

JAVA.UTIL.DATE.COMPARETO METHOD

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

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Description

The **java.util.Date.compareTo** *anotherDate* method compares two Dates.

Declaration

Following is the declaration for **java.util.Date.compareTo** method

```
public int compareTo(Date anotherDate)
```

Parameters

- **anotherDate** -- date to be compared to

Return Value

0 if the argument Date is equal to this Date; a value less than 0 if this Date is before the Date argument; and a value greater than 0 if this Date is after the Date argument.

Exception

- **NullPointerException** -- if anotherDate is null.

Example

The following example shows the usage of java.util.Date.compareTo method.

```
package com.tutorialspoint;

import java.util.*;

public class DateDemo {

    public static void main(String[] args) {

        // create two dates
        Date date = new Date(98, 5, 21);
        Date date2 = new Date(99, 1, 9);

        // make 3 comparisons with them
        int comparison = date.compareTo(date2);
        int comparison2 = date2.compareTo(date);
        int comparison3 = date.compareTo(date);

        // print the results
        System.out.println("Comparison Result:" + comparison);
        System.out.println("Comparison2 Result:" + comparison2);
        System.out.println("Comparison3 Result:" + comparison3);

    }
}
```

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

```
Comparison Result:-1
Comparison2 Result:1
Comparison3 Result:0
```

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