

Model 1 Abstract Methods

The `abstract` keyword can be used to declare methods that have no body. Classes with abstract methods must also be defined as abstract.

```
public abstract class LoudToy {  
    private int volume;  
  
    public LoudToy(int volume) {  
        this.volume = volume;  
    }  
  
    public int getVolume() {  
        return volume;  
    }  
  
    public void setVolume(int volume) {  
        this.volume = volume;  
        makeNoise();  
    }  
  
    public abstract void makeNoise();  
}
```

Questions (15 min)

Start time:

1. Summarize the differences between Model 1 and your answer to ??.

The class and the `makeNoise` method are declared as abstract. The definition of `makeNoise` ends with a semicolon, rather than an empty body `{}`.

2. Open *LoudToy.java* (from Model 1) in your IDE. Remove the word `abstract` from the class definition. What are the two compiler errors?

The type `LoudToy` must be an abstract class to define abstract methods.

The abstract method `makeNoise` in type `LoudToy` can only be defined by an abstract class.

3. Replace the word `abstract` in the class definition, and then remove the word `abstract` from the method definition. What is the compiler error now?

This method requires a body instead of a semicolon.

4. Remove the definition of `makeNoise` altogether, and notice the compiler error. Why is it necessary to declare this method in `LoudToy`?

The `setVolume` method calls the `makeNoise` method.

5. Undo all changes in `LoudToy.java`, and add the following main method. What is the compiler error message? Why do you think Java doesn't allow you to construct a `LoudToy`?

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    LoudToy toy1 = new LoudToy(1);  
    toy1.makeNoise();  
}
```

The compiler says, "Cannot instantiate the type `LoudToy`." Abstract classes cannot be instantiated, because some of their methods aren't implemented.

6. Open `ToySheep.java` and rename `makeNoise` to `makeNoise2`. What is the compiler error?

The type `ToySheep` must implement the inherited abstract method `LoudToy.makeNoise()`.

7. Rename the method back to `makeNoise`, but change `void` to `int`. What is the error now?

The return type is incompatible with `LoudToy.makeNoise()`.

8. Explain how an abstract method is like a contract.

If you inherit an abstract class, you must override the abstract methods exactly as defined. This is important because they might be called in the code of the abstract class.