

AP® Computer Science A Elevens Lab Student Guide

The AP Program wishes to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their contributions in developing this lab and the accompanying documentation.

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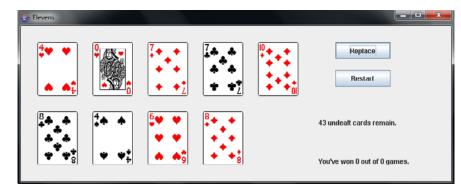
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Elevens Lab Student Guide

Introduction

The following activities are related to a simple solitaire game called Elevens. You will learn the rules of Elevens, and will be able to play it by using the supplied Graphical User Interface (GUI) shown at the right. You will learn about the design and the Object Oriented Principles that



suggested that design. You will also implement much of the code.

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Activity 1: Design and Create a Card Class

Introduction:

In this activity, you will complete a Card class that will be used to create card objects.

Think about card games you've played. What kinds of information do these games require a card object to "know"? What kinds of operations do these games require a card object to provide?

Exploration:

Now think about implementing a class to represent a playing card. What instance variables should it have? What methods should it provide? Discuss your ideas for this Card class with classmates.

Read the partial implementation of the Card class available in the Activity1 Starter Code folder. As you read through this class, you will notice the use of the @Override annotation before the toString method. The Java @Override annotation can be used to indicate that a method is intended to override a method in a superclass. In this example, the Object class's toString method is being overridden in the Card class. If the indicated method doesn't override a method, then the Java compiler will give an error message.

Here's a situation where this facility comes in handy. Programmers new to Java often encounter problems matching headings of overridden methods to the superclass's original method heading. For example, in the Weight class below, the tostring method is intended to be invoked when tostring is called for a Weight object.

```
public class Weight {
   private int pounds;
   private int ounces;
        ...

public String tostring(String str) {
    return this.pounds + " lb. " + this.ounces + " oz.";
   }
   ...
}
```

Unfortunately, this doesn't work; the tostring method given above has a different name and a different signature from the Object class's toString method. The correct version below has the correct name toString and no parameter:

```
public String toString() {
   return this.pounds + " lb. " + this.ounces + " oz.";
}
```

The @Override annotation would cause an error message for the first tostring version to alert the programmer of the errors.

Exercises:

- 1. Complete the implementation of the provided Card class. You will be required to complete:
 - a. a constructor that takes two String parameters that represent the card's rank and suit, and an int parameter that represents the point value of the card;
 - b. accessor methods for the card's rank, suit, and point value;
 - c. a method to test equality between two card objects; and
 - d. the toString method to create a String that contains the rank, suit, and point value of the card object. The string should be in the following format:

```
rank of suit (point value = pointValue)
```

2. Once you have completed the Card class, find the CardTester.java file in the Activity1 Starter Code folder. Create three Card objects and test each method for each Card object.

Activity 2: Initial Design of a Deck Class

Introduction:

Think about a deck of cards. How would you describe a deck of cards? When you play card games, what kinds of operations do these games require a deck to provide?

Exploration:

Now consider implementing a class to represent a deck of cards. Describe its instance variables and methods, and discuss your design with a classmate.

Read the partial implementation of the Deck class available in the Activity2 Starter Code folder. This file contains the instance variables, constructor header, and method headers for a Deck class general enough to be useful for a variety of card games. Discuss the Deck class with your classmates; in particular, make sure you understand the role of each of the parameters to the Deck constructor, and of each of the private instance variables in the Deck class.

Exercises:

- 1. Complete the implementation of the Deck class by coding each of the following:
 - Deck constructor This constructor receives three arrays as parameters. The arrays contain the ranks, suits, and point values for each card in the deck. The constructor creates an ArrayList, and then creates the specified cards and adds them to the list.

```
For example, if ranks = {"A", "B", "C"}, suits = {"Giraffes", "Lions"}, and values = \{2,1,6\}, the constructor would create the following cards:
```

```
["A", "Giraffes", 2], ["B", "Giraffes", 1], ["C", "Giraffes", 6],
["A", "Lions", 2], ["B", "Lions", 1], ["C", "Lions", 6]
```

and would add each of them to cards. The parameter size would then be set to the size of cards, which in this example is 6.

Finally, the constructor should shuffle the deck by calling the shuffle method. Note that you will not be implementing the shuffle method until Activity 4.

- isEmpty This method should return true when the size of the deck is 0; false otherwise.
- size This method returns the number of cards in the deck that are left to be dealt.

• deal — This method "deals" a card by removing a card from the deck and returning it, if there are any cards in the deck left to be dealt. It returns <code>null</code> if the deck is empty. There are several ways of accomplishing this task. Here are two possible algorithms:

Algorithm 1: Because the cards are being held in an ArrayList, it would be easy to simply call the List method that removes an object at a specified index, and return that object. Removing the object from the end of the list would be more efficient than removing it from the beginning of the list. Note that the use of this algorithm also requires a separate "discard" list to keep track of the dealt cards. This is necessary so that the dealt cards can be reshuffled and dealt again.

Algorithm 2: It would be more efficient to leave the cards in the list. Instead of removing the card, simply decrement the size instance variable and then return the card at size. In this algorithm, the size instance variable does double duty; it determines which card to "deal" and it also represents how many cards in the deck are left to be dealt. This is the algorithm that you should implement.

2. Once you have completed the Deck class, find DeckTester.java file in the Activity2 Starter Code folder. Add code in the main method to create three Deck objects and test each method for each Deck object.

Questions:

- 1. Explain in your own words the relationship between a deck and a card.
- 2. Consider the deck initialized with the statements below. How many cards does the deck contain?

```
String[] ranks = {"jack", "queen", "king"};
String[] suits = {"blue", "red"};
int[] pointValues = {11, 12, 13};
Deck d = new Deck(ranks, suits, pointValues);
```

3. The game of Twenty-One is played with a deck of 52 cards. Ranks run from ace (highest) down to 2 (lowest). Suits are spades, hearts, diamonds, and clubs as in many other games. A face card has point value 10; an ace has point value 11; point values for 2, ..., 10 are 2, ..., 10, respectively. Specify the contents of the ranks, suits, and pointValues arrays so that the statement

```
Deck d = new Deck(ranks, suits, pointValues);
```

initializes a deck for a Twenty-One game.

4. Does the order of elements of the ranks, suits, and pointValues arrays matter?

Activity 3: Shuffling the Cards in a Deck

Introduction:

Think about how you shuffle a deck of cards by hand. How well do you think it randomizes the cards in the deck?

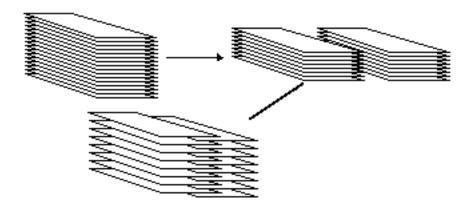
Exploration:

We now consider the *shuffling* of a deck, that is, the *permutation* of its cards into a random-looking sequence. A requirement of the shuffling procedure is that any particular permutation has just as much chance of occurring as any other. We will be using the Math.random method to generate random numbers to produce these permutations.

Several ideas for designing a shuffling method come to mind. We will consider two:

Perfect Shuffle

Card players often shuffle by splitting the deck in half and then interleaving the two half-decks, as shown below.



This procedure is called a *perfect shuffle* if the interleaving alternates between the two half-decks. Unfortunately, the perfect shuffle comes nowhere near generating all possible deck permutations. In fact, eight shuffles of a 52-card deck return the deck to its original state!

Consider the following "perfect shuffle" algorithm that starts with an array named cards that contains 52 cards and creates an array named shuffled.

This approach moves the first half of cards to the even index positions of shuffled, and it moves the second half of cards to the odd index positions of shuffled.

The above algorithm shuffles 52 cards. If an odd number of cards is shuffled, the array shuffled has one more even-indexed position than odd-indexed positions. Therefore, the first loop must copy one more card than the second loop does. This requires rounding up when calculating the index of the middle of the deck. In other words, in the first loop j must go up to (cards.length + 1) / 2, exclusive, and in the second loop j most begin at (cards.length + 1) / 2.

Selection Shuffle

Consider the following algorithm that starts with an array named cards that contains 52 cards and creates an array named shuffled. We will call this algorithm the "selection shuffle."

This approach finds a suitable card for the k^{th} position of the deck. Unsuitable candidates are any cards that have already been placed in the deck.

While this is a more promising approach than the perfect shuffle, its big defect is that it runs too slowly. Every time an empty element is selected, it has to loop again. To determine the last element of shuffled requires an average of 52 calls to the random number generator.

A better version, the "efficient selection shuffle," works as follows:

```
For k = 51 down to 1,
Generate a random integer r between 0 and k, inclusive;
Exchange cards[k] and cards[r].
```

This has the same structure as selection sort:

The selection shuffle algorithm does not require to a loop to find the largest (or smallest) value to swap, so it works quickly.

Exercises:

- 1. Use the file Shuffler.java, found in the **Activity3 Starter Code**, to implement the perfect shuffle and the efficient selection shuffle methods as described in the **Exploration** section of this activity. You will be shuffling arrays of integers.
- 2. Shuffler.java also provides a main method that calls the shuffling methods. Execute the main method and inspect the output to see how well each shuffle method actually randomizes the array elements. You should execute main with different values of SHUFFLE_COUNT and VALUE COUNT.

Questions:

- 1. Write a static method named flip that simulates a flip of a weighted coin by returning either "heads" or "tails" each time it is called. The coin is twice as likely to turn up heads as tails. Thus, flip should return "heads" about twice as often as it returns "tails."
- 2. Write a static method named are Permutations that, given two int arrays of the same length but with no duplicate elements, returns true if one array is a permutation of the other (i.e., the arrays differ only in how their contents are arranged). Otherwise, it should return false.
- 3. Suppose that the initial contents of the values array in Shuffler.java are {1, 2, 3, 4}. For what sequence of random integers would the efficient selection shuffle change values to contain {4, 3, 2, 1}?

Activity 4: Adding a Shuffle Method to the Deck Class

Introduction:

You implemented a Deck class in Activity 2. This class should be complete except for the shuffle method. You also implemented a DeckTester class that you used to test your incomplete Deck class.

In Activity 3, you implemented methods in the Shuffler class, which shuffled integers.

Now you will use what you learned about shuffling in Activity 3 to implement the Deck shuffle method.

Exercises:

- 1. The file Deck.java, found in the **Activity4 Starter Code** folder, is a correct solution from Activity 2. Complete the Deck class by implementing the shuffle method. Use the efficient selection shuffle algorithm from Activity 3.
 - Note that the Deck constructor creates the deck and then calls the shuffle method. The shuffle method also needs to reset the value of size to indicate that all of the cards can be dealt again.
- 2. The DeckTester.java file, found in the Activity4 Starter Code folder, provides a basic set of Deck tests. It is similar to the DeckTester class you might have written in Activity 2. Add additional code at the bottom of the main method to create a standard deck of 52 cards and test the shuffle method. You can use the Deck toString method to "see" the cards after every shuffle.

Activity 6: Playing Elevens

Introduction:

In this activity, the game Elevens will be explained, and you will play an interactive version of the game.

Exploration:

The solitaire game of Elevens uses a deck of 52 cards, with ranks A (ace), 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, J (jack), Q (queen), and K (king), and suits \clubsuit (clubs), \blacklozenge (diamonds), \blacktriangledown (hearts), and \spadesuit (spades). Here is how it is played.

- 1. The deck is shuffled, and nine cards are dealt "face up" from the deck to the board.
- 2. Then the following sequence of steps is repeated:
 - a. The player removes each pair of cards (A, 2, ..., 10) that total 11, e.g., an 8 and a 3, or a 10 and an A. An ace is worth 1, and suits are ignored when determining cards to remove.
 - b. Any triplet consisting of a J, a Q, and a K is also removed by the player. Suits are also ignored when determining which cards to remove.
 - c. Cards are dealt from the deck if possible to replace the cards just removed.

The game is won when the deck is empty and no cards remain on the table. Here's a sample game, in which underlined cards are replacements from the deck.

Cards on the Table									Explanation		
	K♠	10♦	J .	2.	2♥	9♦	3♥	5♠	5♦	initial deal	
	K♠	10♦	J .	<u>7♦</u>	2♥	<u>Q</u> ♠	3♥	5♠	5♦	remove 2♣ (either 2 would work) and 9♦	
	<u>A</u> ♠	10♦	<u>9*</u>	7♦	2♥	<u>7♣</u>	3♥	5♠	5♦	remove J♣ Q♠ K♠	
	A.	10♦	<u>10♠</u>	7♦	<u>3*</u>	7 .	3♥	5 ^	5♦	remove 9♣ and 2♥ (removing A♠ and 10♦ would have been legal here too)	
	<u>2♠</u>	10♦	<u>9</u>	7♦	3♣	7 .	3♥	5♠	5♦	remove A♠ and 10♠ (10♠ could have been removed instead)	
	<u>A♣</u>	10♦	<u>K</u> ♦	7♦	3♣	7 .	3♥	5♠	5♦	remove 2♠ and 9♠	
	<u>6</u> ♦	<u>K♣</u>	K♦	7♦	3 .	7 .	3♥	5♠	5♦	remove A♣ and 10♦	

 $2 \spadesuit$ K♣ K♠ $7 \spadesuit$ 3♣ $7 \clubsuit$ 3♥ 5♠ $Q \spadesuit$ remove 6♦ and one of the 5s; no further plays are possible; game is lost.

An interactive GUI version of Elevens allows one to play by clicking card images and buttons rather than by handling actual cards. When Elevens.jar is run, the cards on the board are displayed in a window. Clicking on an unselected card selects it; clicking on a selected card unselects it. Clicking on the **Replace** button first checks that the selection is legal; if so, it does the removal and deals cards to fill the empty slots. Clicking on the **Restart** button restarts the game.

The folder **Activity6 Starter Code** contains the file Elevens.jar that, when executed, runs a GUI-based implementation. In a Windows environment, you may be able to run it by double-clicking on it. Otherwise you can run it with the command

Play a few games of Elevens. How many did you win?

Questions:

- 1. List all possible plays for the board 5♠ 4♥ 2♦ 6♣ A♠ J♥ K♦ 5♣ 2♠
- 2. If the deck is empty and the board has three cards left, must they be J, Q, and K? Why or why not?

3. Does the game involve any strategy? That is, when more than one play is possible, does it matter which one is chosen? Briefly explain your answer.

Activity 8: Using an Abstract Board Class

Introduction:

The Elevens game belongs to a set of related solitaire games. In this activity you will learn about some of these related games. Then you will see how inheritance can be used to reuse the code that is common to all of these games without rewriting it.

Exploration: Related Games

Thirteens

A game related to Elevens, called *Thirteens*, uses a 10-card board. Ace, 2, ..., 10, jack, queen correspond to the point values of 1, 2, ..., 10, 11, 12. Pairs of cards whose point values add up to 13 are selected and removed. Kings are selected and removed singly. Chances of winning are claimed to be about 1 out of 2.

Tens

Another relative of Elevens, called *Tens*, uses a 13-card board. Pairs of cards whose point values add to 10 are selected and removed, as are quartets of kings, queens, jacks, and tens, all of the same rank (for example, $K \spadesuit$, $K \heartsuit$, $K \diamondsuit$, and $K \clubsuit$). Chances of winning are claimed to be about 1 in 8 games.

Exploration: Abstract Classes

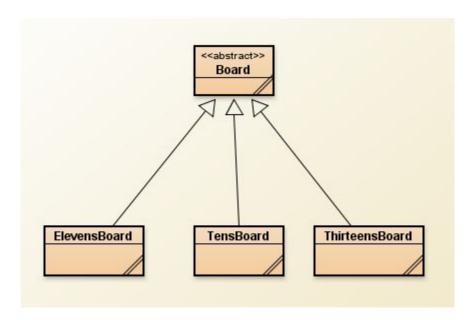
In reading the descriptions of Elevens and its related games, it is evident that these games share common state and behaviors. Each game requires:

- State (instance variables) a deck of cards and the cards "on the" board.
- Behavior (methods) to deal the cards, to remove and replace selected cards, to check for a win, to check if selected cards satisfy the rules of the game, to see if there are more legal selections available, and so on.

With all of this state and behavior in common, it would seem that inheritance could allow us to write code once and reuse it, instead of having to copy it for each different game.

But how? If we use the "IS-A" test, a ThirteensBoard "IS-A" ElevensBoard is not true. They have a lot in common, but an inheritance relationship between the two does not exist. So how do we create an inheritance hierarchy to take advantage of the commonalities between these two related boards?

The answer is to use a common superclass. Take all the state and behavior that these boards have in common and put them into a new Board class. Then have ElevensBoard, TensBoard, and ThirteensBoard inherit from the Board class. This makes sense because each of them is just a different kind of board. An ElevensBoard "IS-A" Board, a ThirteensBoard "IS-A" Board, and a TensBoard "IS-A" Board. A diagram that shows the inheritance relationships of these classes is included below. Note that Board is shown as abstract. We'll discuss why later.



Let's see how this works out for dividing up our original ElevensBoard code from Activity 7. Because all these games need a deck and the cards on the board, all of the instance variables can go into Board. Some methods, like deal, will work the same for every game, so they should be in Board too. Methods like containsJQK are Elevens-specific and should be in ElevensBoard. So far, so good.

But what should we do with the <code>isLegal</code> and <code>anotherPlayIsPossible</code> methods? Every Elevens-related game will have both of these methods, but they need to work differently for each different game. That's exactly why Java has <code>abstract</code> methods. Because each of these games needs <code>isLegal</code> and <code>anotherPlayIsPossible</code> methods, we include those methods in <code>Board</code>. However, because the implementation of these methods depends on the specific game, we make them <code>abstract</code> in <code>Board</code> and don't include their implementations there. Also, because <code>Board</code> now contains <code>abstract</code> methods, it must also be specified as <code>abstract</code>. Finally, we override each of these <code>abstract</code> methods in the subclasses to implement their specific behavior for that game.

But if we have to implement <code>isLegal</code> and <code>anotherPlayIsPossible</code> in each game-specific board class, why do we need to have the <code>abstract</code> methods in <code>Board</code>? Consider a class the uses a board, such as the GUI program you used in Activity 6. Such a class is called a <code>client</code> of the <code>Board</code> class.

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The GUI program does not actually need to know what kind of a game it is displaying! It only knows that

the board that was provided "IS-A" Board, and it only "knows" about the methods in the Board class. The GUI program is only able to call is Legal and another Play Is Possible because they are included in Board.

Finally, we need to understand how the GUI program is able to execute the correct <code>isLegal</code> and <code>anotherPlayIsPossible</code> methods. When the GUI program starts, it is provided an object of a class that inherits from <code>Board</code>. If you want to play Elevens, you provide an <code>ElevensBoard</code> object. If you want to play Tens, you provide a <code>TensBoard</code> object. So, when the GUI program uses that object to call <code>isLegal</code> or <code>anotherPlayIsPossible</code>, it automatically uses the method implementation included in that particular object. This is known as <code>polymorphism</code>.

Questions:

1.	Discuss t	he simi	larities an	d differences	between E	levens,	Thirteens,	and <i>Tens</i> .
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2. As discussed previously, all of the instance variables are declared in the Board class. But it is the ElevensBoard class that "knows" the board size, and the ranks, suits, and point values of the cards in the deck. How do the Board instance variables get initialized with the ElevensBoard values? What is the exact mechanism?

3. Now examine the files Board.java, and ElevensBoard.java, found in the Activity8

Starter Code directory. Identify the abstract methods in Board.java. See how these methods are implemented in ElevensBoard. Do they cover all the differences between *Elevens*, *Thirteens*, and *Tens* as discussed in question 1? Why or why not?

Activity 9: Implementing the Elevens Board

Introduction:

In Activity 8, we refactored (reorganized) the original ElevensBoard class into a new Board class and a much smaller ElevensBoard class. The purpose of this change was to allow code reuse in new games such as Tens and Thirteens. Now you will complete the implementation of the methods in the refactored ElevensBoard class.

Exercises:

1. Complete the ElevensBoard class in the Activity9 Starter Code folder, implementing the following methods.

Abstract methods from the Board class:

a. isLegal — This method is described in the method heading and related comments below.
 The implementation should check the number of cards selected and utilize the ElevensBoard helper methods.

```
/**
 * Determines if the selected cards form a valid group for removal.
 * In Elevens, the legal groups are (1) a pair of non-face cards
 * whose values add to 11, and (2) a group of three cards consisting of
 * a jack, a queen, and a king in some order.
 * @param selectedCards the list of the indexes of the selected cards.
 * @return true if the selected cards form a valid group for removal;
 * false otherwise.
 */
@Override
public boolean isLegal(List<Integer> selectedCards)
```

b. anotherPlayIsPossible — This method should also utilize the helper methods. It should be very short.

```
/**
 * Determine if there are any legal plays left on the board.
 * In Elevens, there is a legal play if the board contains
 * (1) a pair of non-face cards whose values add to 11, or (2) a group
 * of three cards consisting of a jack, a queen, and a king in some order.
 * @return true if there is a legal play left on the board;
 * false otherwise.
 */
@Override
public boolean anotherPlayIsPossible()
```

ElevensBoard helper methods:

c. containsPairSum11 — This method determines if the selected elements of cards contain a pair of cards whose point values add to 11.

d. contains JQK — This method determines if the selected elements of cards contains a jack, a queen, and a king in some order.

When you have completed these methods, run the main method found in ElevensGUIRunner.java. Make sure that the Elevens game works correctly.

Questions:

- 1. The size of the board is one of the differences between *Elevens* and *Thirteens*. Why is size not an abstract method?
- 2. Why are there no abstract methods dealing with the selection of the cards to be removed or replaced in the array cards?

3. Another way to create "IS-A" relationships is by implementing interfaces. Suppose that instead of creating an abstract Board class, we created the following Board interface, and had ElevensBoard implement it. Would this new scheme allow the Elevens GUI to call isLegal and anotherPlayIsPossible polymorphically? Would this alternate design work as well as the abstract Board class design? Why or why not?

```
public interface Board
{
   boolean isLegal(List<Integer> selectedCards);
   boolean anotherPlayIsPossible();
}
```

Activity 10: ThirteensBoard (Optional)

Introduction:

The purpose of this activity is to create the Thirteens game using the knowledge gained from implementing the Elevens game.

Exploration:

The rules for the Thirteens game are repeated below:

Thirteens

A game related to Elevens, called Thirteens, uses a 10-card board. Ace, 2, ..., 10, jack, queen correspond to the point values of 1, 2, ..., 10, 11, 12. Pairs of cards whose point values add up to 13 are selected and removed. Kings are selected and removed singly. Chances of winning are claimed to be about 1 out of 2.

Exercises:

- 1. The Activity10 Starter Code folder contains all the code for a complete working Elevens game. Review the code in the ElevensBoard class. Identify the changes that would be necessary to implement the Thirteens game.
- 2. Copy and paste the ElevensBoard.java file into a new file, ThirteensBoard.java. Make the necessary changes to this file to implement the Thirteens game.
- 3. The Activity10 Starter Code folder also contains the ElevensGUIRunner.java file that is shown below. This program creates the board (an ElevensBoard object). Then it creates the GUI (a CardGameGUI object). Finally, it displays the GUI by calling its displayGame method. Review the code in the ElevensGUIRunner class as shown below. Identify the changes that would be necessary to implement the Thirteens game.

```
/**
  * This is a class that plays the GUI version of the Elevens game.
  * See accompanying documents for a description of how Elevens is played.
  */
public class ElevensGUIRunner {
    /**
    * Plays the GUI version of Elevens.
    * @param args is not used.
```

```
*/
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Board board = new ElevensBoard();
    CardGameGUI gui = new CardGameGUI(board);
    gui.displayGame();
}
```

- 4. Copy and paste the ElevensGUIRunner.java file into a new file,
 ThirteensGUIRunner.java. Make the necessary changes to this file to implement the
 Thirteens game.
- 5. Run the ThirteensGUIRunner program and test your new Thirteens game.