

Getting Started With Java

Output of Strings & Numbers Together

Recognizing Text vs Numbers

```
class PrintTextNumbers
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        System.out.println("2 + 3");
        System.out.println(2 + 3);
        System.out.println("2" + "3");
    }
}
```

Output:

What do you think is the result of each line?

Recognizing Text vs Numbers

"2 + 3"

In this case, everything is between quotation marks. The whole expression is a string (text), including the plus sign.

Therefore, no math is performed.

```
System.out.println("2 + 3")
```

Output:

2 + 3

Recognizing Text vs Numbers

2 + 3

Now we have no quotation marks. The program will treat each symbol in the most sensible way possible.

Therefore, the '2' and '3' stand for numbers 2 and 3.

The symbol '+' means mathematical addition.

```
System.out.println(2 + 3)
```

Output:

5

Recognizing Text vs Numbers

"2" + "3"

Finally, we have quotes around the 2 and 3. This means they are strings, or text. They don't have numeric values, but instead are just the characters from your keyboard.

On the other hand, the '+' doesn't have quotes. So how do we 'add' two strings? The answer is to join them together, which is called **concatenation**.

```
System.out.println("2" + "3")
```

Output:

23

Combining Text & Numbers

```
class PrintTextNumbers
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        System.out.print("2 + 3 = ");
        System.out.println(2+3);
    }
}
```

Output:

2 + 3 = 5

Combining Text & Other Values

```
class PrintTextNumbers
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        System.out.println("2 + 3 = " + 2 + 3);
    }
}
```

Output:

2 + 3 = 23

Combining Text & Other Values

So why are these so different?

```
System.out.println(2 + 3);  
System.out.println("2 + 3 = " + 2 + 3);
```

The `print` and `println` commands are, in general, for output of strings to the display.

In the first example, we have only numbers, so Java understands that the `+` is an arithmetic operation.

In the second example, we have a string and numbers, so the `+` is used to join strings together.

Combining Text & Other Values

When Java sees:

```
System.out.println("2 + 3 = " + 2 + 3);
```

it actually interprets it as:

```
System.out.println("2 + 3 = " + "2" + "3");
```

The solution(s):

1.

```
System.out.print("2 + 3 = ");  
System.out.println(2 + 3);
```

or

2.

```
System.out.println("2 + 3 = " + (2 + 3));
```