

## **Java Platform, Standard Edition**

Java Flight Recorder Runtime Guide

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Describes the Java Flight Recorder runtime implementation and instructions for using the tool.

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# Contents

## 1 About Java Flight Recorder

1.1	Understanding Events.....	1-2
1.2	Understanding Data Flow .....	1-2
1.3	Java Flight Recorder Architecture .....	1-3
1.4	Enabling Java Flight Recorder.....	1-3
1.4.1	Improving the Fidelity of the JFR Method Profiler .....	1-4

## 2 Running Java Flight Recorder

2.1	Using the Command Line.....	2-1
2.2	Using Diagnostic Commands .....	2-2
2.3	Configuring Recordings.....	2-7
2.3.1	Setting Maximum Size and Age .....	2-7
2.3.2	Setting the Delay .....	2-7
2.3.3	Setting Compression .....	2-7
2.4	Creating Recordings Automatically.....	2-7
2.4.1	Creating a Recording On Exit .....	2-8
2.4.2	Creating a Recording Using Triggers .....	2-8
2.5	Security .....	2-8
2.6	Troubleshooting .....	2-8
A.1	Command-Line Options .....	A-1
A.2	Diagnostic Command Reference .....	A-1
A.2.1	JFR.start .....	A-2
A.2.2	JFR.check .....	A-2
A.2.3	JFR.stop .....	A-3
A.2.4	JFR.dump .....	A-3
A.2.5	VM.unlock_commercial_features.....	A-3
A.2.6	VM.check_commercial_features.....	A-3



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# Preface

This document describes the Java Flight Recorder runtime implementation and instructions for using the tool.

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**Note:** Java Flight Recorder requires a commercial license for use in production. To learn more about commercial features and how to enable them please visit <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javaseproducts/>.

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## Audience

This document is intended for Java developers and support engineers who need an introduction about the architecture and runtime implementation of Java Flight Recorder. It assumes that the reader has basic knowledge of the Java programming language.

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The following text conventions are used in this document:

Convention	Meaning
<b>boldface</b>	Boldface type indicates graphical user interface elements associated with an action, or terms defined in text or the glossary.
<i>italic</i>	Italic type indicates book titles, emphasis, or placeholder variables for which you supply particular values.
monospace	Monospace type indicates commands within a paragraph, URLs, code in examples, text that appears on the screen, or text that you enter.



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# About Java Flight Recorder

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<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javaseproducts/>.

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Java Flight Recorder (JFR) is a tool for collecting, diagnosing, and profiling data about a running Java application. It is integrated into the Java Virtual Machine (JVM) and causes almost no performance overhead, so it can be used even in heavily loaded production environments. When default settings are used, performance impact is less than one percent. For some applications, it can be significantly lower. However, for short-running applications (which are not the kind of applications running in production environments), relative startup and warmup times can be larger, which might impact the performance by more than one percent. JFR collects data about the JVM as well as the Java application running on it.

Compared to other similar tools, JFR has the following benefits:

- **Provides Better Data:** JFR captures data from various parts of the runtime, and significant effort has been made to ensure that the captured data represents the true state of the system. Examples of this effort include minimizing the observer effect, and being able to capture samples outside safe points.
- **Provides a Better Data Model:** The data model is self-describing. A recording, no matter the size, contains everything required to understand the data.
- **Provides Better Performance:** The flight recorder engine itself is optimized for performance. Care has been taken to ensure that data capture will not undo optimizations or otherwise negatively affect performance. Some data can be obtained practically for free, because it is already captured by the runtime.
- **Allows for Third-Party Event Providers:** A set of APIs make it possible for JFR to capture data from third-party applications, including WebLogic Server and other Oracle products.
- **Reduces Total Cost of Ownership:** JFR enables you to spend less time diagnosing and troubleshooting problems, reduces operating costs and business interrupts, provides faster resolution time when problems occur, and improves system efficiency.

JFR is primarily used for:

- **Profiling**

JFR continuously captures information about the running system. This profiling information includes execution profiling (which shows where the program spends

its time), thread stall/latency profiling (which shows why the threads are not running), allocation profiling (which shows where the allocation pressure is), garbage collection details and more.

- **Black Box Analysis**

JFR continuously saves information to a circular buffer. Because the overhead is so low, the flight recorder can be always on. The information can be accessed later, when looking for the cause of a particular anomaly.

- **Support and Debugging**

Data collected by JFR can be essential when contacting Oracle support to help diagnose issues with your Java application.

## 1.1 Understanding Events

Java Flight Recorder collects data about *events*. Events occur in the JVM or the Java application at a specific point in time. Each event has a name, a time stamp, and an optional *payload*. The payload is the data associated with an event, for example, the CPU usage, the Java heap size before and after the event, the thread ID of the lock holder, and so on.

Most events also have information about the thread in which the event occurred, the stack trace at the time of the event, and the duration of the event. Using the information available in events, you can reconstruct the runtime details for the JVM and the Java application.

JFR collects information about four types of events:

- An *instant event* occurs instantly, and is logged right away.
- A *duration event* has a start and an end time, and is logged when it completes.
- A *timed event* is a duration event that has an optional user defined threshold, so that only events lasting longer than the specified period of time are recorded. This is not possible for other types of events.
- A *sample event* (also called requestable event) is logged at a regular interval to provide a sample of system activity. You can configure how often sampling occurs.

JFR monitors the running system at an extremely high level of detail. This produces an enormous amount of data. To keep the overhead as low as possible, limit the type of recorded events to those you actually need. In most cases, very short duration events are of no interest, so limit the recording to events with a duration exceeding a certain meaningful threshold.

## 1.2 Understanding Data Flow

JFR collects data from the JVM (through internal APIs) and from the Java application (through the JFR APIs). This data is stored in small thread-local buffers that are flushed to a global in-memory buffer. Data in the global in-memory buffer is then written to disk. Disk write operations are expensive, so you should try to minimize them by carefully selecting the event data you enable for recording. The format of the binary recording files is very compact and efficient for applications to read and write.

There is no information overlap between the various buffers. A particular chunk of data is available either in memory or on disk, but never in both places. This has the following implications:



- Data not yet flushed to a disk buffer will not be available in the event of a power failure.
- A JVM crash can result in some data being available in the core file (that is, the in-memory buffer) and some in the disk buffer. JFR does not provide the capability to merge such buffers.
- There may be a small delay before data collected by JFR is available to you (for example, when it has to be moved to a different buffer before it can be made visible).
- The data in the recording file may not be in time sequential order as the data is collected in chunks from several thread buffers.

In some cases, the JVM drops the event order to ensure that it does not crash. Any data that cannot be written fast enough to disk is discarded. When this happens, the recording file will include information on which time period was affected. This information will also be logged to the logging facility of the JVM.

You can configure JFR to not write any data to disk. In this mode, the global buffer acts as a circular buffer and the oldest data is dropped when the buffer is full. This very low-overhead operating mode still collects all the vital data necessary for root-cause problem analysis. Because the most recent data is always available in the global buffer, it can be written to disk on demand whenever operations or surveillance systems detect a problem. However, in this mode, only the last few minutes of data is available, so it only contains the most recent events. If you need to get the full history of operation for a long period of time, use the default mode where events are written to disk regularly.

## 1.3 Java Flight Recorder Architecture

JFR is comprised of the following components:

- *JFR runtime* is the recording engine inside the JVM that produces the recordings. The runtime engine itself is comprised of the following components:
  - The *agent* controls buffers, disk I/O, MBeans, and so on. This component provides a dynamic library written in C and Java code, and also provides a JVM-independent pure Java implementation.
  - The *producers* insert data into the buffers. They can collect events from the JVM and the Java application, and (through a Java API) from third-party applications.
- *Flight Recorder plugin* for Java Mission Control (JMC) enables you to work with JFR from the JMC client, using a graphical user interface (GUI) to start, stop, and configure recordings, as well as view recording files.

## 1.4 Enabling Java Flight Recorder

By default, JFR is disabled in the JVM. To enable JFR, you must launch your Java application with the `-XX:+FlightRecorder` option. Because JFR is a commercial feature, available only in the commercial packages based on Java Platform, Standard Edition (*Oracle Java SE Advanced* and *Oracle Java SE Suite*), you also have to enable commercial features using the `-XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures` options.

For example, to enable JFR when launching a Java application named `MyApp`, use the following command:

```
java -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:+FlightRecorder MyApp
```

Alternatively, (if using JDK 8u40 or later) you can enable JFR at runtime from within JMC itself. When you start a new Flight Recording, a dialog box will appear stating that:

Commercial Features are not enabled in the JVM. To start a Flight Recording, you need to enable Commercial Features. Do you want to do that now?  
Click "Yes" to enable these features.

You can also enable Java Flight Recorder in a running JVM by using the appropriate `jcmd` diagnostic commands. For examples, see [Section 2.2, "Using Diagnostic Commands"](#).

Note that when running alternative languages relying on lambda forms on the JVM -- such as the JavaScript implementation Nashorn -- the depths of the stack traces can get quite deep. To ensure that stack traces with large stacks are sampled properly, you may need to increase the Flight Recorder stack depth. Setting its value to 1024 will usually be enough:

```
java -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:+FlightRecorder  
-XX:FlightRecorderOptions=stackdepth=1024 MyApp
```

### 1.4.1 Improving the Fidelity of the JFR Method Profiler

One nice property of the JFR method profiler is that it does not require threads to be at safe points in order for stacks to be sampled. However, since the common case is that stacks will only be walked at safe points, HotSpot normally does not provide metadata for non-safe point parts of the code, which means that such samples will not be properly resolved to the correct line number and BCI. That is, unless you specify:

```
-XX:+UnlockDiagnosticVMOptions -XX:+DebugNonSafepoints
```

With `DebugNonSafepoints`, the compiler will generate the necessary metadata for the parts of the code not at safe points as well.

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# Running Java Flight Recorder

This chapter describes how you can run Java Flight Recorder.

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**Note:** Java Flight Recorder requires a commercial license for use in production. To learn more about commercial features and how to enable them please visit <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javaseproducts/>.

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You can run multiple recordings concurrently and configure each recording using different settings; in particular, you can configure different recordings to capture different sets of events. However, in order to make the internal logic of Java Flight Recorder as streamlined as possible, the resulting recording always contains the union of all events for all recordings active at that time. This means that if more than one recording is running, you might end up with more information in the recording than you wanted. This can be confusing but has no other negative implications.

The easiest and most intuitive way to use JFR is through the Flight Recorder plug-in that is integrated into Java Mission Control. This plug-in enables access to JFR functionality through an intuitive GUI. For more information about using the JMC client to control JFR, see the Flight Recorder Plug-in section of the Java Mission Control help.

This chapter explains more advanced ways of running and managing JFR recordings and contains the following sections:

- [Using the Command Line](#)
- [Using Diagnostic Commands](#)
- [Configuring Recordings](#)
- [Creating Recordings Automatically](#)
- [Security](#)
- [Troubleshooting](#)

## 2.1 Using the Command Line

Before creating a flight recording, you must first unlock commercial features and enable Java Flight Recorder. This can be done in a variety of ways, ranging from `java` command line options, to `jcmd` diagnostic commands, to Graphical User Interface (GUI) controls within Java Mission Control. This flexibility enables you to provide the appropriate options at startup, or interact with JFR later, after the JVM is already running.

The following example uses `java` command-line options to run `MyApp` and immediately start a 60-second recording. The recording will be saved to a file named `myrecording.jfr`:

```
java -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:+FlightRecorder
-XX:StartFlightRecording=duration=60s,filename=myrecording.jfr MyApp
```

For more information about the supported command-line options, see [Appendix A.1, "Command-Line Options"](#).

## 2.2 Using Diagnostic Commands

It is possible to control recordings using `jcmd` and JFR-specific diagnostic commands. For a more detailed description of Diagnostic Commands, see [Appendix A.2, "Diagnostic Command Reference"](#).

The simplest way to execute a diagnostic command is to use the `jcmd` tool (located in the Java installation directory). To issue a command, you must pass the process identifier of the JVM (or the name of the main class) and the actual command as arguments to `jcmd`.

For example, to start a 60-second recording on the running Java process with the identifier 5368 and save it to `myrecording.jfr` in the current directory, use the following:

```
jcmd 5368 JFR.start duration=60s filename=myrecording.jfr
```

To see a list of all running Java processes, run the `jcmd` command without any arguments. To see a complete list of commands available to a running Java application, specify `help` as the diagnostic command after the process identifier (or the name of the main class).

The following examples show various use cases for running `jcmd` with Java Flight Recorder, assuming a demo program that lives in `MyApp.jar`.

### **Example 2-1 Dynamic Interaction Using `jcmd`**

Example 2-1 unlocks commercial features and enables Java Flight Recorder dynamically at runtime. No extra options are provided when the Java application is launched. Once the JVM is running, the `jcmd` commands `VM.unlock_commercial_features` and `JFR.start` are used to unlock commercial features and start a new flight recording.

```
$java -jar MyApp.jar
$jcmd 40019 VM.command_line
40019:
VM Arguments:
java_command: MyApp.jar
java_class_path (initial): MyApp.jar
Launcher Type: SUN_STANDARD

$jcmd 40019 VM.check_commercial_features
40019:
Commercial Features are locked.

$jcmd 40019 JFR.check
40019:
Java Flight Recorder not enabled.

Use VM.unlock_commercial_features to enable.
```

```

$jcmd 40019 VM.unlock_commercial_features
40019:
Commercial Features now unlocked.

$jcmd 40019 VM.check_commercial_features
40019:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has not been used.
Resource Management is disabled.

$jcmd 40019 JFR.check
40019:

No available recordings.

Use JFR.start to start a recording.

$jcmd 40019 JFR.start name=my_recording filename=myrecording.jfr dumponexit=true
40019:
Started recording 1. No limit (duration/maxsize/maxage) in use.

Use JFR.dump name=my_recording to copy recording data to file.

$jcmd 40019 VM.check_commercial_features
40019:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.

$jcmd 40019 JFR.check
40019:
Recording: recording=1 name="my_recording" filename="myrecording.jfr"
compress=false (running)

$

```

**Example 2-2 Using -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures and -XX:+FlightRecorder**

Example 2-2 unlocks commercial features and enables JFR by passing options `-XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures` and `-XX:+FlightRecorder` to the java command when the application starts.

```
$java -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:+FlightRecorder -jar MyApp.jar
```

```

$jcmd 37152 VM.command_line
37152:
VM Arguments:
jvm_args: -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:+FlightRecorder
java_command: MyApp.jar
java_class_path (initial): MyApp.jar
Launcher Type: SUN_STANDARD

$jcmd 37152 VM.check_commercial_features
37152:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has not been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.

```

```
$jcmd 37152 JFR.check
37152:
No available recordings.

Use JFR.start to start a recording.

$jcmd 37152 JFR.start name=my_recording filename=myrecording.jfr dumponexit=true
37152:
Started recording 1. No limit (duration/maxsize/maxage) in use.

Use JFR.dump name=my_recording to copy recording data to file.

$jcmd 37152 JFR.check
37152:
Recording: recording=1 name="my_recording" filename="myrecording.jfr"
compress=false (running)

$jcmd 37152 VM.check_commercial_features
37152:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.
$
```

**Example 2-3 Using -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures with a JFR Dynamic Start**

Example 2-3 starts JFR dynamically (using `JFR.start`) after the application has been launched with `-XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures`.

```
$java -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -jar MyApp.jar
```

```
$jcmd 39970 VM.command_line
39970:
VM Arguments:
jvm_args: -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures
java_command: MyApp.jar
java_class_path (initial): MyApp.jar
Launcher Type: SUN_STANDARD

$jcmd 39970 VM.check_commercial_features
39970:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has not been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.

$jcmd 39970 JFR.check
39970:
No available recordings.

Use JFR.start to start a recording.

$jcmd 39970 VM.check_commercial_features
39970:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has not been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.
```

```

$jcmd 39970 JFR.start name=my_recording filename=myrecording.jfr dumponexit=true
39970:

Started recording 1. No limit (duration/maxsize/maxage) in use.

Use JFR.dump name=my_recording to copy recording data to file.

$jcmd 39970 VM.check_commercial_features
39970:

Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.

$jcmd 39970 JFR.check
39970:
Recording: recording=1 name="my_recording" filename="myrecording.jfr"
compress=false (running)
$

```

#### **Example 2-4 Locking Commercial Features with -XX:-UnlockCommercialFeatures**

Example 2-4 launches the application with commercial features explicitly locked (-XX:-UnlockCommercialFeatures). It then unlocks commercial features with VM.unlock\_commercial\_features, and starts a new flight recording with JFR.start.

```

$ java -XX:-UnlockCommercialFeatures -jar MyApp.jar

$jcmd 40110 VM.command_line
40110:
VM Arguments:
jvm_args: -XX:-UnlockCommercialFeatures
java_command: MyApp.jar
java_class_path (initial): MyApp.jar
Launcher Type: SUN_STANDARD

$jcmd 40110 VM.check_commercial_features
40110:
Commercial Features are locked.

$jcmd 40110 VM.unlock_commercial_features
40110:
Commercial Features now unlocked.

$jcmd 40110 VM.check_commercial_features
40110:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has not been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.

$jcmd 40110 JFR.start name=my_recording filename=myrecording.jfr dumponexit=true
40110:
Started recording 1. No limit (duration/maxsize/maxage) in use.

Use JFR.dump name=my_recording to copy recording data to file.

```

```

$ jcmd 40110 JFR.check
40110:
Recording: recording=1 name="my_recording" filename="myrecording.jfr"
compress=false (running)

$ jcmd 40110 VM.check_commercial_features
40110:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder has been used.
  Resource Management is disabled.
$

```

### **Example 2-5 Disabling JFR with -XX:-FlightRecorder**

Example 2-5 disables JFR entirely by passing `-XX:-FlightRecorder` to the `java` command when the application starts. It is not possible to dynamically create a new flight recording if this option has been specified.

```

$ java -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:-FlightRecorder -jar MyApp.jar
$ jcmd 39589 VM.command_line
39589:
VM Arguments:
jvm_args: -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:-FlightRecorder
java_command: MyApp.jar
java_class_path (initial): MyApp.jar
Launcher Type: SUN_STANDARD

$ jcmd 39589 VM.check_commercial_features

39589:
Commercial Features are unlocked.
Status of individual features:
  Java Flight Recorder is disabled.
  Resource Management is disabled.

$ jcmd 39589 JFR.check
39589:
Java Flight Recorder is disabled.

$ jcmd 39589 JFR.stop
39589:
Java Flight Recorder is disabled.

$ jcmd 39589 VM.unlock_commercial_features
39589:
Commercial Features already unlocked.

$ jcmd 39589 JFR.start name=my_recording filename=myrecording.jfr dumpsonexit=true
39589:
Java Flight Recorder is disabled.
$

```

### **Example 2-6 Invalid Option Combinations**

Example 2-6 shows what happens when invalid option combinations are passed to the `java` command. In this case, the user attempts to enable JFR (`-XX:+FlightRecorder`) with simultaneously locking commercial features (`-XX:-UnlockCommercialFeatures`).

```

$ java -XX:-UnlockCommercialFeatures -XX:+FlightRecorder -jar MyApp.jar
Error: To use 'FlightRecorder', first unlock using -XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures.

```



```
Error: Could not create the Java Virtual Machine.  
Error: A fatal exception has occurred. Program will exit.  
$
```

## 2.3 Configuring Recordings

You can configure an explicit recording in a number of other ways. These techniques work the same regardless of how you start a recording (that is, either by using the command-line approach or by using diagnostic commands).

### 2.3.1 Setting Maximum Size and Age

You can configure an explicit recording to have a maximum size or age by using the following parameters:

```
maxsize=size
```

Append the letter *k* or *K* to indicate kilobytes, *m* or *M* to indicate megabytes, *g* or *G* to indicate gigabytes, or do not specify any suffix to set the size in bytes.

```
maxage=age
```

Append the letter *s* to indicate seconds, *m* to indicate minutes, *h* to indicate hours, or *d* to indicate days.

If both a size limit and an age are specified, the data is deleted when either limit is reached.

### 2.3.2 Setting the Delay

When scheduling a recording, you might want to add a delay before the recording is actually started; for example, when running from the command line, you might want the application to boot or reach a steady state before starting the recording. To achieve this, use the `delay` parameter:

```
delay=delay
```

Append the letter *s* to indicate seconds, *m* to indicate minutes, *h* to indicate hours, or *d* to indicate days.

### 2.3.3 Setting Compression

Although the recording file format is very compact, you can compress it further by adding it to a ZIP archive. To enable compression, use the following parameter:

```
compress=true
```

Note that CPU resources are required for the compression, which can negatively impact performance.

## 2.4 Creating Recordings Automatically

When running with a default recording you can configure Java Flight Recorder to automatically save the current in-memory recording data to a file whenever certain conditions occur. If a disk repository is used, the current information in the disk repository will also be included.

## 2.4.1 Creating a Recording On Exit

To save the recording data to the specified path every time the JVM exits, start your application with the following option:

```
-XX:FlightRecorderOptions=defaultrecording=true,dumponexit=true,dumponexitpath=path
```

Set *path* to the location where the recording should be saved. If you specify a directory, a file with the date and time as the name is created in that directory. If you specify a file name, that name is used. If you do not specify a path, the recording will be saved in the current directory.

You can also specify `dumponexit=true` as a parameter to the

```
-XX:StartFlightRecording option:
```

```
-XX:StartFlightRecording=name=test,filename=D:\test.jfr,dumponexit=true
```

In this case, the dump file will be written to the location defined by the `filename` parameter.

## 2.4.2 Creating a Recording Using Triggers

You can use the Console in Java Mission Control to set *triggers*. A trigger is a rule that executes an action whenever a condition specified by the rule is true. For example, you can create a rule that triggers a flight recording to commence whenever the heap size exceeds 100 MB. Triggers in Java Mission Control can use any property exposed through a JMX MBean as the input to the rule. They can launch many other actions than just Flight Recorder dumps.

Define triggers on the **Triggers** tab of the JMX Console. For more information on how to create triggers, see the Java Mission Control help.

## 2.5 Security

The recording file can potentially contain confidential information such as Java command-line options and environment variables. Use extreme care when you store or transfer the recording files as you would do with diagnostic core files or heap dumps.

[Table 2–1](#) describes security permissions for various methods of using JFR.

**Table 2–1 Security Permissions**

Method	Security
Command line	Anyone with access to the command line of the Java process must be trusted.
Diagnostic commands	Only the owner of the Java process can use <code>jcmd</code> to control the process.
Java Mission Control Client	Java Mission Control Client uses JMX to access the JVM.

## 2.6 Troubleshooting

You can collect a significant amount of diagnostic information from Java Flight Recorder by starting the JVM with one of the following options:

- `-XX:FlightRecorderOptions=loglevel=debug`
- `-XX:FlightRecorderOptions=loglevel=trace`.

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## Command Reference

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**Note:** Java Flight Recorder requires a commercial license for use in production. To learn more about commercial features and how to enable them please visit <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javaseproducts/>.

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This appendix serves as a basic reference to the commands you can use with Java Flight Recorder. It contains the following sections:

- [Section A.1, "Command-Line Options"](#)
- [Section A.2, "Diagnostic Command Reference"](#)

### A.1 Command-Line Options

When you launch your Java application with the `java` command, you can specify options to enable Java Flight Recorder, configure its settings, and start a recording. The following command-line options are specific to Java Flight Recorder:

- `-XX:+|-FlightRecorder`
- `-XX:FlightRecorderOptions`
- `-XX:StartFlightRecording`

These command-line options are available only in the commercial license of the JDK. To use them, you have to also specify the `-XX:+UnlockCommercialFeatures` option, or unlock commercial features after the application is running. For examples of unlocking commercial features and starting a flight recording dynamically at runtime, see [Section 2.1, "Using the Command Line"](#).

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**Note:** You should use `-XX` options only if you have a thorough understanding of your system. If you use these commands improperly, you might affect the stability or performance of your system. `-XX` options are experimental, and they are subject to change at any time.

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### A.2 Diagnostic Command Reference

This is a description of the diagnostic commands available to control Java Flight Recorder and the parameters available for each command. This information is also available by running the `jcmd` command with the process identifier specified, followed by the `help` parameter and the command name. For example, to get help information

for the `JFR.start` command on a running JVM process with the identifier 5361, run the following:

```
jcmd 5361 help JFR.start
```

To get a full list of diagnostic commands available to the JVM, do not specify the name of the command.

The diagnostic commands associated with Java Flight Recorder are:

- [JFR.start](#)
- [JFR.check](#)
- [JFR.stop](#)
- [JFR.dump](#)
- [VM.unlock\\_commercial\\_features](#)
- [VM.check\\_commercial\\_features](#)

## A.2.1 JFR.start

The `JFR.start` diagnostic command starts a flight recording. [Table A-1](#) lists the parameters you can use with this command.

**Table A-1** *JFR.start*

Parameter	Description	Type of value	Default
name	Name of recording	String	
settings	Server-side template	String	
defaultrecording	Starts default recording	Boolean	False
delay	Delay start of recording	Time	0s
duration	Duration of recording	Time	0s (means "forever")
filename	Resulting recording filename	String	
compress	GZip compress the resulting recording file	Boolean	False
maxage	Maximum age of buffer data	Time	0s (means "no age limit")
maxsize	Maximum size of buffers in bytes	Long	0 (means "no max size")

## A.2.2 JFR.check

The `JFR.check` command shows information about running recordings. [Table A-2](#) lists the parameters you can use with this command.

**Table A-2** *JFR.check*

Parameter	Description	Type of value	Default
name	Recording name	String	
recording	Recording id	Long	1
verbose	Print verbose data	Boolean	False

### A.2.3 JFR.stop

The `JFR.stop` diagnostic command stops running flight recordings. [Table A-3](#) lists the parameters you can use with this command.

**Table A-3** *JFR.stop*

Parameter	Description	Type of value	Default
name	Recording name	String	
recording	Recording id	Long	1
discard	Discards the recording data	Boolean	
copy_to_file	Copy recording data to file	String	
compress_copy	GZip compress "copy_to_file" destination	Boolean	False

### A.2.4 JFR.dump

The `JFR.dump` diagnostic command stops running flight recordings. [Table A-4](#) lists the parameters you can use with this command.

**Table A-4** *JFR.dump*

Parameter	Description	Type of value	Default
name	Recording name	String	
recording	Recording id	Long	1
copy_to_file	Copy recording data to file	String	
compress_copy	GZip compress "copy_to_file" destination	Boolean	False

### A.2.5 VM.unlock\_commercial\_features

The `VM.unlock_commercial_features` command is used to unlock commercial features in a JVM that is already running. This command has no parameters.

### A.2.6 VM.check\_commercial\_features

The `VM.check_commercial_features` command is used to check whether commercial features are locked or unlocked in a JVM that is already running. This command has no parameters.

