

Hibernate Cheat Sheet

Hibernate ORM 7.4.x / Jakarta Persistence 3.2 -- quick reference. AI-generated; verify against the official documentation. See the Hibernate Reference section for full explanations and every option.

Entity lifecycle

State	Meaning
Transient	<code>new Foo()</code> , no identity
Managed	in persistence context, tracked
Detached	had identity, context closed
Removed	scheduled for DELETE

`persist` -> managed; `remove` -> removed;
`detach/clear/close` -> detached; `merge(x)` returns
a NEW managed copy (x stays detached)

@GeneratedValue strategies

Strategy	Notes
IDENTITY	auto-increment; disables batching
SEQUENCE	preferred; keeps batching intact
TABLE	portable, slowest
UUID	client-side, no round-trip

Composite keys

`@EmbeddedId` (preferred) / `@IdClass`
`@NaturalId` -- business key, not PK
`@MapsId` -- shared-PK `@OneToOne`

Associations

Annotation	Owning?
<code>@ManyToOne</code>	always owning
<code>@OneToMany(mappedBy)</code>	inverse
<code>@OneToOne</code>	owner has <code>@JoinColumn</code>
<code>@ManyToMany</code>	owner has <code>@JoinTable</code>

`cascade=ALL`, `orphanRemoval=true` -> `true`
parent/child composition
`@onDelete(CASCADE)` -> DB-level FK cascade

Inheritance strategies

Strategy	Trade-off
<code>SINGLE_TABLE</code>	1 table, nullable cols, no join (default)
<code>JOINED</code>	normalized, 1 join/level
<code>TABLE_PER_CLASS</code>	repeated cols, UNION ALL

`@MappedSuperclass` -- shared mapping,
no polymorphic query

Collections

- `List` with no `@OrderColumn` = bag (unordered, dup issues)
- 2 bags in one JOIN FETCH -> `MultipleBagFetchException`; use `Set`
- `@ElementCollection` -- values, no identity, fully owned
- `@OrderColumn` = stored index; `@OrderBy` = DB sort at read

Locking modes

Mode	Use
<code>@Version</code> OPTIMISTIC	version column check
OPTIMISTIC_FORCE_INCREMENT	force bump on assoc. change
PESSIMISTIC_READ	SELECT ... FOR SHARE
PESSIMISTIC_WRITE	SELECT ... FOR UPDATE
PESSIMISTIC_FORCE_INCREMENT	write lock + version bump

`jakarta.persistence.lock.timeout` (ms)

Flushing

FlushMode	Behavior
AUTO	flush before affected query + commit
COMMIT	flush only at commit
ALWAYS	flush before every query
MANUAL	explicit <code>flush()</code> only

`@DynamicUpdate` / `@DynamicInsert` -- only
changed / non-null columns

Fetching & N+1 fixes

- Default every association to `FetchType.LAZY`
- `JOIN FETCH` -- 1 query, one to-many max
- `@EntityGraph` -- reusable fetch plan
- `@BatchSize` / `default_batch_fetch_size` -- IN-batches
- `@Fetch(SELECT|JOIN|SUBSELECT)`
- `SELECT new ... DTO` -- avoid entities entirely

Query language decision guide

Need	Use
Static query, concise	HQL/JPQL
Dynamic filters, refactor-safe	Criteria API (+ metamodel)
Vendor-specific SQL, window fns	Native SQL
Existing DB logic	Stored procedures

`SELECT new pkg.Dto(...) FROM ...` -- DTO projection

Pagination

`setFirstResult(offset).setMaxResults(n)`
key-based: `WHERE id > :lastSeenId ORDER BY id`
`@NamedQuery` -- validated/prepared at bootstrap

Bulk & batching

- `hibernate.jdbc.batch_size` + `order_inserts/updates`
- `StatelessSession` -- no context, no dirty check, ETL
- Bulk UPDATE/DELETE/INSERT..SELECT bypasses persistence context + 2nd-level cache
- `flush()/clear()` loop for large imports

Caching layers

Strategy	Use
<code>READ_ONLY</code>	never updated
<code>NONSTRICT_READ_WRITE</code>	tolerable brief staleness
<code>READ_WRITE</code>	updated regularly (default pick)
<code>TRANSACTIONAL</code>	JTA + capable provider

Providers: JCache+Caffeine, Infinispan,
Ehcache, Redis (adapter)

Events & filters

- `@PrePersist`/`@PostPersist`/`@PreUpdate`/`@PostUpdate`/`@PreRemove`/`@PostRemove`/`@PostLoad`
- Interceptor -- session-wide hook, every entity
- `@FilterDef`/`@Filter` -- per-session toggle WHERE clause
- `@SoftDelete` -- `remove()` becomes UPDATE, auto-excluded from queries

Schema generation

hbm2ddl.auto	Use
none	no action
validate	prod -- fail fast on drift
update	dev only, never drops
create-drop	local/test only

Migrations own prod schema + `ddl-auto=validate`

Envers auditing

- `@Audited` -- entity/field/association history
- `_AUD` shadow tables + `REVINFO` (rev/timestamp)
- `AuditReader.find(Class, id, rev)`
- `ValidityAuditStrategy` -- adds `REVEN`D, faster point-in-time queries

Multitenancy

Strategy	Isolation / cost
Separate DB	strongest / highest cost
Separate schema	strong / shared infra
Discriminator (<code>@TenantId</code>)	weakest / cheapest

`CurrentTenantIdentifierResolver` +
`MultiTenantConnectionProvider`

Performance essentials

- LAZY by default; `open-in-view=false`
- SEQUENCE over IDENTITY for batching
- Statistics API + `hibernate.generate_statistics`
- `LOG_QUERIES_SLOWER_THAN_MS` -- slow query log
- Anti-patterns: OSIV on, eager everywhere, entity-not-DTO, `@OneToMany` w/o `@BatchSize`

Hibernate Search annotations

<code>@Indexed</code>	root of index
<code>@FullTextField</code>	analyzed, tokenized
<code>@KeywordField</code>	exact match
<code>@GenericField</code>	numbers/dates/bool
<code>@IndexedEmbedded</code>	pull assoc. fields in

`MassIndexer` -- full (re)index from DB

Search backend choice

Backend	Fit
Lucene (embedded)	single node only -- does NOT scale out
Elasticsearch/OpenSearch	multi-instance, shared cluster (recommended)

`coordination.strategy: none | outbox-polling`
(multi-node reliable)

Hibernate Reactive one-liners

- `Mutiny.SessionFactory` -- unwrap from `EntityManagerFactory`
- `withSession/withTransaction`(Uni-returning callback)
- Bound to Vert.x **Context** -- NOT Reactor Context, NOT `ThreadLocal`
- Needs a Vert.x reactive SQL client, no JDBC
- No Spring Data support; no `ReactiveTransactionManager`
- `mutiny-reactor: UniReactorConverters.toMono()` / `MultiReactorConverters.toFlux()`
- Hibernate Search does NOT support Hibernate Reactive (HSEARCH-4922)

Data Repositories & Validator

`@Repository` + `@Find/@Query/@HQL/@SQL` --
Jakarta Data, blocking, `StatelessSession`-based

`@Valid` cascades; `@Validated` = Spring
method-level validation

`jakarta.persistence.validation.mode = AUTO`
-- pre-persist/pre-update checks

Key settings

<code>hibernate.hbm2ddl.auto</code>	schema mode
<code>hibernate.show_sql/format_sql</code>	SQL logging
<code>hibernate.jdbc.batch_size</code>	JDBC batching
<code>hibernate.default_batch_fetch_size</code>	N+1 batching
<code>hibernate.generate_statistics</code>	Statistics API