the difference between those two books. It contains a good kickstart to Java if you want to get usable skills fast and you have prior knowledge with other languages. I have read it myself and I enjoyed it a lot. If you want to get started with Java real fast, Core Java for the Impatient is the book for you. If you look for more wide and in-detail knowledge, pick Core Java. Core Java Volume I: Fundamentals

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## Chapter 2 : Core Java for the Impatient

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