

Model 1 Java Interfaces

An interface is similar to an abstract class, except that all methods are automatically **public** and **abstract**. Likewise, all fields are automatically **public**, **static**, and **final**. These keywords are omitted in the interface definition.

```
public interface Rechargeable {  
    int MAX_CHARGE = 10;  
  
    int getCharge();  
  
    void recharge();  
}
```

Classes do not extend interfaces; they implement them:

```
public class CellPhone implements Rechargeable {  
    private int chargeLevel;  
    private int volume;  
  
    public CellPhone(int chargeLevel, int volume) {  
        this.chargeLevel = chargeLevel;  
        this.volume = volume;  
    }  
  
    public int getCharge() {  
        return chargeLevel;  
    }  
  
    public void recharge() {  
        chargeLevel = MAX_CHARGE;  
    }  
  
    public int getVolume() {  
        return volume;  
    }  
  
    public void setVolume(int volume) {  
        this.volume = volume;  
    }  
  
    public void makeCall() {  
        System.out.println("Ring... Hello?");  
    }  
}
```

Questions (15 min)

Start time:

1. What two methods are required by Rechargeable?

getCharge() and recharge()

2. Modify your *ToyRobot.java* to implement the Rechargeable interface. What changes did you need to make?

1. Add “implements Rechargeable” to the class definition.
2. Define a getCharge method (copied it from CellPhone).
3. Replaced 10 with MAX_CHARGE (constructor and recharge).

3. Consider the following rechargeAll method. What type of objects are stored in the list?

```
public static void rechargeAll(ArrayList<Rechargeable> list) {  
    for (Rechargeable item : list) {  
        item.recharge();  
    }  
}
```

It takes any type of Rechargeable object, such as CellPhone or ToyRobot.

4. Consider the following main method. Explain the significance of storing ToyRobot and CellPhone objects in the same ArrayList when calling rechargeAll.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    ArrayList<Rechargeable> items = new ArrayList<>();  
    items.add(new ToyRobot());  
    items.add(new CellPhone(4, 5));  
    rechargeAll(items);  
}
```

The power of polymorphism through interfaces! The rechargeAll method can operate on ToyRobots and CellPhones even though they are not related through inheritance.

5. Explain how an interface is like a contract.

An interface is a data type that is guaranteed to have specific methods. Classes that implement an interface must provide those methods.