

Summary of Selected Java Modifiers

References:

- “Java in a Nutshell”, David Flanagan, O’Reilly, 1999.
- “Java Software Solutions, Foundations of Program Design”, John Lewis & William Loftus, Addison-Wesley, 2000.

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<i>Modifier</i>	<i>Used on</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
abstract	class	The class contains unimplemented methods and cannot be instantiated.
	interface	All interfaces are abstract. The modifier is optional in interface declarations.
	method	No implementation is provided for the method; the implementation is provided by a subclass. The method signature is followed by a semicolon. The enclosing class must also be abstract.
final	class	The class cannot be subclassed.
	method	The method cannot be overridden.
	field	The field cannot have its value changed. “static final” fields are compile-time constants.
	variable	A local variable, method parameter or exception parameter cannot have its value changed.
<i>none (default package visibility)</i>	class	A non-public class is accessible only in its package.
	interface	A non-public interface is accessible only in its package.
	member	A member that is not private, protected or public, has package visibility and is accessible only within its package.
private	member	The member is accessible only within the class that defines it.
protected	member	The member is accessible only within the package in which it is defined and within subclasses.
public	class	The class is accessible anywhere its package is accessible.
	interface	The interface is accessible anywhere its package is accessible.
	member	The member is accessible anywhere the containing class is accessible.

<code>static</code>	method	A <code>static</code> method is a class method. It is not passed an implicit <code>this</code> object reference. It can be invoked through the class name. It cannot reference non-static methods or fields.
	field	A <code>static</code> field is a class field. There is only one instance of the field, regardless of the number of class instances created. It can be accessed through the class name.