Accessor methods, also called get methods or getters, allow a way to get the value of each instance variable from outside of the class.
The use of accessor methods, according to the article, breaches the concepts of encapsulation and abstraction because it makes an object's underlying implementation details visible to outsiders. This can make it more difficult to modify or refactor the object in the future and result in a loss of control over the object's state and behavior. However, it is useful in some cases. Because the interface isolates you from changes to the implementing class, it is acceptable for a method to return an object in terms of that interface. This kind of method, which returns an interface reference, isn't truly a "getter" in the sense of a method that only gives users access to a field. Changes to the provider's internal implementation only require a definition update for the returned object. Through the object's interface, you must still safeguard the external code that utilizes it.