Java Inspection Checklist



Variable, Attribute, and Constant Declaration Defects (VC)

- [ ] Are descriptive variable and constant names used in accord with naming conventions?
- [ ] Are there variables or attributes with confusingly similar names?
- [ ] Is every variable and attribute correctly typed?
- [ ] Is every variable and attribute properly initialized?
- [ ] Could any non-local variables be made local?
- [ ] Are all for-loop control variables declared in the loop header?
- [ ] Are there literal constants that should be named constants?
- [ ] Are there variables or attributes that should be constants?
- [ ] Are there attributes that should be local variables?
- [ ] Do all attributes have appropriate access modifiers (private, protected, public)?
- [ ] Are there static attributes that should be non-static or vice-versa?

Method Definition Defects (FD)

- [ ] Are descriptive method names used in accord with naming conventions?
- [ ] Is every method parameter value checked before being used?
- [ ] For every method: Does it return the correct value at every method return point?
- [ ] Do all methods have appropriate access modifiers (private, protected, public)?

- [ ] Are there static methods that should be non-static or vice-versa?

Class Definition Defects (CD)

- [ ] Does each class have appropriate constructors and destructors?
- [ ] Do any subclasses have common members that should be in the superclass?
- [ ] Can the class inheritance hierarchy be simplified?

Data Reference Defects (DR)

- [ ] For every array reference: Is each subscript value within the defined bounds?
- [ ] For every object or array reference: Is the value certain to be non-null?
- [ ] Are there any computations with mixed data types?

Computation/Numeric Defects (CN)

- [ ] Is overflow or underflow possible during a computation?
- [ ] For each expressions with more than one operator: Are the assumptions about order of evaluation and precedence correct?
- [ ] Are parentheses used to avoid ambiguity?

Comparison/Relational Defects (CR)

- [ ] For every boolean test: Is the correct condition checked?
- [ ] Are the comparison operators correct?
- [ ] Has each boolean expression been simplified by driving negations inward?
- [ ] Is each boolean expression correct?
- [ ] Are there improper and unnoticed side-effects of a comparison?
- [ ] Has an "&" inadvertently been interchanged with a "&&" or a "|" for a "||"?

Control Flow Defects (CF)

- [ ] For each loop: Is the best choice of looping constructs used?
- [ ] Will all loops terminate?
- [ ] When there are multiple exits from a loop, is each exit necessary and handled properly?
- [ ] Does each switch statement have a default case?
- [ ] Are missing switch case break statements correct and marked with a comment?
- [ ] Do named break statements send control to the right place?

- [ ] Is the nesting of loops and branches too deep, and is it correct?
- [ ] Can any nested if statements be converted into a switch statement?
- [ ] Are null bodied control structures correct and marked with braces or comments?
- [ ] Are all exceptions handled appropriately?
- [ ] Does every method terminate?

Input-Output Defects (IO)

- [ ] Have all files been opened before use?
- [ ] Are the attributes of the input object consistent with the use of the file?
- [ ] Have all files been closed after use?
- [ ] Are there spelling or grammatical errors in any text printed or displayed?
- [ ] Are all I/O exceptions handled in a reasonable way?

Module Interface Defects (MI)

- [ ] Are the number, order, types, and values of parameters in every method call in agreement with the called method's declaration?
- [ ] Do the values in units agree (e.g., inches versus yards)?
- [ ] If an object or array is passed, does it get changed, and changed correctly by the called method?

Comment Defects (CM)

- [ ] Does every method, class, and file have an appropriate header comment?
- [ ] Does every attribute, variable, and constant declaration have a comment?
- [ ] Is the underlying behavior of each method and class expressed in plain language?
- [ ] Is the header comment for each method and class consistent with the behavior of the method or class?
- [ ] Do the comments and code agree?
- [ ] Do the comments help in understanding the code?
- [ ] Are there enough comments in the code?
- [ ] Are there too many comments in the code?

Layout and Packaging Defects (LP)

- [ ] Is a standard indentation and layout format used consistently?
- [ ] For each method: Is it no more than about 60 lines long?

- [ ] For each compile module: Is no more than about 600 lines long?

Modularity Defects (MO)

- [ ] Is there a low level of coupling between modules (methods and classes)?
- [ ] Is there a high level of cohesion within each module (methods or class)?
- [ ] Is there repetitive code that could be replaced by a call to a method that provides the behavior of the repetitive code?
- [ ] Are the Java class libraries used where and when appropriate?

Storage Usage Defects (SU)

- [ ] Are arrays large enough?
- [ ] Are object and array references set to null once the object or array is no longer needed?

Performance Defects (PE)

- [ ] Can better data structures or more efficient algorithms be used?
- [ ] Are logical tests arranged such that the often successful and inexpensive tests precede the more expensive and less frequently successful tests?
- [ ] Can the cost of recomputing a value be reduced by computing it once and storing the results?
- [ ] Is every result that is computed and stored actually used?
- [ ] Can a computation be moved outside a loop?
- [ ] Are there tests within a loop that do not need to be done?
- [ ] Can a short loop be unrolled?
- [ ] Are there two loops operating on the same data that can be combined into one?
- [ ] Are frequently used variables declared register?
- [ ] Are short and commonly called methods declared inline?

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