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# polymorphism

By *Vangie Beal*

Generally, the ability to appear in many forms. In **object-oriented programming**, *polymorphism* refers to a **programming language's** ability to process objects differently depending on their **data type** or **class**. More specifically, it is the ability to redefine *methods* for *derived classes*. For example, given a base class *shape*, polymorphism enables the programmer to define different *area* methods for any number of derived classes, such as circles, rectangles and triangles. No

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matter what shape an object is, applying the *area* method to it will return the correct results. Polymorphism is considered to be a requirement of any true object-oriented programming language (OOPL).

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By globalscape

May 27, 2020

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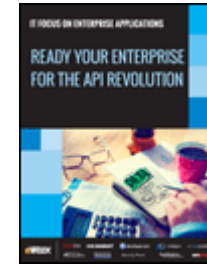
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