Classes & Interfaces

Java's Object Oriented System

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Keywords



- Class a template of a data object
- Interface a specification
- Instance an instantiation of a Class or Interface physically represented in memory
- **Method** a set sequence of instructions
- Instance Field variable associated with a particular instance.
- Static Field variable shared among all instances of a Class

Data Types



- There are two types in Java
 - Primitive types
 - Reference types
- Most of your time is spent using Reference types.

Reference Types



- Also known as Objects
- To create an **instance** of a reference type, use the new keyword in Java
- The new keyword:
 - 1. Makes space for the new object in memory
 - 2. Calls the constructor you specify
 - 3. Returns a reference to the new object



Use of instances

- Call methods off of instances:
 - account.withdraw(amount);
 - account.deposit(amount);
- Access its instance variables:
 - account.id
 - account.balance
- When we're done with an object, we just stop using it.
 - Java will garbage collect the object when there are no more references to it.



Defining a Class



 The template for a class definition follows: [access] [abstract/final] class className [extends superClassName] [implements interfaceNames...] { //constructors //member functions //member variables

Simple Example



public class BankAccount {

...

}



Class Members

- In class definitions we can define the following members:
 - Constructors
 - Instance and static methods
 - Instance and static fields
 - Nested classes







- Must have the same name of the Class that they are in
- Can have multiple constructors per Class
- Handles initialization of your class
- Template:

[access] className ([arguments...]) { //constructor body

Example: Single Constructor

public class BankAccount { public BankAccount () { }



Notice that the name of the constructor is the same as the class



Methods



- Methods perform functions
- Methods work on the state of the class
- Like Scheme, methods can take in multiple arguments, and return up to one value
- If no value is to be returned, use the keyword void
- A class can have as many methods as needed
- Template:

[access] returnType methodName ([arguments...]) {
//method body

}

Example Methods



public class BankAccount {
 public void withdraw (int amount) {

}
public int getAmount () {

Method Overloading



- A class can have two functions with the same name in a class as long as their arguments differ.
- Example:
 - void foo () {...}
 - void foo (int bar) {...}
- Java knows which method to call based on the method signature
- Example: myClass.foo(7) //calls 2nd method

Fields



- A field is like a variable, it stores state
- A field has a associated data type which determines the type of data that this field will hold
- Template:

[access] dataType fieldName [= value];

Example Fields

public class BankAccount {
 public int balance;
 public Date lastWithdrawal;
 public List transactions;





Bringing It Together



Accessors



- Before we saw the placeholder [access].
- There are 4 types of access keywords to describe which classes have access:
 - public any other class in any package
 - protected any subclass has access
 - (default) only classes within the same package
 - private only accessible from within a class
- Good for keeping data abstraction intact

Inheritance



- Allows classes to inherit functionality from other classes
- Allows data and procedural abstraction
- Decreases complexity of large software systems

Checking and Savings



• Two separate ideas with different behaviors, but there exists overlap of functionality



Interfaces



- An interface is a specification of a Class
- Declares methods but does not define them
- Interfaces do not have constructors
- Template:

[access] interface interfaceName [extends interfaceNameList...] { //method declarations

Example Interface



public interface BankAccount {
 public void withdraw (int amount);
 public void deposit (int amount);
 public int getBalance ();

Notice that for method declarations, the method body is not defined.

How do we use the Interface?



- We make classes or other interface **implement** or **extend** the interface.
- If a class implements an interface, that class must provide an implementation (a method body) for every method specified by the interface
 - If a class implements multiple interfaces, it must implement all methods of every interface it chooses to implement



Example Interface Use

```
public class CheckingAccount implements BankAccount {
    private int balance;
    public CheckingAccount (int initial) {
        balance = initial;
                                                            Since
    //implemented methods from BankAccount
                                                            CheckingAccount
    public void withdraw (int amount) {
                                                            implements
                                                            BankAccount, it
        balance = balance - amount;
                                                            must provide
                                                            implementations
    public void deposit (int amount) {
                                                           for these methods
        balance = balance + amount;
    public int getBalance () {
        return balance;
```

Abstract Classes



- Abstract classes are a mix between interfaces and classes
 - can have defined method bodies
 - can have fields
- Helps to capture the idea of state as well as functionality
- Template:
 - See Class template (use keyword abstract)

Advantage of Abstract Classes



- For our BankAccount example we can choose to provide implementations for methods we know is common, and declarations for methods that might differ
- Let's build an abstract class for BankAccount

Example: Abstract Class

```
public abstract class BankAccount {
   protected int balance;
   public int getBalance () {
      return balance:
   public void deposit (int amount) {
      balance = balance + amount;
   public void withdraw (int amount);
```



Example: Class Extension



```
public class CheckingAccount extends BankAccount {
    public CheckingAccount () {
        balance = 0;
    }
    public void withdraw (int amount) {
        balance = balance - amount;
    }
```

Example: Class Extension



```
public class SavingsAccount extends BankAccount {
    private int numberOfWithdrawals;
    public SavingsAccount () {
        balance = 0;
        numberOfWithdrawals = 0;
    }
    public void withdraw (int amount) {
        if (numberOfWithdrawals > 5) {
            throw new RuntimeException ("Cannot make >5 withdrawals a month");
        }
    }
}
```

```
} else {
    balance = balance - amount;
    numberOfWithdrawals++;
}
public void resetNumOfWithdrawals () {...}
```

}



