

# Date, Calendar & DateFormat Objects

`java.util.Date`:  
a specific instant in time.

`java.util.Calendar`:  
conversion of `Date` to integer fields.

`java.text.DateFormat`:  
format and parse date/time strings.

# Date

- A `Date` object represents a specific instant in time.
  - In old versions of Java the `Date` object was used for lots of things, now `Calendar` does most of the work.
- Most of the methods are deprecated!
- Non-deprecated use includes:
  - conversion to/from the number of milliseconds since Jan 1, 1970.
  - Comparison of dates (after, before, equals, ...)

# Print Current Date/Time

```
import java.util.*;
class DatePlay {
    static public void main(String []args) {
        Date d = new Date();
        System.out.println("The date is " + d);
    }
}
```

```
> java DatePlay
```

```
The date is Sat Mar 01 20:46:16 EST 2003
```

# Calendar

- abstract class!
  - `GregorianCalendar` is the only standard derived class included (1.4).
  - Object Factory:
    - `static Calendar getInstance();`
  - `Locale` and `Timezone` Objects
- The idea is use a `Calendar` object to take care of date/time handling details in a manner that supports the conventions/calendar type of the user.

# Calendar Object

- Can set/get integer values for day, month, year, hour, minute, second, day of the week, etc.
- Two (overloaded) methods:

```
set(int field, int value);  
get(int field);
```
- You have to know what the value of `field` should be to get what you want!
  - The `Calendar` class provides some static `int` fields that make this possible.

# Calendar Fields

Calendar.DATE

Calendar.MONTH

Calendar.YEAR

Calendar.DAY\_OF\_WEEK

Calendar.DAY\_OF\_MONTH

Calendar.DAY\_OF\_YEAR

Calendar.HOUR

Calendar.MINUTE

Calendar.SECOND

Calendar.MILLISECOND

There are lots more!

# Calendar Example

```
import java.util.*;
class CalPlay {
    static public void main(String []args) {
        Calendar c = Calendar.getInstance();
        System.out.println("Today is " +
            (c.get(Calendar.MONTH)+1) + "/" +
            c.get(Calendar.DATE) + "/" +
            c.get(Calendar.YEAR));
    }
}
```

# Another Example

```
class CalPlay {
    final static String[] DAYS = { "Sunday", "Monday",
        "Tuesday", "Wednesday", "Thursday",
        "Friday", "Saturday" };

    static public void main(String []args) {
        Calendar c = Calendar.getInstance();
        System.out.println("Today is " + dayName(c));
    }
    static String dayName( Calendar c) {
        return(DAYS[c.get(Calendar.DAY_OF_WEEK)-1]);
    }
}
```

# Even Better Example

- tomorrow.java
  - prints out the date tomorrow.
    - needs to watch for new month, year, etc.
- Does this for any date entered as month day year on the command line (as three integers).

```
> java tomorrow 12 31 2001  
Tomorrow is Tuesday January 1, 2002
```

# Exercise

- Write a program that prints out the (single month) calendar for any month.
  - Just like the Unix “cal” command.

```
> java cal 3 2003
March 2003
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
          1
 2  3  4  5  6  7  8
 9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31
```

```
> java cal 1 2025
January 2025
Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa
          1  2  3  4
 5  6  7  8  9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31
```

# DateFormat

- Another abstract class
- Factory method:
  - `static DateFormat getDateInstance()`
- Uses a `Calendar` to format dates.
  - associated with a `Locale`
- A number of pre-defined formats (styles):
  - short, medium, long, full
  - `DateFormat.SHORT`, `DateFormat.MEDIUM`, ...

# DateFormat Example

```
public static void main(String [] args) {
    Date now = new Date();
    // try with default Locale
    showDate(DateFormat.SHORT,now);
    showDate(DateFormat.MEDIUM,now);
    showDate(DateFormat.LONG,now);
    showDate(DateFormat.FULL,now);
}
static void showDate( int style, Date d) {
    System.out.println(
        DateFormat.getDateInstance(style).format(d));
}
```

3/1/03

Mar 1, 2003

March 1, 2003

Saturday, March 1, 2003

# DateFormat Exemple (Locale for France)

```
public static void main(String [] args) {  
    Date now = new Date();  
    showDate(DateFormat.SHORT,now);  
    showDate(DateFormat.MEDIUM,now);  
    showDate(DateFormat.LONG,now);  
    showDate(DateFormat.FULL,now);  
}  
static void showDate( int style, Date d) {  
    System.out.println(  
        DateFormat.getDateInstance(style,  
            Locale.FRANCE).format(d));  
}
```

```
01/03/03  
1 mars 2003  
1 mars 2003  
samedi 1 mars 2003
```