

Design Patterns

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Big questions



What is a design pattern?

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What is the advantage of knowing/using design patterns?

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Which patterns are named in the reading?

What are the key ideas of those patterns?

Design challenges

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- two designs they are almost never identical;
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Can designs be described, codified or standardised?

- this would short circuit the trial and error phase;
- produce "better" software faster.

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Example: Iterator pattern!

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Example: Iterator pattern! The Iterator pattern defines an interface that declares methods for sequentially accessing the objects in a collection.

History of patterns

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In 1995 book *Design Patterns: Elements of Reusable Object-Oriented Software*, which is a classic of the field, is published.

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Patterns are a common design vocabulary.

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Improve documentation (less is needed) and **understandability** (patterns are described well once).

Gang of Four (GoF) patterns

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Behavioral Patterns: communication between objects.

- Command, Interpreter, Iterator, Mediator, Observer, State, Strategy, Chain of Responsibility, Visitor, Template Method.

Factory Method

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- it commits the class to a particular object;
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The **Factory Method** design pattern describes how to solve such problems:

- Define a separate operation (factory method) for creating an object.
- Create an object by calling a factory method.

Factory Method

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- provide information not accessible to the composing object;
- abstract the creation process.

Factory Method

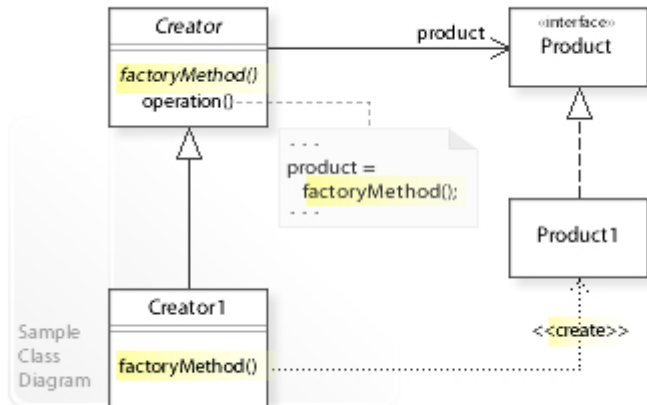
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Problem to solve: handle the process creation process

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- provide information not accessible to the composing object;
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The factory method pattern relies on inheritance, as object creation is delegated to subclasses that implement the factory method to create objects.

Factory Method



Abstract Factory



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- How can a class be independent of how the objects it requires are created?
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This pattern:

- Encapsulate object creation in a separate (factory) object defined via an interface (**AbstractFactory**);
- A class delegates object creation to a factory object instead of creating objects directly.

Abstract Factory

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However, the factory only returns an abstract pointer to the created concrete object.

Abstract Factory

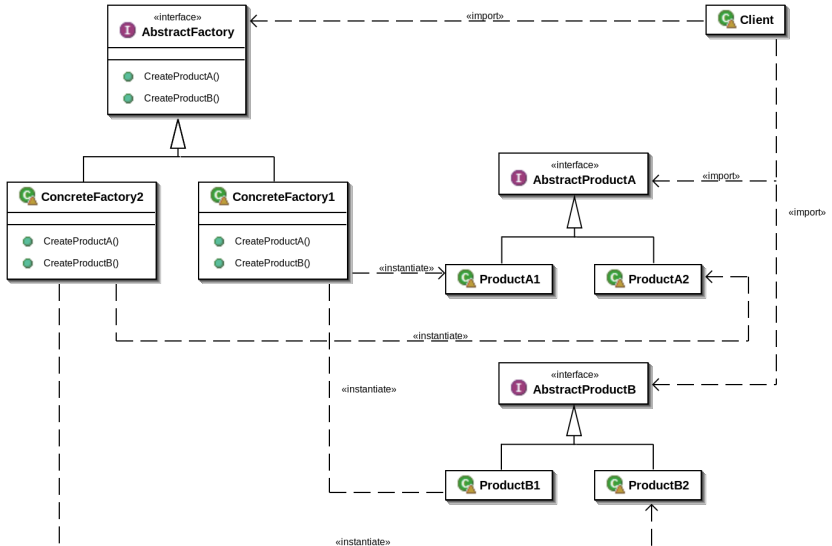
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Usage: The factory determines the actual concrete type of object to be created, and it is here that the object is actually created.

However, the factory only returns an abstract pointer to the created concrete object.

This insulates client code from object creation by having clients ask a factory object to create an object of the desired abstract type and to return an abstract pointer to the object.

Abstract Factory



Singleton Pattern

The singleton design pattern solves problems like:

- How can it be ensured that a class has only one instance?
- How can the sole instance of a class be accessed easily?
- How can a class control its instantiation?
- How can the number of instances of a class be restricted?

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The singleton design pattern describes how to solve such problems:

- Hide the constructor of the class.
- Define a public static operation (`getInstance()`) that returns the sole instance of the class.

Singleton Pattern

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The hidden constructor (declared private) ensures that the class can never be instantiated from outside the class.

The public static operation can be accessed easily by using the class name and operation name (`Singleton.getInstance()`).

Singleton Pattern

```
public final class Singleton {
    private static final Singleton INSTANCE = new Singleton()
    ;

    private Singleton() {
        //If needed, parameters can be read from local context!
    }

    public static Singleton getInstance() {
        return INSTANCE;
    }

    ....
}
```

Composite pattern

What problems can the Composite design pattern solve?

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- A part-whole hierarchy should be represented so that clients can treat part and whole objects uniformly.
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What solution does the Composite design pattern describe?

- Define a unified Component interface for both part (Leaf) objects and whole (Composite) objects.
- Individual Leaf objects implement the Component interface directly
- Composite objects forward requests to their child components.

Composite Pattern

Composite enables clients to work through the Component interface to treat Leaf and Composite objects uniformly:

- Leaf objects perform a request directly;
- Composite objects forward the request to their child components recursively downwards the tree structure.

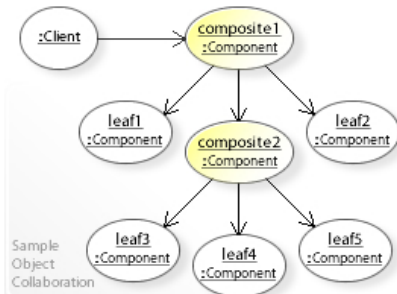
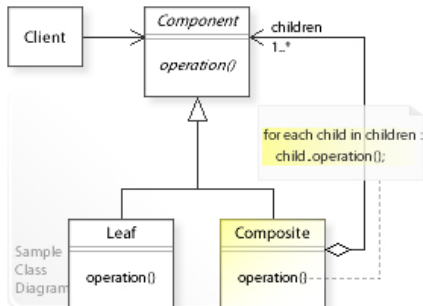
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Composite enables clients to work through the Component interface to treat Leaf and Composite objects uniformly:

- Leaf objects perform a request directly;
- Composite objects forward the request to their child components recursively downwards the tree structure.

This makes client classes easier to implement, change, test, and reuse.

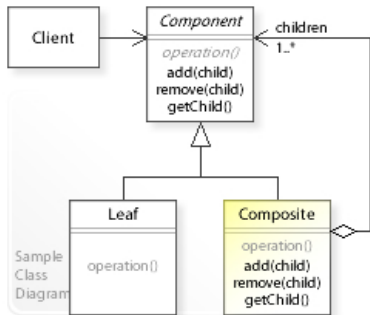
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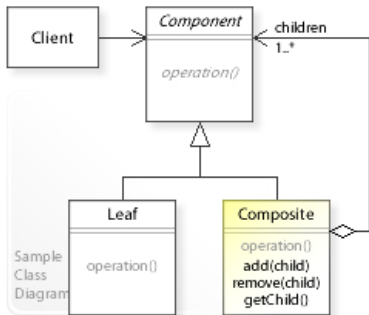
Composite Pattern

Two variants...

Design for Uniformity



Design for Type Safety



Composite Pattern

Example...

We can consider a set of classes modelling a **figure**.

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Each figure can be:

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Each figure can be:

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Operation is:

- draw(Graphics g , int x , int y)

Composite Pattern

Java code. . .



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- Responsibilities should be added to (and removed from) an object dynamically at run-time.
- A flexible alternative to subclassing for extending functionality should be provided.
- When using subclassing, different subclasses extend a class in different ways. But an extension is bound to the class at compile-time and can't be changed at run-time.

What solution does the Decorator design pattern describe?

What solution does the Decorator design pattern describe? Define Decorator objects that:

- implement the interface of the extended (decorated) object (Component) transparently by forwarding all requests to it and perform additional functionality before/after forwarding a request.
- This enables to work through different Decorator objects to extend the functionality of an object dynamically at run-time.

Decorator Pattern



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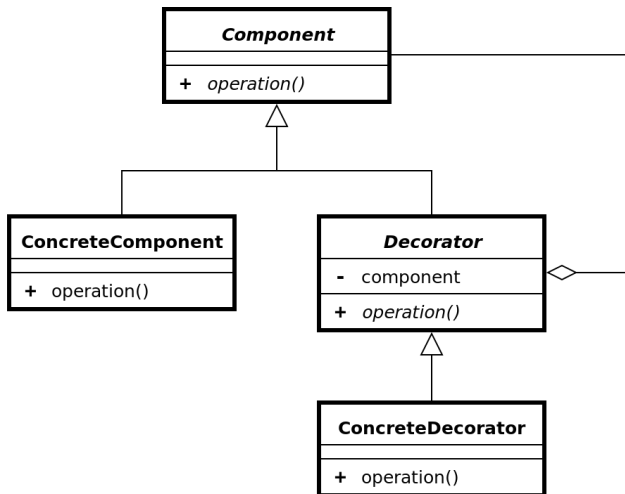
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Decorator Pattern

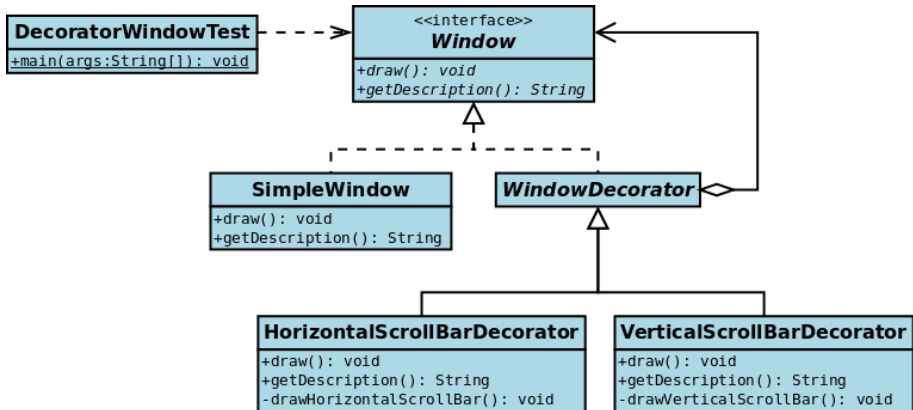
Decorator Pattern is based on the following sequence of steps:

- Subclass the original Component class into a Decorator class;
- In the Decorator class, add a Component pointer as a field;
- In the Decorator class, pass a Component to the Decorator constructor to initialise the Component pointer;
- In the Decorator class, forward all Component methods to the Component pointer;
- and In the Decorator class, override any Component method(s) whose behaviour needs to be modified.

Decorator Pattern



Decorator Pattern



Facade Pattern

A facade is an object that provides a simplified interface to a larger body of code, such as a class library. A facade can:

- make a software library easier to use, understand, and test, since the facade has convenient methods for common tasks;
- make the library more readable, for the same reason;
- reduce dependencies of outside code on the inner workings of a library, since most code uses the facade, thus allowing more flexibility in developing the system;
- wrap a, subjectively, poorly-designed collection of APIs with a single well-designed API.

What problems can the Facade design pattern solve?

- To make a complex subsystem easier to use, a simple interface should be provided for a set of interfaces in the subsystem.
- The dependencies on a subsystem should be minimized.

Facade Pattern

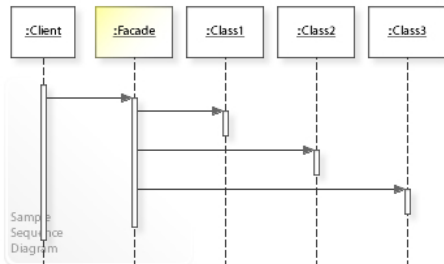
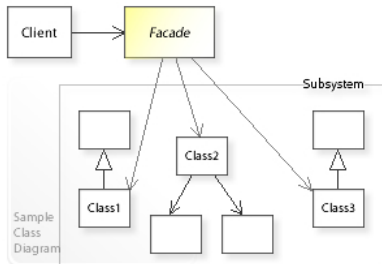
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- To make a complex subsystem easier to use, a simple interface should be provided for a set of interfaces in the subsystem.
- The dependencies on a subsystem should be minimized.

What solution does the Facade design pattern describe? Define a Facade object that

- implements a simple interface in terms of (by delegating to) the interfaces in the subsystem; and
- may perform additional functionality before/after forwarding a request.

Facade Pattern



Adapter



The Adapter design pattern solves problems like:

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- How can classes that have incompatible interfaces work together?
- How can an alternative interface be provided for a class?

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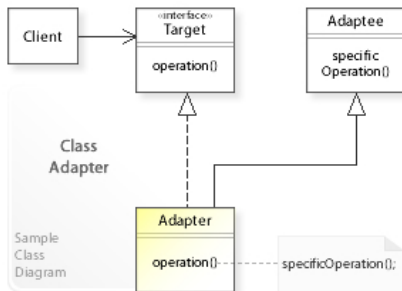
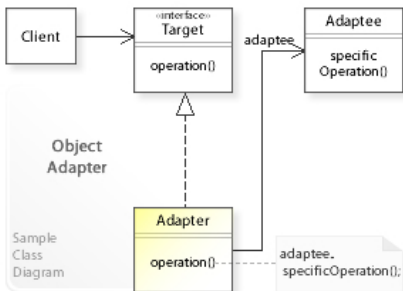
- How can a class be reused that does not have an interface that a client requires?
- How can classes that have incompatible interfaces work together?
- How can an alternative interface be provided for a class?

Often an (already existing) class can't be reused only because its interface doesn't conform to the interface clients require.

The Adapter design pattern describes how to solve such problems:

- Define a separate Adapter class that converts the (incompatible) interface of a class (Adaptee) into another interface (Target) clients require.
- Work through an Adapter to work with (reuse) classes that do not have the required interface.

Adapter



Command



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- It should be possible to configure an object (that invokes a request) with a request.

Implementing (hard-wiring) a request directly into a class is inflexible because it couples the class to a particular request at compile-time, which makes it impossible to specify a request at run-time.

What solution does the Command design pattern describe?

- Define separate (command) objects that encapsulate a request.

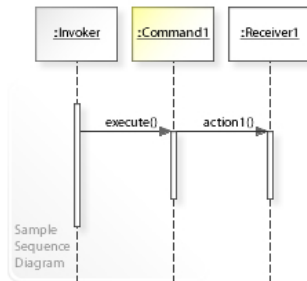
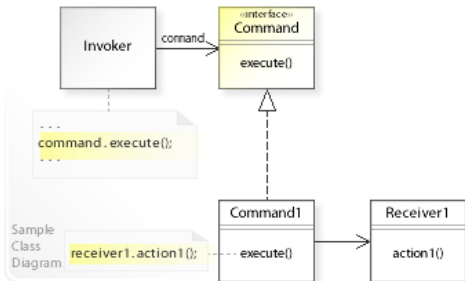
This enables one to configure a class with a command object that is used to perform a request. The class is no longer coupled to a particular request and has no knowledge (is independent) of how the request is carried out.

What solution does the Command design pattern describe?

- Define separate (command) objects that encapsulate a request.
- A class delegates a request to a command object instead of implementing a particular request directly.

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Command



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- A one-to-many dependency between objects should be defined without making the objects tightly coupled.
- It should be ensured that when one object changes state an open-ended number of dependent objects are updated automatically.
- It should be possible that one object can notify an open-ended number of other objects.

What solution does the Observer design pattern describe?

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- Define Observable and Observer objects.
- When a subject changes state, all registered observers are notified and updated automatically.

Observable



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After an observable instance changes, an application calling the `Observable`'s `notifyObservers` method causes all of its observers to be notified of the change by a call to their `update` method.

Observable

Methods...

```
void addObserver(Observer o)
```

```
protected void clearChanged()
```

```
int countObservers()
```

```
void deleteObserver(Observer o)
```

```
void deleteObservers()
```

```
boolean hasChanged()
```

```
void notifyObservers()
```

```
void notifyObservers(Object arg)
```

```
protected void setChanged()
```

Observer



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This method is called whenever the observed object is changed. An application calls an Observable object's notifyObservers method to have all the object's observers notified of the change.

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What solution does the Visitor design pattern describe?

- Define a separate (visitor) object that implements an operation to be performed on elements of an object structure.
- Clients traverse the object structure and call a dispatching operation `accept(visitor)` on an element that **dispatches** (delegates) the request to the **accepted visitor object**.
- The visitor object then performs the operation on the element (**visits the element**).

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This makes it possible to create new operations independently from the classes of an object structure by adding new visitor objects.

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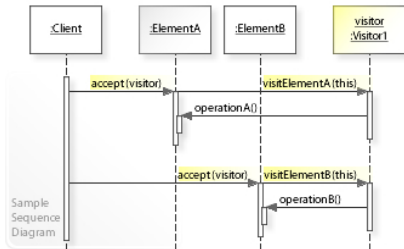
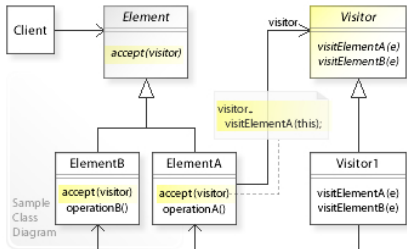
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A drawback to this pattern, however, is that it makes extensions to the class hierarchy more difficult, as new classes typically require a new visit method to be added to each visitor.

Visitor



MVC: Model View Controller

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The MVC design pattern decouples these major components allowing for efficient code reuse and parallel development.

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Components:

- The **model**, is the central component of the pattern. It directly manages the data, logic and rules of the application.
- A **view** can be any output representation of information, such as a chart or a diagram. Multiple views of the same information are possible.
- The **controller** that accepts input (from the view) and converts it to commands for the model.

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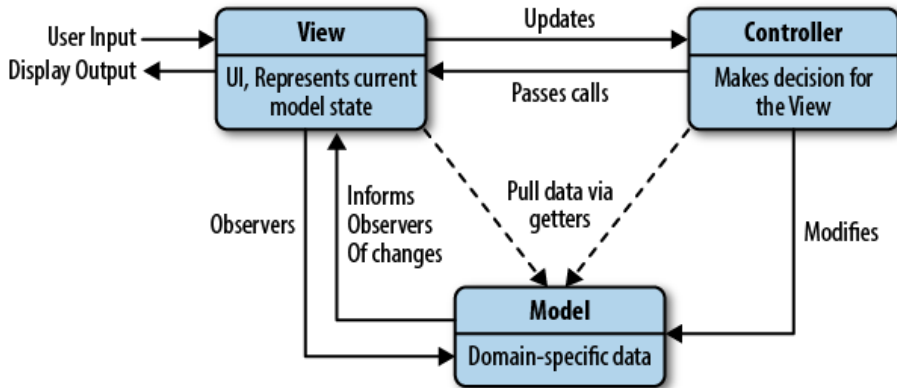
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Interactions:

- The model is responsible for managing the data of the application. It receives user input from the controller.
- The view means presentation of the model in a particular format.
- The controller responds to the user input and performs interactions on the data model objects.

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MVC



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- Multi-artifact consistency, Decomposing a feature into three artifacts causes scattering. Thus, requiring developers to maintain the consistency of multiple representations at once.
- Pronounced learning curve, Knowledge on multiple technologies becomes the norm. Developers using MVC need to be skilled in multiple technologies.

To be continued...