

User-Defined Methods

Chapter 5: User-Defined Methods · Topic 1

Key Concept

A method has a name, optional parameters (inputs), and a return type (the type of value it gives back, or void if nothing is returned).

Methods help break down complex programs into smaller, manageable pieces, each responsible for a specific task.

Calling a method executes its code, and if it returns a value, that value can be used in the calling code.

Understanding user-defined methods helps us write organised, reusable, and easier-to-maintain Java programs.

Quick Revision Notes

- A method has a name, parameters, return type.
- Void means no value is returned.
- Methods break programs into manageable pieces.
- Each method handles a specific task.
- Calling a method executes its code.
- Returned values can be used in calling code.
- Methods promote organisation and reusability.
- This makes programs easier to maintain.

Practice Questions

- 1 Write a simple method that adds two numbers.
- 2 Write a method with a void return type.
- 3 Call a method you've written and use its result.
- 4 Discuss why breaking a program into methods helps.
- 5 Create a method with two parameters.
- 6 Explain the difference between void and non-void methods.