

# Abstract class

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## Definition of an Abstract Class in Java

An **abstract class** in Java is a class declared with the abstract keyword. It **cannot be instantiated directly** (you can't create objects of it). It is meant to serve as a **base or blueprint** for other classes.

It may contain:

- **Abstract methods** (methods without a body) — these must be implemented by subclasses.
- **Concrete methods** (methods with a body) — these can be inherited as-is or overridden by subclasses.
- **Fields, constructors, and static methods** just like a normal class.

```
// abstract class
abstract class Human{ 2 usages 2 inheritors new *

    // variables
    String name; 2 usages
    int age ; 2 usages
    String gender ; 3 usages

    // constructor
    public Human(String name , int age){ 2 usages new *
    {
        this.name = name ;
        this.age = age ;
    }

    // abstract method
    abstract public String favTask() ; 1 usage 2 implementations new *

    // concrete method
    @Override new *
    public String toString() {
        return name + " is a " + gender + " of " + age + " loves to " + favTask() ;
    }
}
```

- Sub class with implementation of the abstract class

```
// concrete class
class Male extends Human{ 2 usages new *

    // initializer
    {
        gender = "Male" ;
    }

    // constructor
    public Male(String name , int age){ 1 usage new *
        super(name , age);
    }

    // implementation of abstract class
    public String favTask(){ 1 usage new *
        return "play basketball";
    }

}
```

Notes :

1. Abstract method must be defined inside an abstract class itself
2. Abstract may contain both abstract and concrete methods
3. Variables cannot be an abstract