

# Grouping objects

Iterator objects

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Lecture 9

## Main topics to be covered

- Improve the structure of the **MusicOrganizer** class
- Iterator objects
- Index versus Iterator
- Removing from a collection

## Moving away from String

- Our collection of String objects for music tracks is limited.
- No separate identification of artist, title, etc.
- We will define a **Track** class with separate fields:
  - **artist**
  - **filename**

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## The **Track** class

```
public class Track
{
    private String artist;
    private String filename;

    public Track(String artist, String filename)
    {
        this.artist = artist;
        this.filename = filename;
    }
    public String getArtist()
    {
        return artist;
    }
}
```

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## The Track class

```
public String getFilename()  
{  
    return filename;  
}  
  
public void setArtist (String artist)  
{  
    this.artist = artist;  
}  
  
public void setFilename (String filename)  
{  
    this.filename = filename;  
}  
}
```

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## The MusicOrganizerV2 class

```
import java.util.ArrayList;  
  
public class MusicOrganizer  
{  
    private ArrayList<Track> tracks;  
  
    public MusicOrganizer()  
    {  
        tracks = new ArrayList<>();  
    }  
  
    public void addTrack (Track track)  
    {  
        tracks.add(track);  
    }  
}
```

object  
parameter

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## The MusicOrganizerV2 class

```
public void listTrack(int index)
{
    Track track = tracks.get(index);
    System.out.println("Artist: " +
        track.getArtist() + " Filename: " +
        track.getFilename());
}

public void listAllTracks()
{
    for(Track track : tracks) {
        System.out.println("Artist: " +
            track.getArtist() + " Filename: " +
            track.getFilename());
    }
}
```

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## The MusicOrganizerV2 class

```
public void listByArtist(String artist)
{
    for(Track track : tracks) {
        if(track.getArtist().contains(artist)) {
            System.out.println("Artist: " +
                track.getArtist() + " Filename: " +
                track.getFilename());
        }
    }
}

public void removeTrack(int index)
{
    if(index >= 0 && index < tracks.size()) {
        tracks.remove(index);
    }
}
}
```

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## The main method

```
public class Test {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
        MusicOrganizer myMusic = new MusicOrganizer ();  
        Track track1 = new Track ("Tom", "Track0.mp3");  
        myMusic.addTrack(track1);  
        Track track2 = new Track ("Dave", "Track1.mp3");  
        myMusic.addTrack(track2);  
        myMusic.listTrack (0);  
        myMusic.listAllTracks();  
        myMusic.listByArtist("Tom");  
        myMusic.removeTrack(1);  
    }  
}
```

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## Iterator and iterator()

- Collections have an `iterator()` method.
- This returns an `Iterator` object.
- `Iterator<E>` has methods:
  - `boolean hasNext()`
  - `E next()`
  - `void remove()`

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## Using an Iterator object

`java.util.Iterator`

returns an `Iterator` object

```
Iterator<ElementType> it = myCollection.iterator();  
while(it.hasNext()) {  
    call it.next() to get the next object  
    do something with that object  
}
```

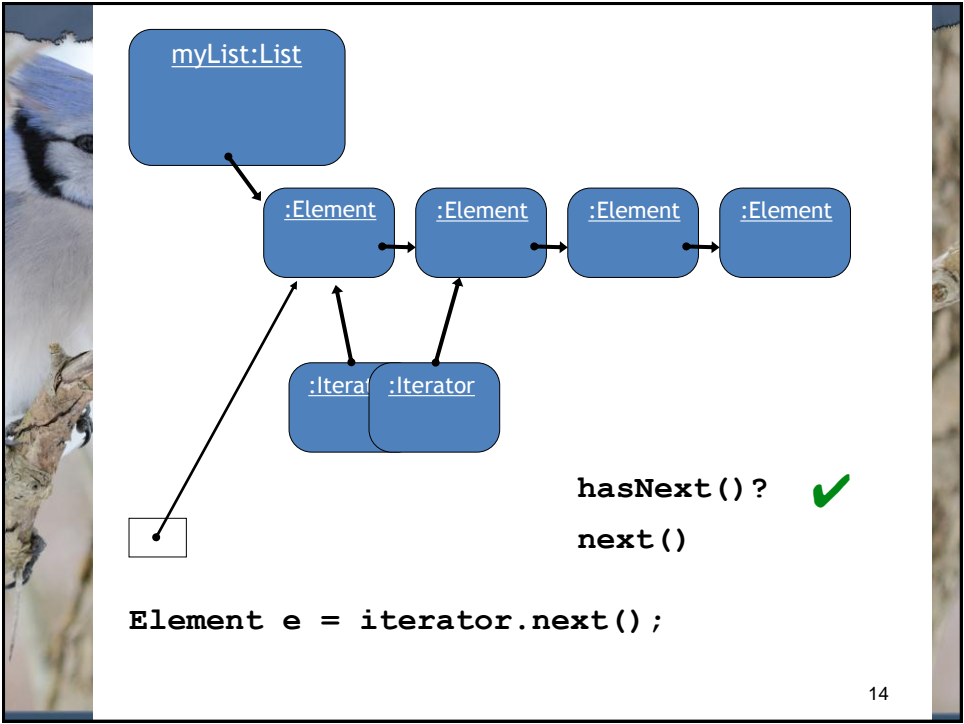
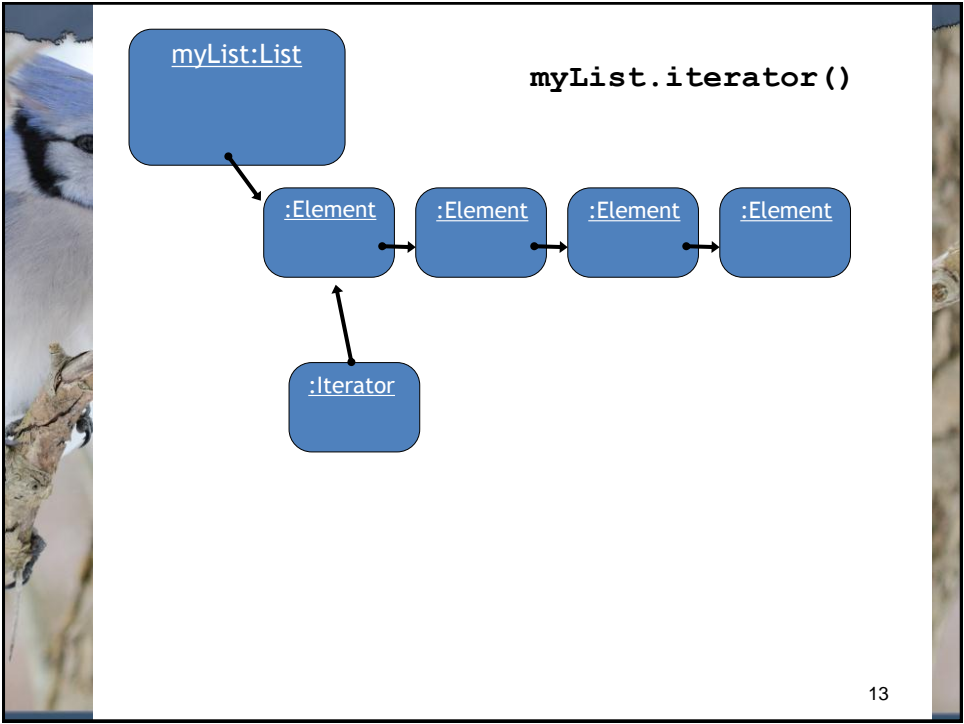
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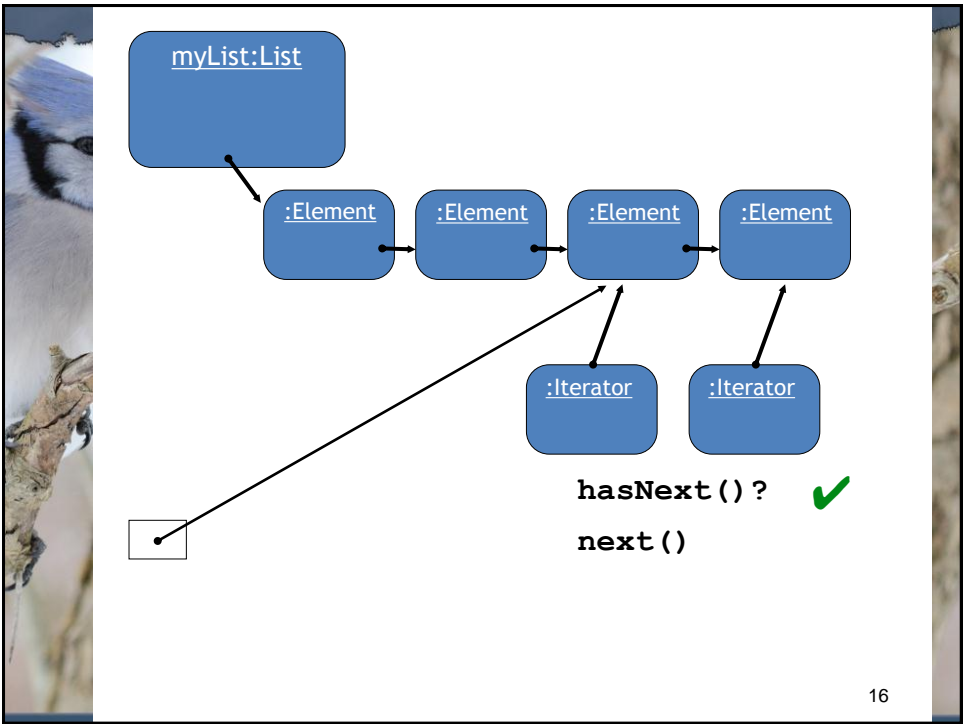
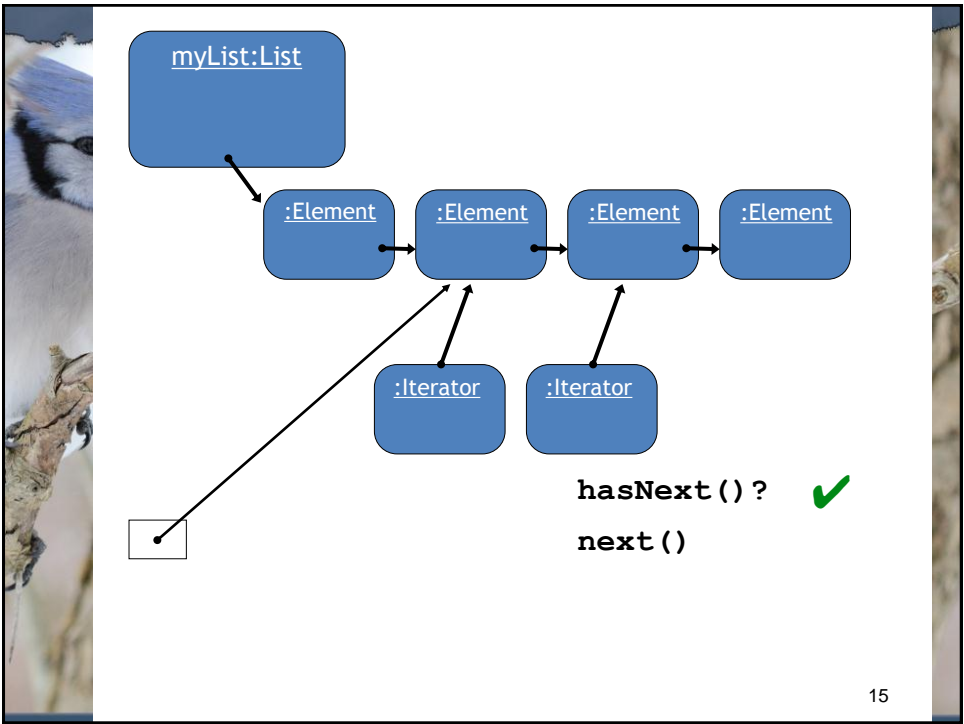
```
public void listAllTracks()  
{  
    Iterator<Track> it = tracks.iterator();  
    while(it.hasNext()) {  
        Track tk = it.next();  
        System.out.println(tk.getArtist()+ " " +  
                           tk.getFilename());  
    }  
}
```

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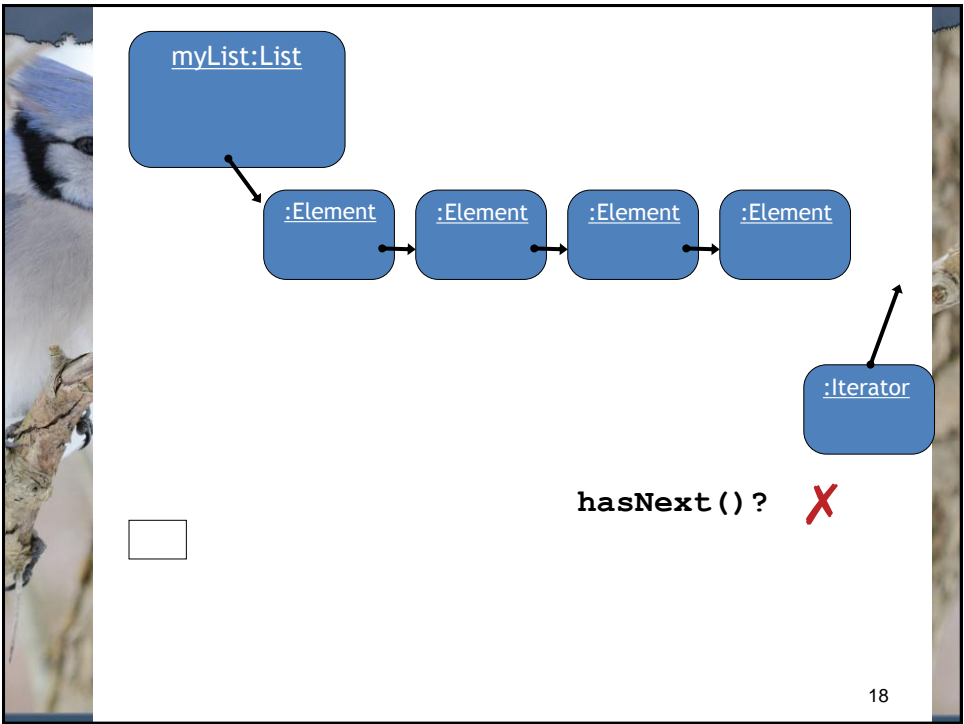
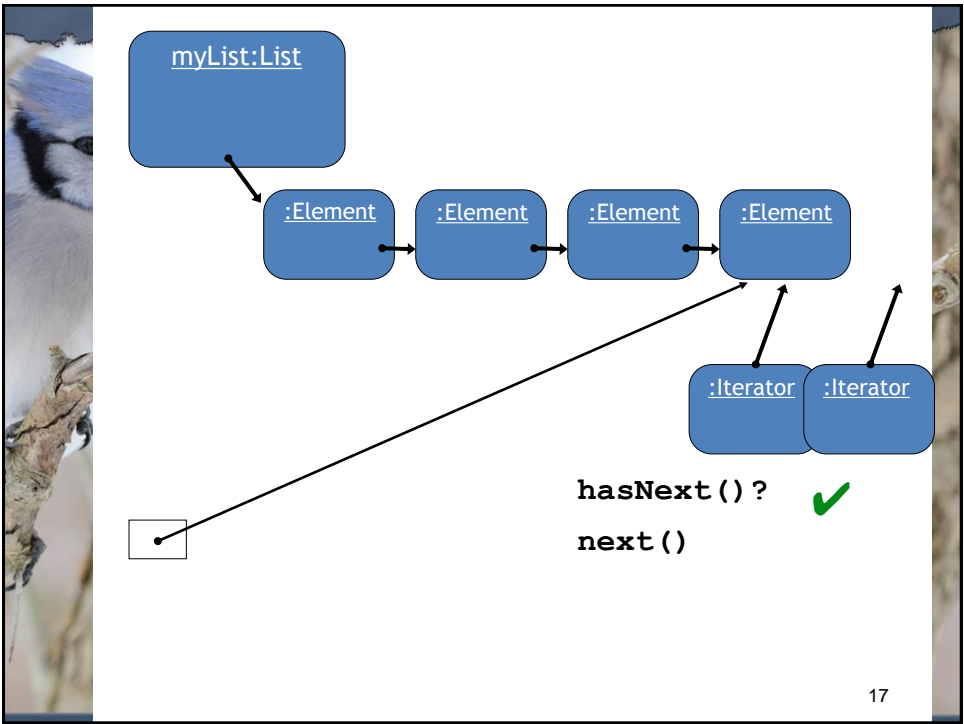
## Iterator mechanics

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## Index versus Iterator

- Ways to iterate over a collection:
  - for-each loop.
    - Use if we want to process every element.
  - while loop.
    - Use if we might want to stop part way through.
    - Use for repetition that doesn't involve a collection.
  - **Iterator** object.
    - Use if we might want to stop part way through.
    - Often used with collections where indexed access is not very efficient, or impossible.
    - *Use to remove from a collection.*
- Iteration is an important programming *pattern*.

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## Removing from a collection

```
Iterator<Track> it = tracks.iterator();
while(it.hasNext()) {
    Track t = it.next();
    String artist = t.getArtist();
    if(artist.equals(artistToRemove)) {
        it.remove();
    }
}
```

Using the *Iterator's* remove method.

- ❑ Removal using an `Iterator` is less error-prone in some circumstance.

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## Removing from a collection - wrong!

```
int index = 0;
while(index < tracks.size()) {
    Track t = tracks.get(index);
    String artist = t.getArtist();
    if(artist.equals(artistToRemove)) {
        tracks.remove(index);
    }
    index++;
}
```

Can you spot what is wrong?

- ❑ using the collection's `remove` method is not allowed with the for-each loop.