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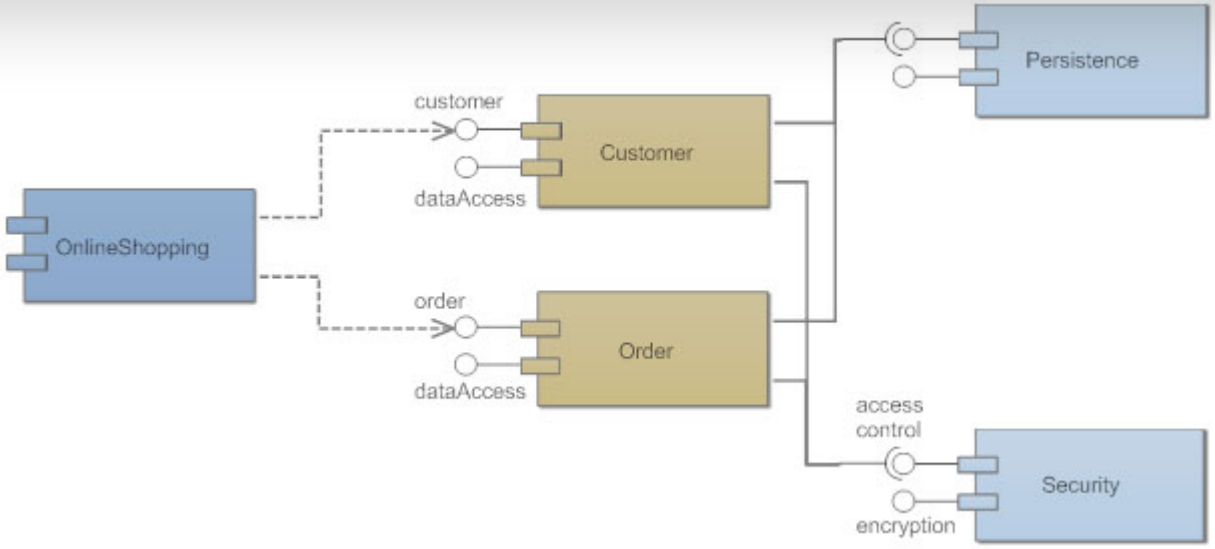
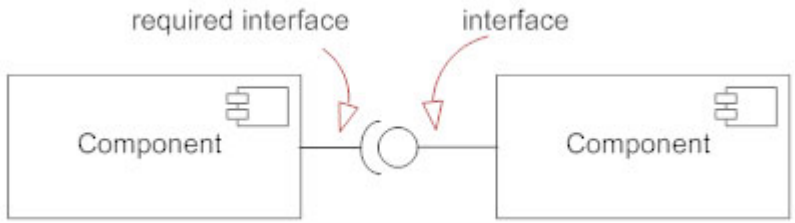


What is a Component Diagram?

A component diagram, also known as a UML component diagram, describes the organization and wiring of the physical components in a system. Component diagrams are often drawn to help model implementation details and double-check that every aspect of the system's required functions is covered by planned development. In the first version of UML, components included in these diagrams were physical: documents, database table, files, and executables, all physical elements with a location. In the world of UML 2, these components are less physical and more conceptual stand-alone design elements such as a business process that pr... requires interfaces to interact with other constructs in the system. The physical elements described in UML 1, like documents, are now referred to as artifacts. A UML 2 component may contain multiple physical artifacts if they naturally belong together.

Interface

An interface (small circle or semi-circle on a stick) describes a group of operations used (required) or created (provided) by components. A full circle represents an interface created or provided by the component. A semi-circle represents a required interface, like a person's input.



Dependencies

Draw dependencies among components using dashed arrows.

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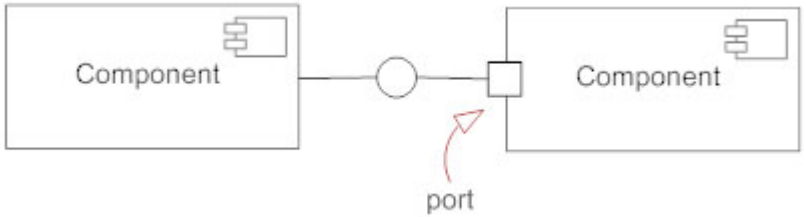
Port

Ports are represented using a square along the edge of the system or a component. A port is often used to help expose required and provided interfaces of a component.



How to Draw a Component Diagram

- Take stock of everything needed to implement the planned system. For example, for a simple e-commerce system, you'll need components that describe products, orders, and customer accounts.
- Create a visual for each of the components.
- Describe the organization and relationships between components using interfaces, ports, and dependencies.

Component Diagram?

Package diagram elements are always public, while component diagram elements are private.

More info

- UML Diagram Tool
- UML Diagram Examples
- How to Make UML Diagrams
- Tips for UML Diagrams

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