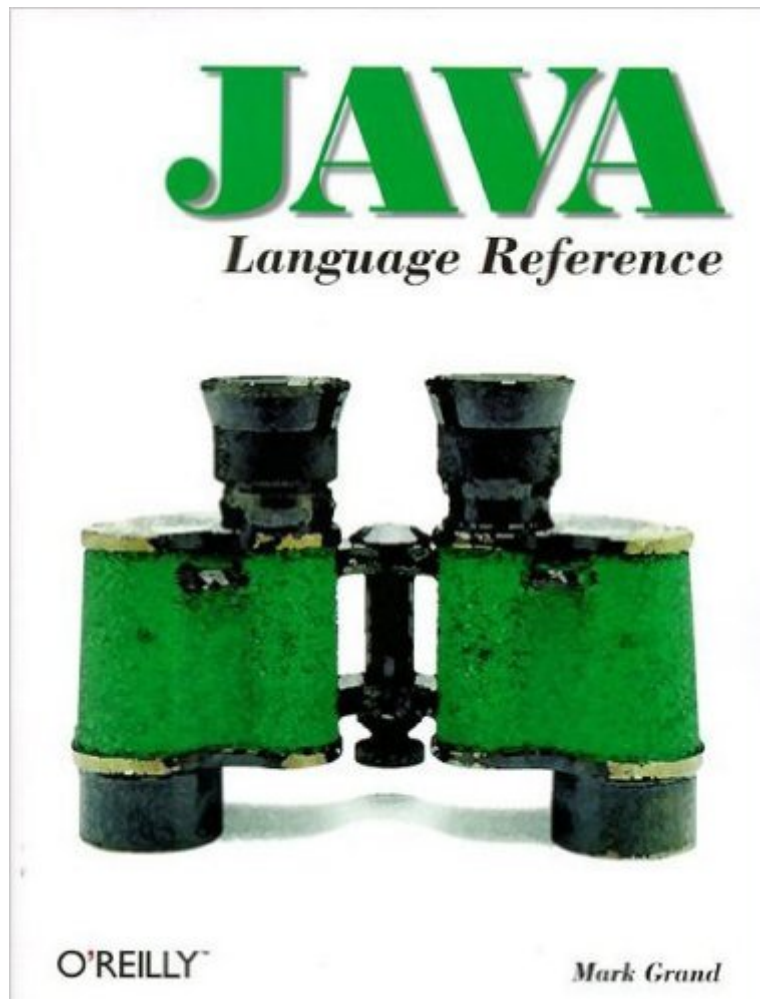# Java Language Reference (Nutshell Handbook)

Synopsis

The Java Language Reference is an indispensable tool for Java programmers. Part of O'Reilly's new Java documentation series, this book details every aspect of the Java programming language, from the definition of data types to the syntax of expressions and control structures. Using numerous examples to illustrate various fine points of the language, this book helps you understand all of the subtle nuances of Java so you can ensure that your programs run exactly as expected.This edition describes Version 1.0.2 of the Java language. It includes:A complete reference describing all aspects of the Java languageSyntax for all Java statements, presented using easy-to-understand railroad diagramsA detailed look into Java's style of object-oriented programmingA chapter explaining exception handling in JavaAn examination of multithreaded programming with JavaReference material on classes in the java.lang packageNotes highlighting the differences between Java features and similar features in C and C++The Java Language Reference and the forthcoming Java Fundamental Classes Reference and Java AWT Reference provide a complete set of reference material on the Java language and the Java Core API. These manuals comprise the definitive set of Java documentation that you need to do serious programming with Java.O'Reilly & Associates also publishes a tutorial, Exploring Java, if you need to get up to speed with this exciting new technology. For advanced Java programming topics, look for upcoming books from O'Reilly on network programming, distributed computing, and database programming.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

There are several places in the language description (for example, the rules on static method overriding and inner classes) where this book is either vague, misleading, or occasionally flat-out wrong. "Java Language Reference" might provide a nice introduction to the language's syntax, but it does not make a good Java language reference.

This is the worst book on programming I've ever bought. Even though the author does tell the reader that this book isn't intended as a "teach yourself"-book one expects a book on programming to be somehow divided into well defined areas, each showing a part of the whole idea. This book switches from reference style to programming-by-example style all mixed up with a couple of bad flow charts. I regret buying it and advise others from doing it.

I'm a little surprised by the other reviews. I have found over the last year this to be an authorative source for the Java Language Specification. I go to other books when I want to know about the various Java packages but this is the one I got to when I want to know about the Java langauge semantics and syntax.

The description of the book led me to believe it covered "every aspect of the Java language". What it covers is the java.lang package, the package that changed the least in 1.1. Little or no mention of object serialization, awt, jars, beans, JDBC....

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