

Static methods

```
int getRandomNumber()
{
    return 4; // chosen by fair dice roll.
              // guaranteed to be random.
}
```

<http://xkcd.com/221/>

Not actually a valid Java
static method...

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Programs thus far

- One big main():

```
public class DiceRolling
{
    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        int rolls = 0;
        int sum = 0;
        int target = (int) (Math.random() * 12) + 1;

        System.out.println("Rolling dice until I get " + target + ".");
        do
        {
            int dice1 = (int) (Math.random() * 6) + 1;
            int dice2 = (int) (Math.random() * 6) + 1;
            sum = dice1 + dice2;
            System.out.println(dice1 + " + " + dice2 + " = " + sum);
            rolls++;
        }
        while (sum != target);
        System.out.println("It took " + rolls + " rolls.");
    }
}
```

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Programs thus far



- One big main():

```
public class DiceRolling
{
    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        int rolls = 0;
        int sum = 0;
        int target = (int) (Math.random() * 12) + 1;

        System.out.println("Rolling dice until I get " + target + ".");
        do
        {
            int dice1 = (int) (Math.random() * 6) + 1;
            int dice2 = (int) (Math.random() * 6) + 1;
            sum = dice1 + dice2;
            System.out.println(dice1 + " + " + dice2 + " = " + sum);
            rolls++;
        }
        while (sum != target);
        System.out.println("It took " + rolls + " rolls.");
    }
}
```

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Programs thus far



- Problems with one big main():

- Doesn't scale to complex programs
- Often find ourselves repeating similar code

```
public class DiceRolling
{
    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        int rolls = 0;
        int sum = 0;
        int target = (int) (Math.random() * 11) + 2;

        System.out.println("Rolling dice until I get " + target + ".");
        do
        {
            int dice1 = (int) (Math.random() * 6) + 1;
            int dice2 = (int) (Math.random() * 6) + 1;
            sum = dice1 + dice2;
            ...
        }
        while (sum != target);
        System.out.println("It took " + rolls + " rolls.");
    }
}
```

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"Repeated
code is evil!"



Using static methods

- Static methods

- Already seen loads of "helper" methods:

```
System.out.println("Hello world");
StdDraw.setPenColor(StdDraw.GRAY);
int num      = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
double r     = Double.parseDouble(args[1]);
int x        = StdIn.readInt();
double rand = Math.random();
double v     = Math.pow(10.0, -2.3582);
StdDraw.setXscale(0.0, 10.0);
```

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Using static methods

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```
System.out.println("Hello world");
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double v     = Math.pow(10.0, -2.3582);
StdDraw.setXscale(0.0, 10.0);
```

Some methods
return a value.

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Using static methods

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int x        = StdIn.readInt();
double rand = Math.random();
double v     = Math.pow(10.0, -2.3582);
StdDraw.setXscale(0.0, 10.0);
```

Some methods
take a single
parameter.

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Using static methods

- Static methods

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```
System.out.println("Hello world");
StdDraw.setPenColor(StdDraw.GRAY);
int num      = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
double r     = Double.parseDouble(args[1]);
int x        = StdIn.readInt();
double rand = Math.random();
double v     = Math.pow(10.0, -2.3582);
StdDraw.setXscale(0.0, 10.0);
```

Some methods
take no
parameters

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Using static methods

- Static methods

- Already seen loads of "helper" methods:

```
System.out.println("Hello world");
StdDraw.setPenColor(StdDraw.GRAY);
int num      = Integer.parseInt(args[0]);
double r     = Double.parseDouble(args[1]);
int x        = StdIn.readInt();
double rand = Math.random();
double v     = Math.pow(10.0, -2.3582);
StdDraw.setXscale(0.0, 10.0);
```

Some methods take two parameters.

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Methods

- Methods:

- Like a mathematical function

- Given some inputs, produce an output value

- Methods allows building modular programs

- Reuse code, only invent the wheel once

- When a method is called:

- Control jumps to the method code

- Argument passed to method copied to parameter variables used in method

- Method executes and (optionally) returns a value

- Execution returns to calling code

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Flow of control

```
public class MethodJumping
{
    public static void printWorld()
    {
        System.out.print("world");
    }
    public static int addNums(int num1, int num2)
    {
        int result = num1;
        result = num1 + num2;
        return result;
    }
    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        System.out.print("Hello");
        System.out.print(" ");
        printWorld();
        System.out.print(", 1 + 2 = ");
        int a = addNums(1, 2);
        System.out.println(a);
    }
}
```

% java MethodJumping
Hello world, 1 + 2 = 3

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Anatomy of a method

- Goal: helper method than can draw a random integer between start and end (inclusive)

"Everybody can call me"

"I promise to return a value of this type"

"I need to know these things to do my job"

"All done, end this method and return the result to whoever called me"

"The name I demand people use when they want my random goodness"

```
public static int getRandomNum(int start, int end)
{
    return (int) (Math.random() *
        (end - start + 1)) + start;
}
```

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Terminology of a method

- Goal: helper method than can draw a random integer between start and end (inclusive)

```

access
modifier    return type    parameters / arguments
public static int getRandomNum(int start, int end)
{
    return (int) (Math.random() *
                  (end - start + 1)) + start;
}

return statement
method name

Naming convention: start lowercase,
uppercase each new word
  
```

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Method signature

- Signature: a method's name plus the number and type of its parameters
 - Note: does NOT include the return type!

```

method's signature
public static int getRandomNum(int start, int end)
{
    return (int) (Math.random() *
                  (end - start + 1)) + start;
}
  
```

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Calling our new method

- Use handy new method in DiceRolling
 - Add somewhere inside public class {}'s

```

public class DiceRolling
{
    public static int getRandomNum(int start, int end)
    {
        return (int) (Math.random() *
                      (end - start + 1)) + start;
    }

    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        int rolls = 0;
        int sum = 0;
        int target = getRandomNum(1, 12);

        System.out.println("Rolling dice until I get " + target + ".");
        do
        {
            int dice1 = getRandomNum(1, 6);
            int dice2 = getRandomNum(1, 6);
            sum = dice1 + dice2;
            ...
        }
    }
}
  
```

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Calling our new method

- Alternative: put method in new class
 - Allows us to create a class with a bunch of helper methods (just like StdIn.java, StdDraw.java)

```

public class RandomUtil
{
    // Return random integer in [start, end] inclusive
    public static int getRandomNum(int start, int end)
    {
        return (int) (Math.random() *
                      (end - start + 1)) + start;
    }

    // Return random integer in [0, end] inclusive
    public static int getRandomNum(int end)
    {
        return (int) (Math.random() * (end + 1));
    }
}

getRandomInt() is
overloaded:
Two methods with
same name, but
different
signatures (e.g.
different number of
parameters)
  
```

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Using our new class

- Put RandomUtil.java in same directory
 - Methods qualified with RandomUtil. in front

```
public class DiceRolling
{
    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        int rolls = 0;
        int sum = 0;
        int target = RandomUtil.getRandomNum(2, 12);

        System.out.println("Rolling dice until I get " + target + ".");
        do
        {
            int dice1 = RandomUtil.getRandomNum(1, 6);
            int dice2 = RandomUtil.getRandomNum(1, 6);
            sum = dice1 + dice2;
            System.out.println(dice1 + " " + dice2 + " = " + sum);
            rolls++;
        }
        while (sum != target);
        System.out.println("It took " + rolls + " rolls.");
    }
}
```

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A safer version

- Problem: What if caller sends in start > end?

```
public static int getRandomNum(int start, int end)
{
    return (int) (Math.random() *
                  (end - start + 1)) + start;
}
```

```
while (true)
    System.out.print(RandomUtil.getRandomNum(3, 1) + " ");
```

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A safer version

```
public static int getRandomNum(int start, int end)
{
    if (start < end)
        return (int) (Math.random() *
                      (end - start + 1)) + start;
    return (int) (Math.random() *
                  (start - end + 1)) + end;
}

while (true)
    System.out.print(RandomUtil.getRandomNum(3, 1) + " ");
```

As soon as a
return is hit,
method done

```
3 1 1 1 2 2 3 1 1 3 2 3 1 2 1 3 3 2 2 2 2 1 3 1 1 3 3 3 1 1 3  
2 1 2 3 1 2 2 3 2 1 1 3 2 2 2 1 3 2 2 2 3 3 1 1 1 3 3 3 1 3 2 1  
3 3 1 3 3 3 3 1 1 2 1 1 3 1 1 3 1 1 2 2 2 2 2 1 2 3 2 2 3 3 3 3  
2 1 2 2 ...
```

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Pass by value

- Java passes parameters by value (by copy)

- Changes to primitive type parameters do not persist after method returns

- Primitive types: int, double, char, long, boolean

```
public static int sum(int a, int b)
{
    int result = a + b;
    a = 0;
    b = 0;
    return result;
}
```

```
int c = 2;  
int d = 3;  
System.out.println("sum = " + sum(c, d));  
System.out.println("c = " + c);  
System.out.println("d = " + d);
```

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Pass by value, puzzler #2

```
public static int sum(int c, int d)
{
    int result = c + d;
    c = 0;
    d = 0;
    return result;
}
```

```
int c = 2;
int d = 3;
System.out.println("sum = " + sum(c, d));
System.out.println("c = " + c);
System.out.println("d = " + d);
```

```
% java PassByVal
sum = 5
c = 2
d = 3
```

Variables c & d in main
program are not the
same as c & d in sum()!

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Array parameters

- Arrays can be passed as arguments

```
public class AverageArray
{
    public static double average(int [] nums)
    {
        long total = 0;
        for (int i = 0; i < nums.length; i++)
            total += nums[i];
        return (double) total / (double) nums.length;
    }

    public static void main(String [] args)
    {
        int [] vals = new int[1000];
        for (int i = 0; i < vals.length; i++)
            vals[i] = RandomUtil.getRandomNum(1, 10);
        System.out.println("avg " + average(vals));
    }
}
```

```
% java AverageArray
avg 5.508
```

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Quiz: variable scope

What lines are the
following variables in
scope?

nums 4-7

total 4-7

vals 12-15

i 5-6, 13-14

```
00 public class AverageArray
01 {
02     public static double average(int [] nums)
03     {
04         long total = 0;
05         for (int i = 0; i < nums.length; i++)
06             total += nums[i];
07         return (double) total / (double) nums.length;
08     }

09
10    public static void main(String [] args)
11    {
12        int [] vals = new int[1000];
13        for (int i = 0; i < vals.length; i++)
14            vals[i] = RandomUtil.getRandomNum(1, 10);
15        System.out.println("avg " + average(vals));
16    }
17 }
```

What is the value of
total printed at the
end of main()?

123

What if we remove
line 4?

Compile error:
total cannot be
resolved to a
variable

Quiz: variable scope

```
00 public class AverageArray
01 {
02     public static double average(int [] nums)
03     {
04         long total = 0;
05         for (int i = 0; i < nums.length; i++)
06             total += nums[i];
07         return (double) total / (double) nums.length;
08     }

09
10    public static void main(String [] args)
11    {
12        long total = 123; Added line
13        int [] vals = new int[1000];
14        for (int i = 0; i < vals.length; i++)
15            vals[i] = RandomUtil.getRandomNum(1, 10);
16        System.out.println("avg " + average(vals));
17        System.out.println("total " + total);
18    }
19 }
```

Added line

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Quiz: variable scope

What if we remove
line 12?

Compile error:
total cannot be
resolved to a
variable

```
00 public class AverageArray
01 {
02     public static double average(int [] nums)
03     {
04         long total = 0;
05         for (int i = 0; i < nums.length; i++)
06             total += nums[i];
07         return (double) total / (double) nums.length;
08     }
09
10    public static void main(String [] args)
11    {
12        long total = 123;
13        int [] vals = new int[1000];
14        for (int i = 0; i < vals.length; i++)
15            vals[i] = RandomUtil.getRandomNum(1, 10);
16        System.out.println("avg " + average(vals));
17        System.out.println("total " + total);
18    }
19 }
```

Summary

- Static methods

- Helper functions

- Perform calculations
 - Output data
 - Consolidate similar code to one location

- Methods have:

- 0 or more input parameters
 - An (optional) return value
- We're already experts at using them
 - StdDraw.show(100), StdIn.readInt(), Math.abs()
- Now we can make our own methods!