**Static Method and Static Variables**

Reference: <http://www.javatutorialhub.com/java-static-variable-methods.html>

***static variable***

* It is a variable which **belongs to the class** and **not**to **object**(instance)
* Static variables are **initialized only once** , at the start of the execution . These variables will be initialized first, before the initialization of any instance variables
* A **single copy** to be shared by all instances of the class
* A static variable can be **accessed directly**by the **class name** and doesn’t need any object
* Syntax : <***class-name>.<variable-name>***

***static method***

* It is a method which **belongs to the class**and **not**to the **object**(instance)
* A static method **can access only static data**. It can not access non-static data (instance variables)
* A static method **can call** **only** other **static methods**and can not call a non-static method from it.
* A static method can be **accessed directly**by the **class name** and doesn’t need any object
* Syntax : <***class-name>.<method-name>***
* A static method cannot refer to “this” or “super” keywords in anyway

**Side Note:**

* main method is static , since it must be be accessible for an application to run , before any instantiation takes place.