

# Access, Encapsulation, and Static Methods

## The public and private keywords

In Java, the keywords public and private define the access of classes, instance variables, constructors, and methods.

private restricts access to only the class that declared the structure, while public allows for access from any class.

## **Encapsulation**

Encapsulation is a technique used to keep implementation details hidden from other classes. Its aim is to create small bundles of logic.

## The private Keyword

In Java, instance variables are encapsulated by using the private keyword. This prevents other classes from directly accessing these variables.

```
public class CheckingAccount{
   // Three private instance variables
   private String name;
   private int balance;
   private String id;
}
```

#### **Accessor Methods**

In Java, accessor methods return the value of a private variable. This gives other classes access to that value stored in that variable. without having direct access to the variable itself.

Accessor methods take no parameters and have a return type that matches the type of the variable they are accessing.

```
public class CheckingAccount{
  private int balance;

//An accessor method
  public int getBalance(){
    return this.balance;
  }
}
```

#### **Mutator Methods**

In Java, mutator methods reset the value of a private variable. This gives other classes the ability to modify the value stored in that variable without having direct access to the variable itself. Mutator methods take one parameter whose type matches the type of the variable it is modifying. Mutator methods usually don't return anything.

```
public class CheckingAccount{
   private int balance;

   //A mutator method
   public void setBalance(int
   newBalance){
     this.balance = newBalance;
   }
}
```

#### **Local Variables**

In Java, local variables can only be used within the scope that they were defined in. This scope is often defined by a set of curly brackets. Variables can't be used outside of those brackets.

```
public void exampleMethod(int
exampleVariable){
  // exampleVariable can only be used
inside these curly brackets.
}
```

## The this Keyword with Variables

In Java, the this keyword can be used to designate the difference between instance variables and local variables. Variables with this. reference an instance variable.

```
public class Dog{
  public String name;

public void speak(String name){
    // Prints the instance variable
named name
    System.out.println(this.name);

    // Prints the local variable
named name
    System.out.println(name);
}
```

## The this Keyword with Methods

In Java, the this keyword can be used to call methods when writing classes.

```
public class ExampleClass{
  public void exampleMethodOne(){
    System.out.println("Hello");
  }

  public void exampleMethodTwo(){
    //Calling a method using this.
    this.exampleMethodOne();
    System.out.println("There");
  }
}
```

#### Static Methods

Static methods are methods that can be called within a program without creating an object of the class.

```
// static method
public static int getTotal(int a, int
b) {
  return a + b;
}

public static void main(String[]
  args) {
  int x = 3;
  int y = 2;
  System.out.println(getTotal(x,y));
// Prints: 5
}
```

# **Calling a Static Method**

Static methods can be called by appending the dot operator to a class name followed by the name of the method.

```
int largerNumber = Math.max(3, 10);
// Call static method
System.out.println(largerNumber); //
Prints: 10
```

#### The Math Class

The Math class (which is part of the java.lang package) contains a variety of static methods that can be used to perform numerical calculations.

```
System.out.println(Math.abs(-7.0));
// Prints: 7

System.out.println(Math.pow(5, 3));
// Prints: 125.0

System.out.println(Math.sqrt(52)); //
Prints: 7.211102550927978
```

## The static Keyword

Static methods and variables are declared as static by using the static keyword upon declaration.

#### **Static Methods and Variables**

Static methods and variables are associated with the class as a whole, not objects of the class. Both are used by using the name of the class followed by the . operator.

```
public class ATM{
    // Static variables
    public static int totalMoney = 0;
    public static int numATMs = 0;

    // A static method
    public static void averageMoney(){
        System.out.println(totalMoney
        / numATMs);
    }

    public static void main(String[]
    args){

        //Accessing a static variable
        System.out.println("Total number
        of ATMs: " + ATM.numATMs);

        // Calling a static method
        ATM.averageMoney();
    }
}
```

#### Static Methods with Instance Variables

Static methods cannot access or change the values of instance variables.

```
class ATM{
// Static variables
  public static int totalMoney = 0;
  public static int numATMs = 0;

public int money = 1;

// A static method
  public static void averageMoney(){
    // Can not use this.money here
  because a static method can't access
  instance variables
  }
}
```

### **Methods with Static Variables**

Both non-static and static methods can access or change the values of static variables.

```
class ATM{
// Static variables
  public static int totalMoney = 0;
  public static int numATMs = 0;
  public int money = 1;

// A static method interacting with
a static variable
  public static void staticMethod(){
    totalMoney += 1;
  }

// A non-static method
interactingwith a static variable
  public void nonStaticMethod(){
    totalMoney += 1;
  }
}
```

# Static Methods and the this Keyword

Static methods do not have a this reference and are therefore unable to use the class's instance variables or call non-static methods.

```
public class DemoClass{

public int demoVariable = 5;

public void demoNonStaticMethod(){

}

public static void
demoStaticMethod(){

   // Can't use "this.demoVariable"
or "this.demoNonStaticMethod()"
   }
}
```