

Simple Java program to compare two values:

```
/* This program prompts a user for two values and
prints out the largest of the two values. If
both values are the same, the number will be
printed out, but the fact that both values are
the same will not be noted.
*/

import java.util.Scanner;

public class compare
{
    public static void main(String[] args)
    {
        Scanner console = new Scanner(System.in); // Tie input stream to this program

        System.out.print("Please enter first number: "); // prompt the user

        // get input

        int value1 = console.nextInt();

        System.out.print("Please enter second number: ");
        int value2 = console.nextInt();

        /* Do the comparison and print out the largest of
        the two values */

        if (value1 > value2)
            System.out.println("The largest value is: " + value1); // output the result
        else
            System.out.println("The largest value is: " + value2); // output the result
        }
    }
}
```

Sample run:

```
$ java compare
Please enter first number: 168
Please enter second number: 25
The largest value is: 168
```

```
$ java compare
Please enter first number: 25
Please enter second number: 25
The largest value is: 25
```

Notes:

1. In the second run, the program does not perform in an ideal manner, i.e. when the same value is entered twice, it states that the largest value is the number entered, which is not strictly speaking true -- the values are the same. How can this be fixed?

2. Compiling a Java program on your own computer requires that the JDK be installed; to learn about the JDK, visit the website:

<http://docs.oracle.com/javase/7/docs/webnotes/install/index.html>

The actual JDK can be downloaded from:

<http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/index.html>