

# OBJECT Oriented Programming

## \* class

- a class in Java is a blueprint for creating objects
- it encapsulates data as field and behaviour as methods that can operate on that data.
- component of a class:
  - Fields: Variables that store the properties or Attributes of the Object
  - methods: Functions that define the behaviour of the object and can manipulate fields or perform operations.
  - Constructor: Special methods that are called when a new object instance is created. used mainly to initialize objects.

## Example of a Class:

```
Public class Car {
```

```
// fields
```

```
Private String color;
```

```
private String model;
```

```
// Constructor
```

```
public Car (String color, String model) {
```

```
    this.color = color;
```

```
    this.model = model;
```

```
}
```

```
// method
```

```
Public void displayInformation ( ) {
```

```
    System.out.println ("car model : " + model + color);
```

```
} }
```

in the previous Example "car" is a class with:

- Two fields: color and model
- one constructor that initializes the color and model of a new Car instance
- one method: displayInformation(). which prints out car's color and model.

### instance variables:

definition: Variables that store data or state of an individual object, each object has its own copy

characteristics: Declared within a class but outside methods; have object specific values

Access Control: can be controlled with access modifiers (eg. private, public)

### instance methods:

definition: Function within a class that defines behavior of an object. They operate on and can access instance variables.

characteristics: Called on individual objects; can manipulate object's state.

Access Control: Access can be limited via access modifiers.

## Example

```
Public Class Car {
```

```
    //instance variables
```

```
    private String color;
```

```
    private String model;
```

```
    // constructor
```

```
    public Car (String color, String model) {
```

```
        this.color = color;
```

```
        this.model = model;
```

```
    }
```

```
    //instance method
```

```
    public void display in format
```

```
    public void displayInformation () {
```

```
        System.out.println (model + color);
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

## OBJECT :

- an object is a fundamental entity that represents an instance of a class.
- a class provides the blueprint or the template from which objects are created.
- object encapsulate both state (attributes or properties) and behaviour (methods or functions) and are the core building blocks of object-oriented programming (OOP)

### \* State (Attributes or properties)

- An object's state is represented by its attributes or fields.
- These are variables defined within the class but each object maintain its own separate copy of these variables.
- for example, if you have a 'Car' class with fields like 'color' and 'model', each 'car' object can have different values for these fields.

(e.g., one car might be red and another blue)

### code Example:

```
Public Class Car {
```

```
    String Color; // field to store color
```

```
    String model; // field to store model
```

```
}
```



## \* Object Creation:

- objects are created using the "new" keyword followed by a ~~etc~~ call to a constructor, which is a special method designed to initialize new objects.

### Example

class name      reference variable (object name)      NEW keyword      constructor call

Car   myCar      =   new   Car() ;   // creating a new car object.

declaration      instantiation      initialization

## \* Object Life Cycle:

- The life cycle of an object in Java involves its creation, use, and then garbage collection.
- creation: an object is created in Java using the "new" keyword which allocates memory for the object in heap memory.
- usage: once created, the object can be used to access its methods and properties.
- Garbage Collection: Java has a built-in garbage collector, which helps in automatically freeing up memory by destroying objects that are no longer in use or that cannot be reached.

## Benefits of using Objects:

- Modularity: Encapsulation makes parts of the system independent.
- Information Hiding: internal state is hidden; only expose methods.
- Code reusability: inherits properties and behaviours from other classes.
- plugging and debugging: Easy to replace and debug at the object level.

## using objects:

Access properties using • operator like

`myCar.displayInfo();`

## Class Vs Object :

- A class is a blueprint or template from which objects are created
- classes contain:
  - \* Fields (also known as attributes or properties) that hold the state of objects of the class.
  - \* Methods (functions) that define the behaviour of the objects
  - \* Constructors for initializing new instances of the class.
  - \* Other nested classes, interfaces, and various access modifiers which define how the members (fields, methods) can be accessed.

Purpose: it provides a structured definition that encapsulates data and functionalities which are common to all objects that are instantiated from it.

Static: classes are static. this means the definition of a class is fixed at compile time; its structure (fields, methods) doesn't change at runtime. Through the content of its field can vary.

- An object is an instance of a class; when a class is instantiated, objects are created with ~~but~~ the defined properties and behaviour of the class.

objects hold:

- the values for the fields defined by their class.
- the ability to execute methods defined by their class.

Purpose: each object serves as a specific example of its class with unique value and states. objects operate independently and can interact with other objects.

dynamic: objects are dynamic. the creation, manipulation, and destruction of objects can happen at runtime and they occupy memory space when created.

Example:

```
Public class Car {
```

```
// fields
```

```
Private String color;
```

```
Private String model;
```

```
// constructor
```

```
Public Car (String color, String model) {
```

```
    This.color = color;
```

```
    This.model = model;
```

```
}
```

```
// method
```

```
Public void displayInfo() {
```

```
    System.out.println("car model: " + model + "color: " + color);
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

- Here car is a class that defines the blueprint for car objects including a model and color attribute, a constructor to initialize these attributes, and a method to display the car's info

```
Public class Main {
```

```
Public static void main (String[] args) {
```

```
    // creating an object of car
```

```
    Car myCar = new Car("Red", "Toyota");
```

```
    // access the object properties using . operator
```

```
    myCar.displayInfo();
```

```
}
```

```
}
```



## Constructor :

- a Constructor in Java is a special Method that is called when an object is instantiated
- it has the same name as the class and does not have an return type not even void.
- Constructors are used to initialize the state of an object immediately upon creation.
- They can take parameters to set initial values for the object's attributes based on the input provided at the time of instantiation.

## Characteristics of constructors:

- Name is same as the class name
- Does not have a return type
- Can be overloaded (a class can have multiple constructors with different parameters)
- if no constructor is explicitly defined, Java provides a default constructor that takes no arguments and does nothing.

```
Public class Bicycle {
```

```
    Private int gear;
```

```
    private int speed;
```

```
    // constructor
```

```
    public Bicycle (int startGear, int startSpeed) {
```

```
        gear = startGear
```

```
        speed = startSpeed.
```

```
    }
```

```
Public class Car {
```

```
    Private String color;  
    Private String model; } instance variables
```

#

```
    Public Car (String color, String model) { } constructor parameters
```

constructor

```
        This.color = color; // Here This.color refers to the  
        This.model = model; // field and color represents  
                             // parameters.
```

method

```
    Public void updateModel (String model) {
```

```
        this.model = model; // distinguishes the model  
                             // parameter from the model  
                             // field.
```

```
    }  
}
```