

# ABSOLUTE JAVA™

SIXTH EDITION



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## Chapter 9

### Exception Handling

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# Introduction to Exception Handling

- Sometimes the best outcome can be when nothing unusual happens
- However, the case where exceptional things happen must also be prepared for
  - Java exception handling facilities are used when the invocation of a method may cause something exceptional to occur
  - Often the exception is some type of error condition

# Introduction to Exception Handling

- Java library software (or programmer-defined code) provides a mechanism that signals when something unusual happens
  - This is called *throwing an exception*
- In another place in the program, the programmer must provide code that deals with the exceptional case
  - This is called *handling the exception*

# try-throw-catch Mechanism

- The basic way of handling exceptions in Java consists of the *try-throw-catch* trio
- The **try** block contains the code for the basic algorithm
  - It tells what to do when everything goes smoothly
- It is called a **try** block because it "tries" to execute the case where all goes as planned
  - It can also contain code that throws an exception if something unusual happens

```
try
{
    CodeThatMayThrowAnException
}
```

# try-throw-catch Mechanism

`throw new`

`ExceptionClassName (PossiblySomeArguments) ;`

- When an exception is thrown, the execution of the surrounding **try** block is stopped
  - Normally, the flow of control is transferred to another portion of code known as the **catch** block
- The value thrown is the argument to the **throw** operator, and is always an object of some exception class
  - The execution of a **throw** statement is called *throwing an exception*

# try-throw-catch Mechanism

- A **throw** statement is similar to a method call:  
`throw new ExceptionClassName(SomeString) ;`
  - In the above example, the object of class `ExceptionClassName` is created using a string as its argument
  - This object, which is an argument to the **throw** operator, is the exception object thrown
- Instead of calling a method, a **throw** statement calls a **catch** block

# try-throw-catch Mechanism

- When an exception is thrown, the **catch** block begins execution
  - The **catch** block has one parameter
  - The exception object thrown is plugged in for the **catch** block parameter
- The execution of the **catch** block is called *catching the exception*, or *handling the exception*
  - Whenever an exception is thrown, it should ultimately be handled (or caught) by some **catch** block



# try-throw-catch Mechanism

```
catch(Exception e)
{
    ExceptionHandlingCode
}
```

- A **catch** block looks like a method definition that has a parameter of type *Exception* class
  - It is not really a method definition, however
- A **catch** block is a separate piece of code that is executed when a program encounters and executes a **throw** statement in the preceding **try** block
  - A **catch** block is often referred to as an *exception handler*
  - It can have at most one parameter

# try-throw-catch Mechanism

```
catch(Exception e) { . . . }
```

- The identifier **e** in the above **catch** block heading is called the **catch** block parameter
- The **catch** block parameter does two things:
  1. It specifies the type of thrown exception object that the **catch** block can catch (e.g., an **Exception** class object above)
  2. It provides a name (for the thrown object that is caught) on which it can operate in the **catch** block
    - Note: The identifier **e** is often used by convention, but any non-keyword identifier can be used

# try-throw-catch Mechanism

- When a **try** block is executed, two things can happen:
  1. No exception is thrown in the **try** block
    - The code in the **try** block is executed to the end of the block
    - The **catch** block is skipped
    - The execution continues with the code placed after the **catch** block

# try-throw-catch Mechanism

2. An exception is thrown in the **try** block and caught in the **catch** block
  - The rest of the code in the **try** block is skipped
  - Control is transferred to a following **catch** block (in simple cases)
  - The thrown object is plugged in for the **catch** block parameter
  - The code in the **catch** block is executed
  - The code that follows that **catch** block is executed (if any)

# Demo

- Get the java files from the text's website
- getIntDemo.java
  - handle getting correct input from user
  - InputMismatchException
  - what to do when expect integers but user enters, say, characters
- BadNumberExceptionDemo.java

# Exception Example

- In many cases your own code doesn't throw the exception, but instead it is thrown by an existing Java library
- Example: Input an integer using `nextInt()`
  - What if the user doesn't enter an integer?
  - The `nextInt` method throws an `InputMismatchException`

# Exception Handling with the **Scanner** Class

- If a user enters something other than a well-formed **int** value, an **InputMismatchException** will be thrown
  - Unless this exception is caught, the program will end with an error message
  - If the exception is caught, the **catch** block can give code for some alternative action, such as asking the user to reenter the input

# The InputMismatchException

- The **InputMismatchException** is in the standard Java package **java.util**
  - A program that refers to it must use an **import** statement, such as the following:

```
import java.util.InputMismatchException;
```
- It is a descendent class of **RuntimeException**
  - Therefore, it is an unchecked exception and does not have to be caught in a **catch** block or declared in a **throws** clause
  - However, catching it in a **catch** block is allowed, and can sometimes be useful



# Tip: Exception Controlled Loops

- Sometimes it is better to simply loop through an action again when an exception is thrown, as follows:

```
boolean done = false;
while (! done)
{
    try
    {
        CodeThatMayThrowAnException
        done = true;
    }
    catch (SomeExceptionClass e)
    {
        SomeMoreCode
    }
}
```

# Exception Controlled Loop

## Display 9.1 An Exception Controlled Loop

```
1 import java.util.Scanner;
2 import java.util.InputMismatchException;

3 public class InputMismatchExceptionDemo
4 {
5     public static void main(String[] args)
6     {
7         Scanner keyboard = new Scanner(System.in);
8         int number = 0; //to keep compiler happy
9         boolean done = false;
10        while (! done)
11        {
12            try
13            {
14                System.out.println("Enter a whole number:");
15                number = keyboard.nextInt();
16                done = true;
17            }
18            catch(InputMismatchException e)
19            {
20                keyboard.nextLine();
21                System.out.println("Not a correctly written whole
22                number.");
23                System.out.println("Try again.");
24            }
25
26            System.out.println("You entered " + number);
27        }
28    }
29 }
```

*If nextInt throws an exception, the try block ends and the Boolean variable done is not set to true.*

### Sample Dialogue

```
Enter a whole number:
forty two
Not a correctly written whole number.
Try again.
Enter a whole number:
Fortytwo
Not a correctly written whole number.
Try again.
Enter a whole number:
42
You entered 42
```

# Exception Classes

- There are more exception classes than just the single class **Exception**
  - There are more exception classes in the standard Java libraries
  - New exception classes can be defined like any other class
- All predefined exception classes have the following properties:
  - There is a constructor that takes a single argument of type **String**
  - The class has an accessor method **getMessage** that can recover the string given as an argument to the constructor when the exception object was created
- All programmer-defined classes should have the same properties

# Exception Classes from Standard Packages

- Numerous predefined exception classes are included in the standard packages that come with Java

- For example:

- `IOException`

- `NoSuchMethodException`

- `FileNotFoundException`

- Many exception classes must be imported in order to use them

- `import java.io.IOException;`

# Exception Classes from Standard Packages

- The predefined exception class **Exception** is the root class for all exceptions
  - Every exception class is a descendent class of the class **Exception**
  - Although the **Exception** class can be used directly in a class or program, it is most often used to define a derived class
  - The class **Exception** is in the **java.lang** package, and so requires no **import** statement

# Using the `getMessage` Method

```
. . . // method code
try
{
    . . .
    throw new Exception(StringArgument);
    . . .
}
catch (Exception e)
{
    String message = e.getMessage();
    System.out.println(message);
    System.exit(0);
} . . .
```

# Using the `getMessage` Method

- Every exception has a **String** instance variable that contains some message
  - This string typically identifies the reason for the exception
- In the previous example, **StringArgument** is an argument to the **Exception** constructor
- This is the string used for the value of the `string` instance variable of exception **e**
  - Therefore, the method call **`e.getMessage()`** returns this string

# Defining Exception Classes

- A **throw** statement can throw an exception object of any exception class
- Instead of using a predefined class, exception classes can be programmer-defined
  - These can be tailored to carry the precise kinds of information needed in the **catch** block
  - A different type of exception can be defined to identify each different exceptional situation



# Defining Exception Classes

- Every exception class to be defined must be a derived class of some already defined exception class
  - It can be a derived class of any exception class in the standard Java libraries, or of any programmer defined exception class
- Constructors are the most important members to define in an exception class
  - They must behave appropriately with respect to the variables and methods inherited from the base class
  - Often, there are no other members, except those inherited from the base class
- The following exception class performs these basic tasks only

# A Programmer-Defined Exception Class

## Display 9.4 A Programmer-Defined Exception Class

---

```
1 public class DivisionByZeroException extends Exception
2 {
3     public DivisionByZeroException()
4     {
5         super("Division by Zero!");
6     }
7
8     public DivisionByZeroException(String message)
9     {
10        super(message);
11    }
```

*You can do more in an exception constructor, but this form is common.*

*super is an invocation of the constructor for the base class Exception.*

---

# Using our own Exception Class (1 of 3)

## Display 9.5 Using a Programmer-Defined Exception Class

---

```
1  import java.util.Scanner;

2  public class DivisionDemoFirstVersion
3  {

4      public static void main(String[] args)
5      {
6          try
7          {
8              Scanner keyboard = new Scanner(System.in);

9              System.out.println("Enter numerator:");
10             int numerator = keyboard.nextInt();
11             System.out.println("Enter denominator:");
12             int denominator = keyboard.nextInt();
```

# Using our own Exception Class (2 of 3)

```
13         if (denominator == 0)
14             throw new DivisionByZeroException();


15         double quotient = numerator/(double)denominator;
16         System.out.println(numerator + "/"
17                             + denominator
18                             + " = " + quotient);
19     }
20     catch (DivisionByZeroException e)
21     {
22         System.out.println(e.getMessage());
23         secondChance();
24     }

25     System.out.println("End of program.");
26 }
```

# Using our own Exception Class (3 of 3)

```
27     public static void secondChance()
28     {
29         Scanner keyboard = new Scanner(System.in);
30         System.out.println("Try again:");
31         System.out.println("Enter numerator:");
32         int numerator = keyboard.nextInt();
33         System.out.println("Enter denominator:");
34         System.out.println("Be sure the denominator is not zero.");
35         int denominator = keyboard.nextInt();
36
37         if (denominator == 0)
38         {
39             System.out.println("I cannot do division by zero.");
40             System.out.println("Aborting program.");
41             System.exit(0);
42         }
43
44         double quotient = ((double)numerator)/denominator;
45         System.out.println(numerator + "/"
46                             + denominator
47                             + " = " + quotient);
48     }
```

*Sometimes it is better to handle an exceptional case without throwing an exception.*



## Tip: An Exception Class Can Carry a Message of Any Type: int Message

- An exception class constructor can be defined that takes an argument of another type
  - It would store its value in an instance variable
  - It would need to define accessor methods for this instance variable

# An Exception Class with an `int` Message

## An Exception Class with an `int` Message

---

```
1 public class BadNumberException extends Exception
2 {
3     private int badNumber;

4     public BadNumberException(int number)
5     {
6         super("BadNumberException");
7         badNumber = number;
8     }

9     public BadNumberException()
10    {
11        super("BadNumberException");
12    }

13    public BadNumberException(String message)
14    {
15        super(message);
16    }

17    public int getBadNumber()
18    {
19        return badNumber;
20    }
21 }
```

# Exception Object Characteristics

- The two most important things about an exception object are its type (i.e., exception class) and the message it carries
  - The message is sent along with the exception object as an instance variable
  - This message can be recovered with the accessor method `getMessage`, so that the catch block can use the message



# Programmer-Defined Exception Class Guidelines

- Exception classes may be programmer-defined, but every such class must be a derived class of an already existing exception class
- The class **Exception** can be used as the base class, unless another exception class would be more suitable
- At least two constructors should be defined, sometimes more
- The exception class should allow for the fact that the method **getMessage** is inherited

# Preserve `getMessage`

- For all predefined exception classes, `getMessage` returns the string that is passed to its constructor as an argument
  - Or it will return a default string if no argument is used with the constructor
- This behavior must be preserved in all programmer-defined exception class
  - A constructor must be included having a string parameter whose body begins with a call to `super`
  - The call to `super` must use the parameter as its argument
  - A no-argument constructor must also be included whose body begins with a call to `super`
  - This call to `super` must use a default string as its argument

# Multiple `catch` Blocks

- A `try` block can potentially throw any number of exception values, and they can be of differing types
  - In any one execution of a `try` block, at most one exception can be thrown (since a throw statement ends the execution of the `try` block)
  - However, different types of exception values can be thrown on different executions of the `try` block

# Multiple `catch` Blocks

- Each `catch` block can only catch values of the exception class type given in the `catch` block heading
- Different types of exceptions can be caught by placing more than one `catch` block after a `try` block
  - Any number of `catch` blocks can be included, but they must be placed in the correct order

## Pitfall: Catch the More Specific Exception First

- When catching multiple exceptions, the order of the **catch** blocks is important
  - When an exception is thrown in a **try** block, the **catch** blocks are examined in order
  - The first one that matches the type of the exception thrown is the one that is executed

# Pitfall: Catch the More Specific Exception First

```
catch (Exception e)
{ . . . }
catch (NumberFormatException e)
{ . . . }
```

- Because a **NumberFormatException** is a type of **Exception**, all **NumberFormatExceptions** will be caught by the first **catch** block before ever reaching the second block
  - The catch block for **NumberFormatException** will never be used!
- For the correct ordering, simply reverse the two blocks

# Throwing an Exception in a Method

- Sometimes it makes sense to throw an exception in a method, but not catch it in the same method
  - Some programs that use a method should just end if an exception is thrown, and other programs should do something else
  - In such cases, the program using the method should enclose the method invocation in a **try** block, and catch the exception in a **catch** block that follows
- In this case, the method itself would not include **try** and **catch** blocks
  - However, it would have to include a *throws* clause

# Declaring Exceptions in a **throws** Clause

- If a method can throw an exception but does not catch it, it must provide a warning
  - This warning is called a *throws clause*
  - The process of including an exception class in a throws clause is called *declaring the exception*  
`throws AnException //throws clause`
  - The following states that an invocation of **aMethod** could throw **AnException**  
`public void aMethod() throws AnException`



## Declaring Exceptions in a **throws** Clause

- If a method can throw more than one type of exception, then separate the exception types by commas

```
public void aMethod() throws  
    AnException, AnotherException
```

- If a method throws an exception and does not catch it, then the method invocation ends immediately

# The Catch or Declare Rule

- Most ordinary exceptions that might be thrown within a method must be accounted for in one of two ways:
  1. The code that can throw an exception is placed within a **try** block, and the possible exception is caught in a **catch** block within the same method
  2. The possible exception can be declared at the start of the method definition by placing the exception class name in a **throws** clause

# The Catch or Declare Rule

- The first technique handles an exception in a **catch** block
- The second technique is a way to shift the exception handling responsibility to the method that invoked the exception throwing method
- The invoking method must handle the exception, unless it too uses the same technique to "pass the buck"
- Ultimately, every exception that is thrown should eventually be caught by a **catch** block in some method that does not just declare the exception class in a **throws** clause

# The Catch or Declare Rule

- In any one method, both techniques can be mixed
  - Some exceptions may be caught, and others may be declared in a **throws** clause
- However, these techniques must be used consistently with a given exception
  - If an exception is not declared, then it must be handled within the method
  - If an exception is declared, then the responsibility for handling it is shifted to some other calling method
  - Note that if a method definition encloses an invocation of a second method, and the second method can throw an exception and does not catch it, then the first method must catch or declare it

# Summary of exception propagation

- Suppose A calls B,
- B calls C,
- C throws an exception
- If B handles (catch) the exception
  - all is good 😊
- If B does not handle the exception
  - A should handle the exception
  - If not, program crashes

# Checked and Unchecked Exceptions

- Exceptions that are subject to the catch or declare rule are called *checked* exceptions
  - The compiler checks to see if they are accounted for with either a catch block or a throws clause
  - The classes **Throwable**, **Exception**, and all descendants of the class **Exception** are checked exceptions
- All other exceptions are *unchecked* exceptions
- The class **Error** and all its descendant classes are called *error classes*
  - Error classes are *not* subject to the Catch or Declare Rule

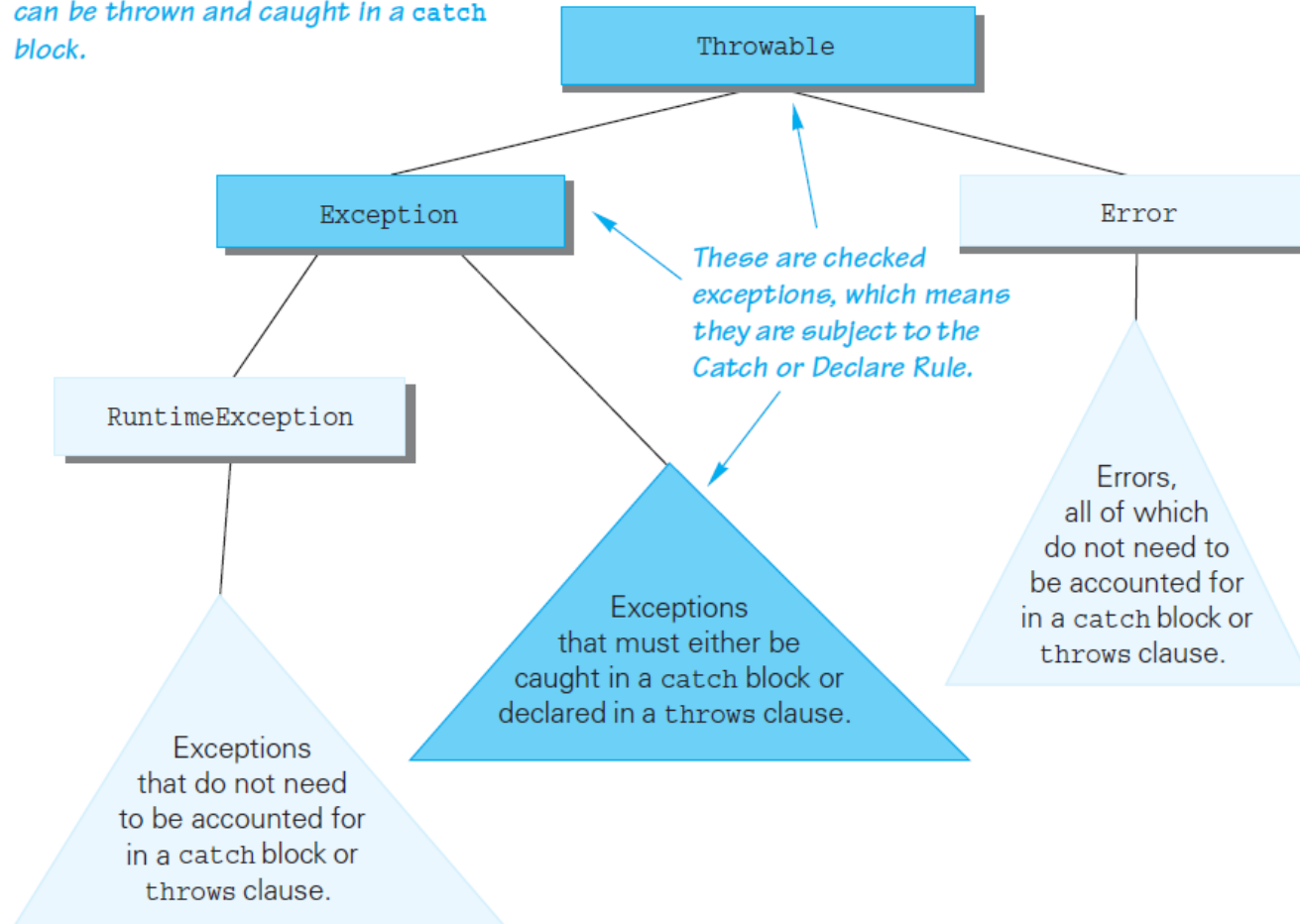
# Exceptions to the Catch or Declare Rule

- Checked exceptions must follow the Catch or Declare Rule
  - Programs in which these exceptions can be thrown will not compile until they are handled properly
- Unchecked exceptions are exempt from the Catch or Declare Rule
  - Programs in which these exceptions are thrown simply need to be corrected, as they result from some sort of error

# Hierarchy of Throwable Objects

Display 9.11 Hierarchy of Throwable Objects

All descendents of the class `Throwable` can be thrown and caught in a catch block.





# The **throws** Clause in Derived Classes

- When a method in a derived class is overridden, it should have the same exception classes listed in its **throws** clause that it had in the base class
  - Or it should have a subset of them
- A derived class may not add any exceptions to the **throws** clause
  - But it can delete some

# What Happens If an Exception is Never Caught?

- If every method up to and including the main method simply includes a **throws** clause for an exception, that exception may be thrown but never caught
  - In a GUI program (i.e., a program with a windowing interface), nothing happens - but the user may be left in an unexplained situation, and the program may no longer be reliable
  - In non-GUI programs, this causes the program to terminate with an error message giving the name of the exception class
- Every well-written program should eventually catch every exception by a **catch** block in some method

# Example – Retrieving a High Score

## Without Exceptions (1 of 2)

- No exceptions, return -1 if there is no score

```
public class HighScoreNoException
{
    private int score = 0;
    private boolean scoreSet = false;

    public HighScoreNoException()
    {
        score = 0;
        scoreSet = false;
    }

    public void setScore(int newScore)
    {
        score = newScore;
        scoreSet = true;
    }
}
```

# Example – Retrieving a High Score Without Exceptions (2 of 2)

```
public int getScore()
{
    if (!scoreSet)
        return -1;
    else
        return score;
}

// Short test program
public static void main(String[] args)
{
    HighScoreNoException highscore = new HighScoreNoException();
    System.out.println(highscore.getScore());
    highscore.setScore(100);
    System.out.println(highscore.getScore());
}
}
```

Problems if negative scores are allowed!

# Example – Retrieving a High Score with Exceptions (1 of 4)

- Problem solved with exceptions

```
public class ScoreNotSetException extends Exception
{
    public ScoreNotSetException()
    {
        super("Score not set");
    }
    public ScoreNotSetException(String message)
    {
        super(message);
    }
}
```

# Example – Retrieving a High Score with Exceptions (2 of 4)

```
public class HighScoreException
{
    private int score = 0;
    private boolean scoreSet = false;

    public HighScoreException()
    {
        score = 0;
        scoreSet = false;
    }

    public void setScore(int newScore)
    {
        score = newScore;
        scoreSet = true;
    }
}
```

# Example – Retrieving a High Score with Exceptions (3 of 4)

```
public int getScore() throws ScoreNotSetException
{
    if (!scoreSet)
        throw new ScoreNotSetException();
    else
        return score;
}
```

// Short test program

```
public static void main(String[] args)
{
    HighScoreException highscore = new HighScoreException();
    try
    {
        System.out.println
            (highscore.getScore());
    }
}
```

# Example – Retrieving a High Score with Exceptions (4 of 4)

```
catch (ScoreNotSetException e)
{
    System.out.println
        (e.getMessage());
}
highscore.setScore(100);
try
{
    System.out.println
        (highscore.getScore());
}
catch (ScoreNotSetException e)
{
    System.out.println
        (e.getMessage());
}
}
```



# When to Use Exceptions

- Exceptions should be reserved for situations where a method encounters *an unusual or unexpected case that cannot be handled easily in some other way*
- When exception handling must be used, here are some basic guidelines:
  - Include **throw** statements and list the exception classes in a **throws** clause within a method definition
  - Place the **try** and **catch** blocks in a different method

# When to Use Exceptions

- Here is an example of a method from which the exception originates:

```
public void someMethod()  
    throws SomeException  
{  
    . . .  
    throw new  
        SomeException (SomeArgument) ;  
    . . .  
}
```

# When to Use Exceptions

- When `someMethod` is used by an `otherMethod`, the `otherMethod` must then deal with the exception:

```
public void otherMethod()  
{  
    try  
    {  
        someMethod();  
        . . .  
    }  
    catch (SomeException e)  
    {  
        CodeToHandleException  
    }  
    . . .  
}
```

# Event Driven Programming

- Exception handling is an example of a programming methodology known as *event-driven programming*
- When using event-driven programming, objects are defined so that they send events to other objects that handle the events
  - An event is an object also
  - Sending an event is called *firing an event*

# Event Driven Programming

- In exception handling, the event objects are the exception objects
  - They are fired (thrown) by an object when the object invokes a method that throws the exception
  - An exception event is sent to a **catch** block, where it is handled

# Pitfall: Nested `try-catch` Blocks

- It is possible to place a `try` block and its following catch blocks inside a larger `try` block, or inside a larger `catch` block
  - If a set of `try-catch` blocks are placed inside a larger `catch` block, different names must be used for the `catch` block parameters in the inner and outer blocks, just like any other set of nested blocks
  - If a set of `try-catch` blocks are placed inside a larger `try` block, and an exception is thrown in the inner `try` block that is not caught, then the exception is thrown to the outer `try` block for processing, and may be caught in one of its `catch` blocks

# The **finally** Block

- The **finally** block contains code to be executed whether or not an exception is thrown in a **try** block
  - If it is used, a **finally** block is placed after a **try** block and its following **catch** blocks

```
try
{ . . . }
catch (ExceptionClass1 e)
{ . . . }
. . .
catch (ExceptionClassN e)
{ . . . }
finally
{
    CodeToBeExecutedInAllCases
}
```

# The **finally** Block

- If the **try-catch-finally** blocks are inside a method definition, there are three possibilities when the code is run:
  1. The **try** block runs to the end, no exception is thrown, and the **finally** block is executed
  2. An exception is thrown in the **try** block, caught in one of the **catch** blocks, and the **finally** block is executed
  3. An exception is thrown in the **try** block, there is no matching **catch** block in the method, the **finally** block is executed, and then the method invocation ends and the exception object is thrown to the enclosing method



# Rethrowing an Exception

- A **catch** block can contain code that throws an exception
  - Sometimes it is useful to catch an exception and then, depending on the string produced by **getMessage** (or perhaps something else), throw the same or a different exception for handling further up the chain of exception handling blocks

# ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException

- An **ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException** is thrown whenever a program attempts to use an array index that is out of bounds
  - This normally causes the program to end
- Like all other descendents of the class **RuntimeException**, it is an unchecked exception
  - There is no requirement to handle it
- When this exception is thrown, it is an indication that the program contains an error
  - Instead of attempting to handle the exception, the program should simply be fixed

# The `AssertionError` Class

- When a program contains an assertion check, and the assertion check fails, an object of the class `AssertionError` is thrown
  - This causes the program to end with an error message
- The class `AssertionError` is derived from the class `Error`, and therefore is an unchecked exception
  - In order to prevent the program from ending, it could be handled, but this is not required

# Assertions

- An *assertion* is a statement in the Java™ programming language that enables you to test your assumptions about your program.
- For example, if you write a method that calculates the speed of a particle, you might assert that the calculated speed is less than the speed of light.

- Each assertion contains a **boolean expression** that you believe will be **true** when the assertion executes.
- If it is **not true**, the system will throw an **error**.
- By verifying that the boolean expression is indeed true, the assertion confirms your assumptions about the behavior of your program, increasing your confidence that the program is free of errors.
- For more detail, see the Oracle's [documentation](#)

# assertion I

- `assert Expression1 ;`
- where *Expression*<sub>1</sub> is a boolean expression.
  - When the system runs the assertion, it evaluates *Expression*<sub>1</sub> and if it is false throws an [AssertionError](#) with no detail message.

- `assert Expression1 : Expression2 ;` where:
- *Expression*<sub>1</sub> is a boolean expression.
- *Expression*<sub>2</sub> is an expression that has a value.  
(It cannot be an invocation of a method that is declared void.)
- Use this version of the assert statement to provide a detail message for the AssertionError. The system passes the value of *Expression*<sub>2</sub> to the appropriate AssertionError constructor, which uses the string representation of the value as the error's detail message.

# When to use an assertion

- `if (i % 3 == 0) {`
- `... }`
- `else if (i % 3 == 1) {`
- `... } else {`
- **`// We know (i % 3 == 2)`**
- `... }`
- `if (i % 3 == 0) {`
- `... }`
- `else if (i % 3 == 1) {`
- `... } else {`
- **`assert i % 3 == 2 : i;`**
- `... }`

You should **use an assertion whenever you would have written a comment that asserts an invariant**



- `switch(suit) {`
- `case Suit.CLUBS:`
- `...`
- `break;`
  
- `case Suit.DIAMONDS:`
- `...`
- `break;`
  
- `case Suit.HEARTS:`
- `...`
- `break;`
  
- `case Suit.SPADES:`
- `...`
- `break;`
- `default:`
- `assert false : suit;`
- `}`

# Compiling Files That Use Assertions

- You must compile using `-source`
- `javac -source 1.7 MyClass.java`
- Then you must enable assertion when you run the program
- `java -ea MyClass`

# Compiling with assertions in Eclipse

- Run -> Run Configurations -> Arguments
- then in the VM argument window, enter "-ea"
- to enable assertions

# Compiling with assertions in Eclipse

