

MANUAL REFACTORINGS

Extract Method – Step by Step

- Create a new method, and name it after the intention of the method (name it by what it does, not by how it does it).

If the code you want to extract is very simple, such as a single message or function call, you should extract it if the name of the new method will reveal the intention of the code in a better way. If you can't come up with a more meaningful name, don't extract the code.

- Copy the extracted code from the source method into the new target method.
- Scan the extracted code for references to any variables that are local in scope to the source method. These are local variables and parameters to the method.
- See whether any temporary variables are used only within this extracted code. If so, declare them in the target method as temporary variables.
- Look to see whether any of these local-scope variables are modified by the extracted code. If one variable is modified, see whether you can treat the extracted code as a query and assign the result to the variable concerned.
- Pass into the target method as parameters local-scope variables that are read from the extracted code.
- Compile when you have dealt with all the locally-scoped variables.
- Replace the extracted code in the source method with a call to the target method.
If you have moved any temporary variables over to the target method, look to see whether they were declared outside of the extracted code. If so, you can now remove the declaration.
- Compile and test.