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016 \*/  
017package org.apache.commons.collections4;  
018  
019/\*\*  
020 \* Defines a functor interface implemented by classes that create objects.  
021 \* <p>  
022 \* A <code>Factory</code> creates an object without using an input parameter.  
023 \* If an input parameter is required, then {@link Transformer} is more appropriate.  
024 \* </p>  
025 \* <p>  
026 \* Standard implementations of common factories are provided by  
027 \* {@link FactoryUtils}. These include factories that return a constant,  
028 \* a copy of a prototype or a new instance.  
029 \* </p>  
030 \*  
031 \* @param <T> the type that the factory creates  
032 \*  
033 \* @since 2.1  
034 \*/  
035@FunctionalInterface  
036public interface Factory<T> {  
037  
038 /\*\*  
039 \* Create a new object.  
040 \*  
041 \* @return a new object  
042 \* @throws FunctorException (runtime) if the factory cannot create an object  
043 \*/  
044 T create();  
045  
046}