

# The REPL

## IDIOMS

``call``: a method that means "do that thing you do"

CWD: an acronym for "Current Working Directory", it's what ``pwd`` prints

## FILES

``LOAD_PATH``: stores an array of directories that will be searched sequentially when you require a file

``File.expand_path("c/d", "/a/b")`` expands to `"/a/b/c/d"`

``__dir__``: the path to the directory of the current file relative to CWD

``__FILE__``: the path to the current file relative to CWD

## BINARY

definition: The file you actually run

responsibility - Wire up the world and kick things off

The binary is usually invoked directly (``$ ./numbermind``), though not in our Numbermind example (``ruby numbermind.rb``)

Why "binary"? a long time ago, executable files were always machine code, so 1s and 0s, which is called "binary", because there are only 2 values for each digit.

## CLI

Command Line Interface - code that connects a user on the command-line to the code

## IO (Input and Output)

``$stdin``: "standard input", the text input to our program

``$stdout``: "standard output", the text output of our program

``gets``: shortcut for ``$stdin.gets``

``puts``: shortcut for ``$stdout.puts``

Beware!

text read from ``$stdin`` comes from the world outside our program, we don't control it

text written to ``$stdout`` goes to the world outside our program, we don't control it

this means that if we can't tell our code what to read and write from, it's not testable

## Common pattern

Instead of talking to the global variables, let the caller pass us the stream to talk to.

This lets us pass it a stream with input we've selected for tests

## REPL

**Read**: get user input

**Eval**: process it in some manner

**Print**: prints results

**Loop**: repeat these steps

## StringIO

An IO object, like our ``$stdin`` and ``$stdout`` but reads from a string instead of the standard input and writes to a string instead of the standard output

```
# has hidden dependency on standard output (monitor)
def print_greeting
  puts "Hello!"
end
print_greeting # goes to monitor
```

```
# lets us choose where it prints the greeting
def print_greeting(stream)
  stream.puts "Hello!"
end
```

```
# choose stdout -- goes to monitor
print_greeting $stdout
```

```
# choose a different IO object -- does not affect the outside world
require 'stringio'
stream = StringIO.new
print_greeting stream
stream.string # => "Hello!\n"
```

## Example: Calculator REPL

```
def calculator_repl(instream, outstream, calculated)
  outstream.puts "The current number is: #{calculated}"
  outstream.puts "Enter an operator and number, e.g. '+5', or 'q' to quit"
  loop do
    # prompt and get input
    outstream.print "> "
    raw_input = instream.gets.strip

    # potentially quit calculating, returning the calculated value
    return calculated if raw_input == 'q'

    # parse the input for an operator or sequence of digits
    inputs = raw_input.scan(/[-+*V]\d+/) # in "+5", this is ["+", "5"]
    operator = inputs[0]
    number = inputs[1].to_f

    # perform the calculation
    if operator == '+' then result = calculated + number
    elsif operator == '-' then result = calculated - number
    elsif operator == '*' then result = calculated * number
    elsif operator == '/' then result = calculated / number
    end

    # show the calculation, update the calculated value
    outstream.puts("#{calculated} #{operator} #{number} = #{result}")
    calculated = result
  end
end

# Read input from our object's stream, not the $stdin, write to $stdout
require 'stringio'
instream = StringIO.new("+2\n *3\n -4\n q\n")
calculator_repl(instream, $stdout, 0.0) # => 2.0

# >>> The current number is: 0.0
# >>> Enter an operator and number, e.g. '+5', or 'q' to quit
# >>> > 0.0 + 2.0 = 2.0
# >>> > 2.0 * 3.0 = 6.0
# >>> > 6.0 - 4.0 = 2.0
# >>> >
```