

Nested Classes

J8

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A class may be defined within another class. Such a class is called a *nested class*. The main motivation for nested classes is to improve encapsulation and clarity.

- **Static nested classes** (use `static` keyword) behave as if declared elsewhere, but happen to be packaged together in a single file, cannot refer directly to instance fields of parent
- an **inner class** (non-static) has direct access to the instance fields and members of its enclosing class.