

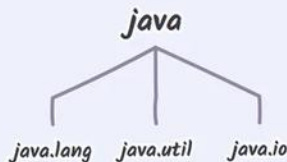


a namespace for classes, and the four levels of who else is allowed to see inside one



What a package actually is

- a **package** is a named group of related classes and interfaces, Java's way of organising code and avoiding name clashes
- a package name and a folder path match: a class in a package named shapes lives inside a folder named shapes on disk
- two different packages can each hold a class with the same simple name, since the package name is really part of the class's full identity
- a class with no package statement at all sits in the unnamed default package, which is fine for a small practice program but not for real work



three of the packages built into Java, each one a named group of related classes

The built-in packages seen most often

java.lang

String, Math, System and the basics, imported into every program automatically, with no import line needed

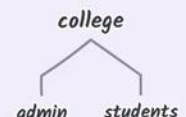
java.util

Scanner, ArrayList and other utility classes, needs an explicit import

java.io

FileReader, FileWriter and the rest of file handling, also needs an explicit import

A custom package



a package statement as the very first line of the file, naming the package the class belongs to

