



```
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The following is an example of a Pet Factory
implementing the singleton design pattern
*/

public class PetFactory implements Factory {

    // Stores the instance of a pet factory.
    private static PetFactory instance;

    // Private constructor for pet factory.
    private PetFactory(){}

    // Retrieves the instance for a pet factory
    public static PetFactory getInstance(){
        if (this.instance == null){
            this.instance = new PetFactory();
        }
        return this.instance;
    }

    public Pet createPet(){
        // Creates pet
        // Complex
    }
}
```


The Singleton



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- The **singleton** is a **design pattern** where there is at most one object of a particular type throughout the entire application.
 - The first time the singleton is called (generally through a method called `getInstance`), the object is initialized; otherwise, the previously created object is used.
- Singletons are often used when a single instance of an object is desired or as a simple way to create global instances in an OOP language such as Java.
 - Database Connections
 - Authentication Clients
 - Users of a SUA
 - Factories
 - Loggers
- Singletons are particularly challenging to unit-test because there is a single global instance that is consistent throughout all tests.
 - It is hard to inject our own instance for the object to set particular parameters for testing scenarios .

Breaking Dependencies w/ Singleton