**Abstract class**

An **abstract class** is a class declared with the keyword **abstract**. It represents an abstract concept that is used as a base class for subclasses.

Abstract classes have some special features:

* it's impossible to create an instance of an abstract class;
* an abstract class can contain abstract methods that must be implemented in non-abstract subclasses;
* it can contain fields and non-abstract methods (including static);
* an abstract class can extend another class, including abstract;
* it can contain a constructor.

As you can see, an abstract class has two main differences from regular (concrete) classes: **no instances** and **abstract methods**.

**Abstract methods** are declared by adding the keyword **abstract**. They have a declaration (modifiers, a return type, and a signature) but don't have an implementation. Each concrete (non-abstract) subclass must implement these methods.

Note, static methods can't be abstract!