

JAVA.UTIL.COLLECTIONS.INDEXOFSUBLIST METHOD

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/java/util/collections_indexofsublist.htm

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Description

The **indexOfSubList** `List < ? >, List < ? >` method is used to get the starting position of the first occurrence of the specified target list within the specified source list.

Declaration

Following is the declaration for **java.util.Collections.indexOfSubList** method.

```
public static int indexOfSubList(List<?> source, List<?> target)
```

Parameters

- **source** -- This is the list in which to search for the first occurrence of target.
- **target** -- This is the list to search for as a subList of source.

Return Value

The method call returns the starting position of the first occurrence of the specified target list within the specified source list, or -1 if there is no such occurrence.

Exception

- NA

Example

The following example shows the usage of `java.util.Collections.indexOfSubList`

```
package com.tutorialspoint;

import java.util.*;

public class CollectionsDemo {
    public static void main(String args[]) {
        // create two array list objects
        List arrlistsrc = new ArrayList();
        List arrlisttarget = new ArrayList();

        // populate two lists
        arrlistsrc.add("A");
        arrlistsrc.add("B");
        arrlistsrc.add("C");
        arrlistsrc.add("D");
        arrlistsrc.add("E");

        arrlisttarget.add("C");
        arrlisttarget.add("D");
        arrlisttarget.add("E");

        // check target list in source list
        int index = Collections.indexOfSubList(arrlistsrc, arrlisttarget);

        System.out.println("Target list starts at index: "+index);
    }
}
```

Let us compile and run the above program, this will produce the following result.

Target list starts at index: 2

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