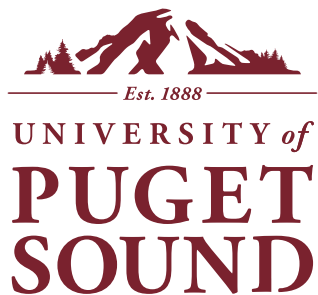


CSCI 161

Introduction to Computer Science



Department of Mathematics
and Computer Science

Lecture 2a
Classes and Objects

Outline

► What Are Objects?

- State and Behavior

► A Peek at the Source Code

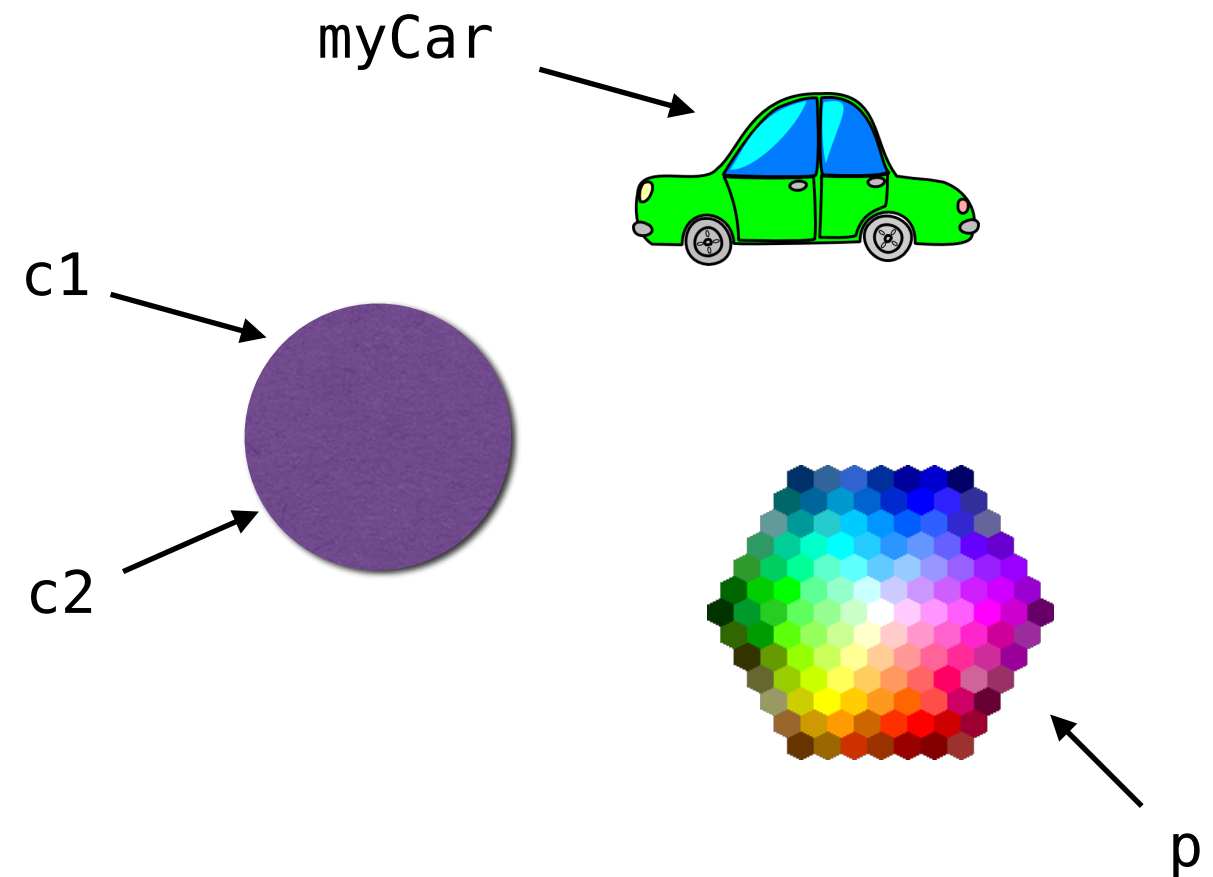
- Instance Variables and Data Types
- Constructors
- Methods
- Comments

► Conclusion

Objects in Software

► In software an *object* models some real-world element. Can be ANYTHING, like:

- Circle
- Squares
- Car
- Thermostat
- Color palette
- PacMan
- *and so on...*

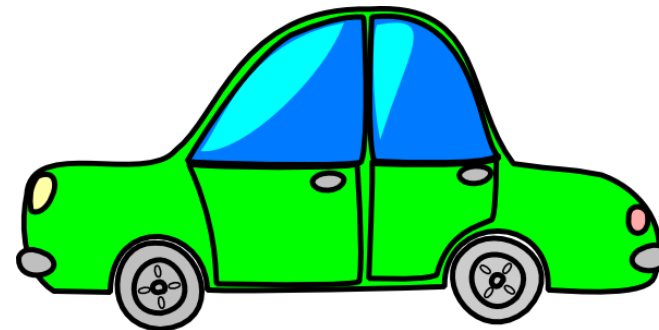


► Objects usually have at least one name that reference it

- (We get to name objects)

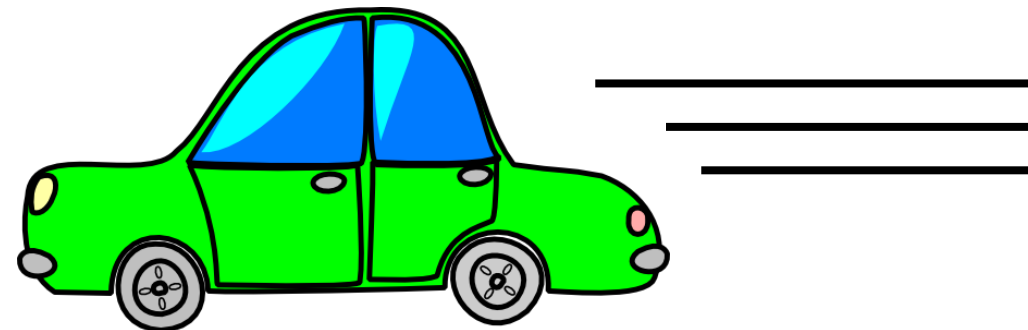
Object State

- ▶ **Important:** Objects have both state and behavior
- ▶ **State:** A set of things (nouns) that an object remembers about itself
 - Example state for a Car object:
 - Current speed
 - Current amount of gas
 - Mileage
 - Color
 - Number of doors
 - *(May be more...)*



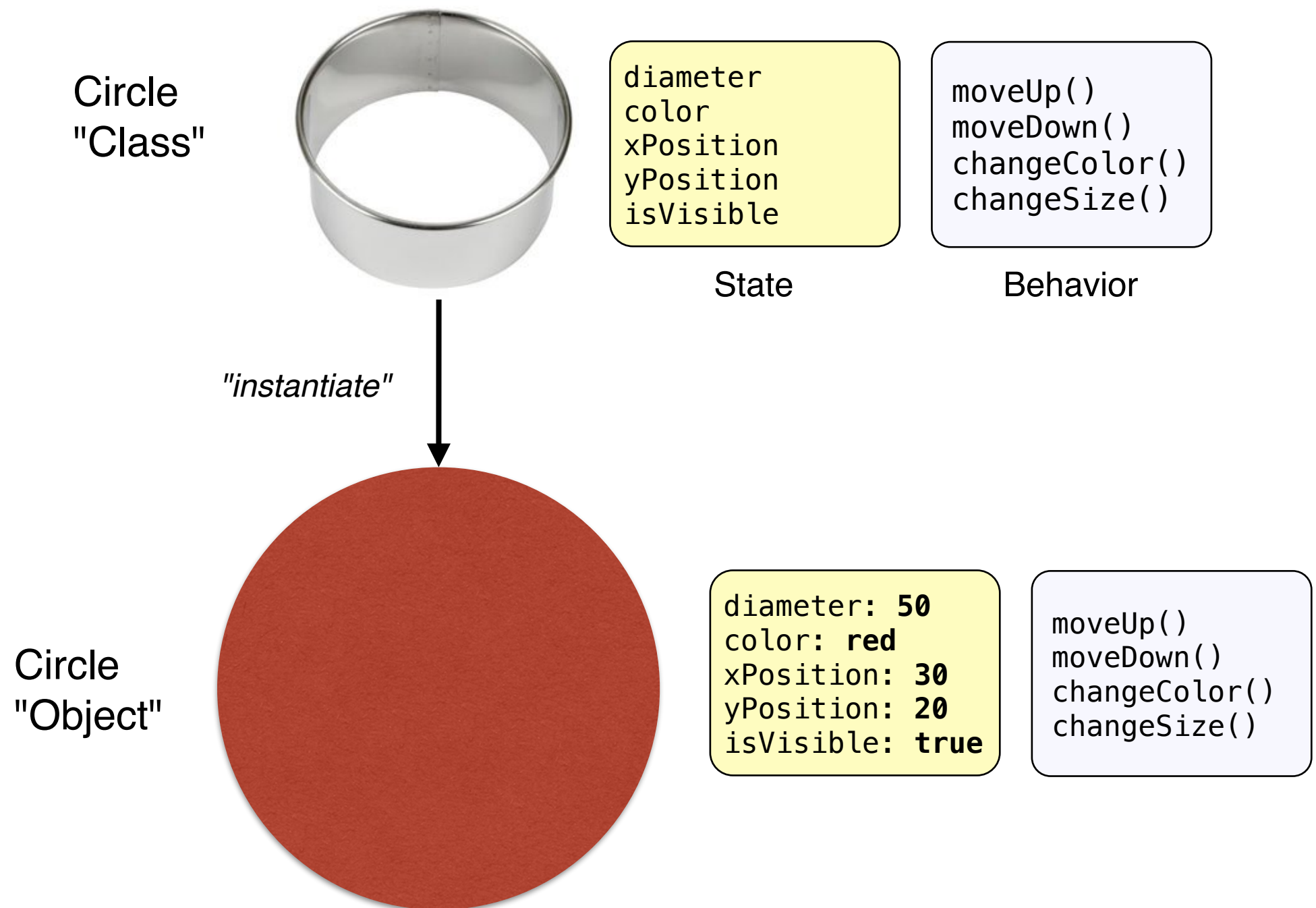
Object Behavior

- ▶ **Important:** Objects have both state and behavior
- ▶ **Behavior:** A set of actions (verbs) an object knows how to do
 - Example behavior of Car objects
 - Accelerate
 - Decelerate
 - Turn left
 - Turn right
 - Shift gear
 - *(May be more...)*



"Classes" vs. "Objects"

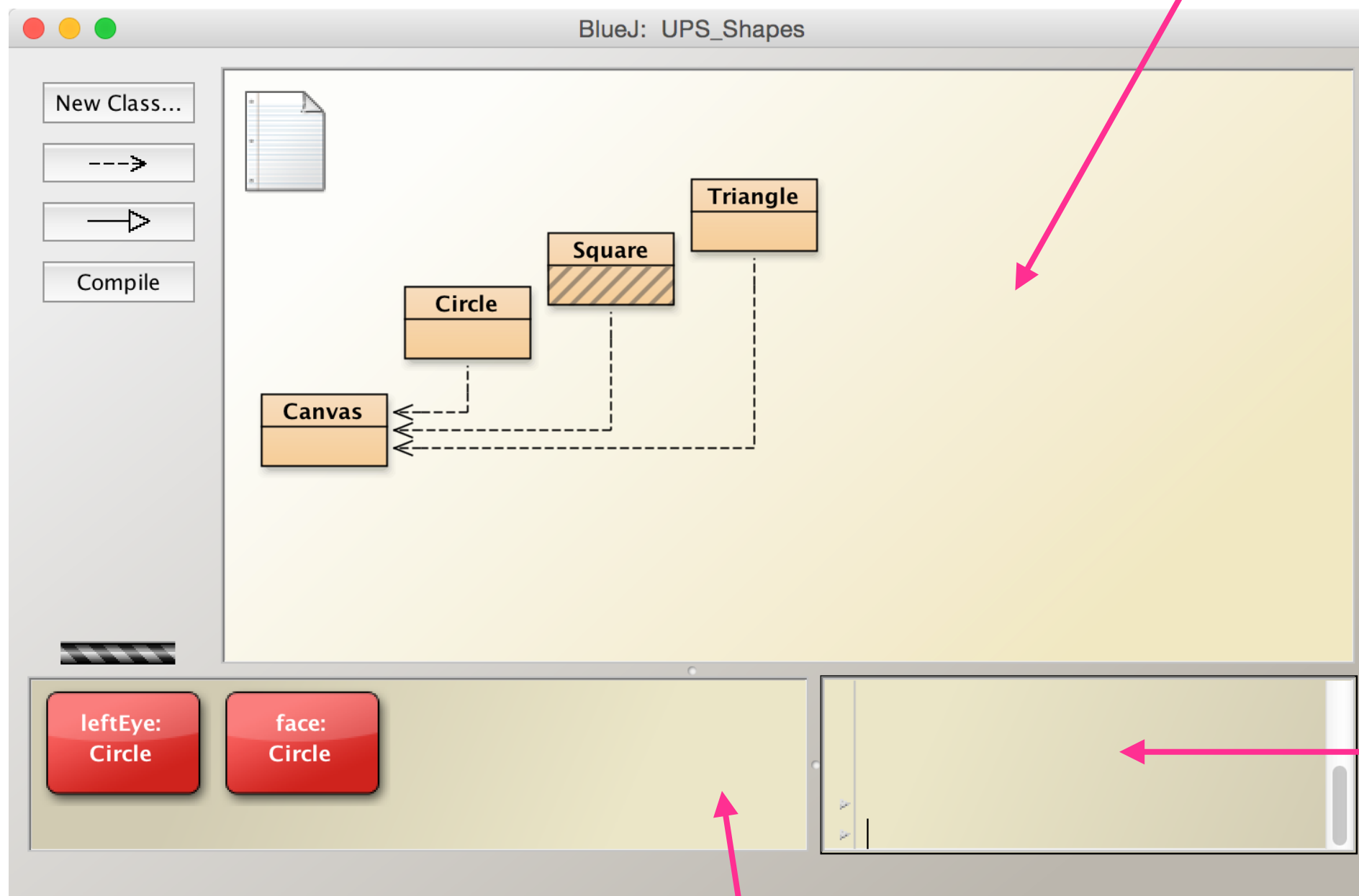
- Classes group together objects that share a common set of states and behaviors.



BlueJ Project Window

Project Explorer

Contains documentation and related classes



Code Pad: Lets us write snippets of Java code

Workbench: shows what objects have been created

BlueJ Project Window

README File

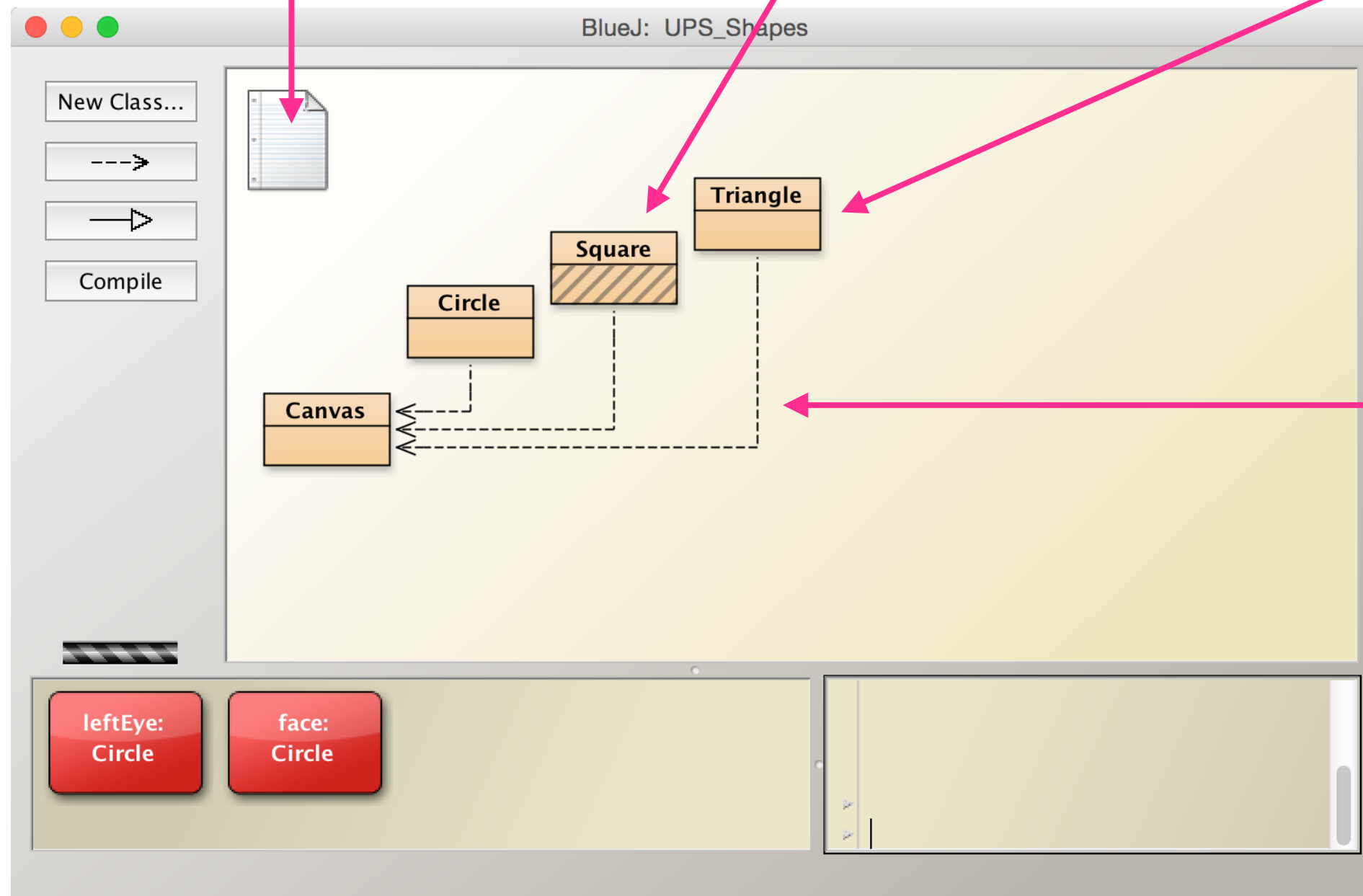
Description of this project

Greyed-Out Box

An uncompiled class

Solid Box

A compiled class

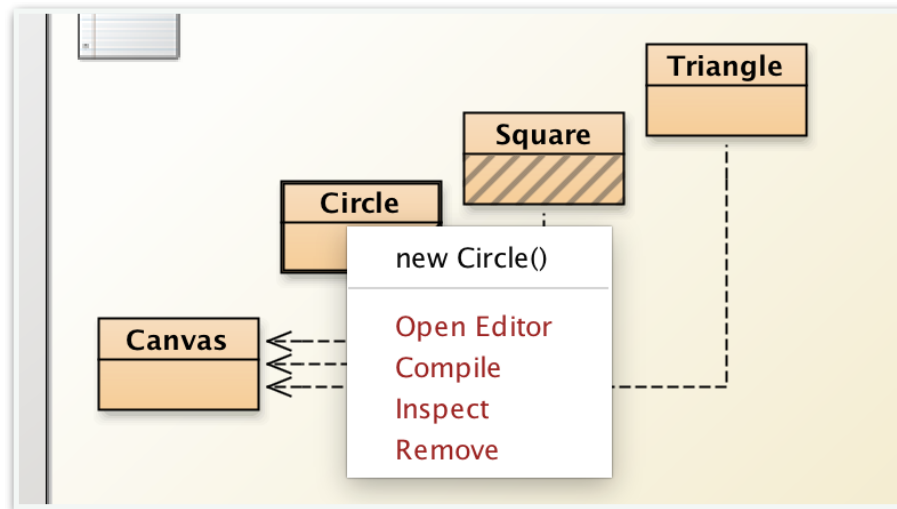


Dotted Arrows

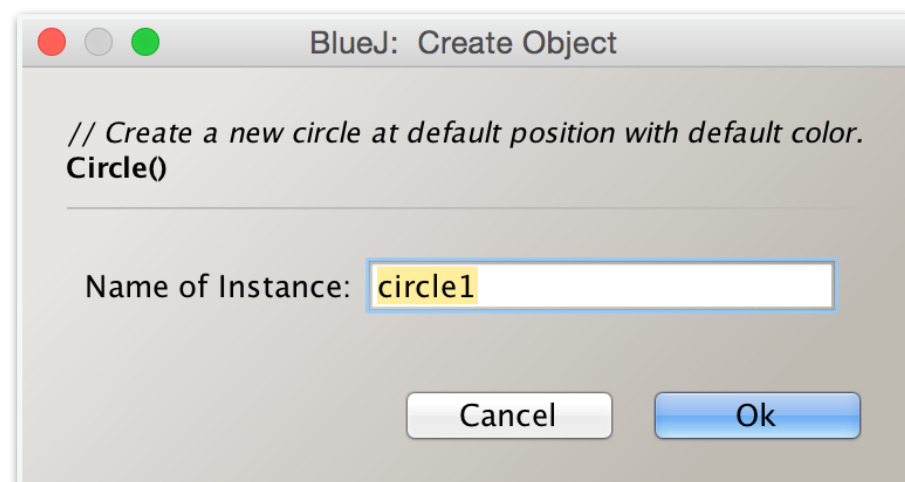
"Uses" relationship

Instantiation (Creation)

- To create a new Circle object (instance), right click on the class and select *new Circle()*

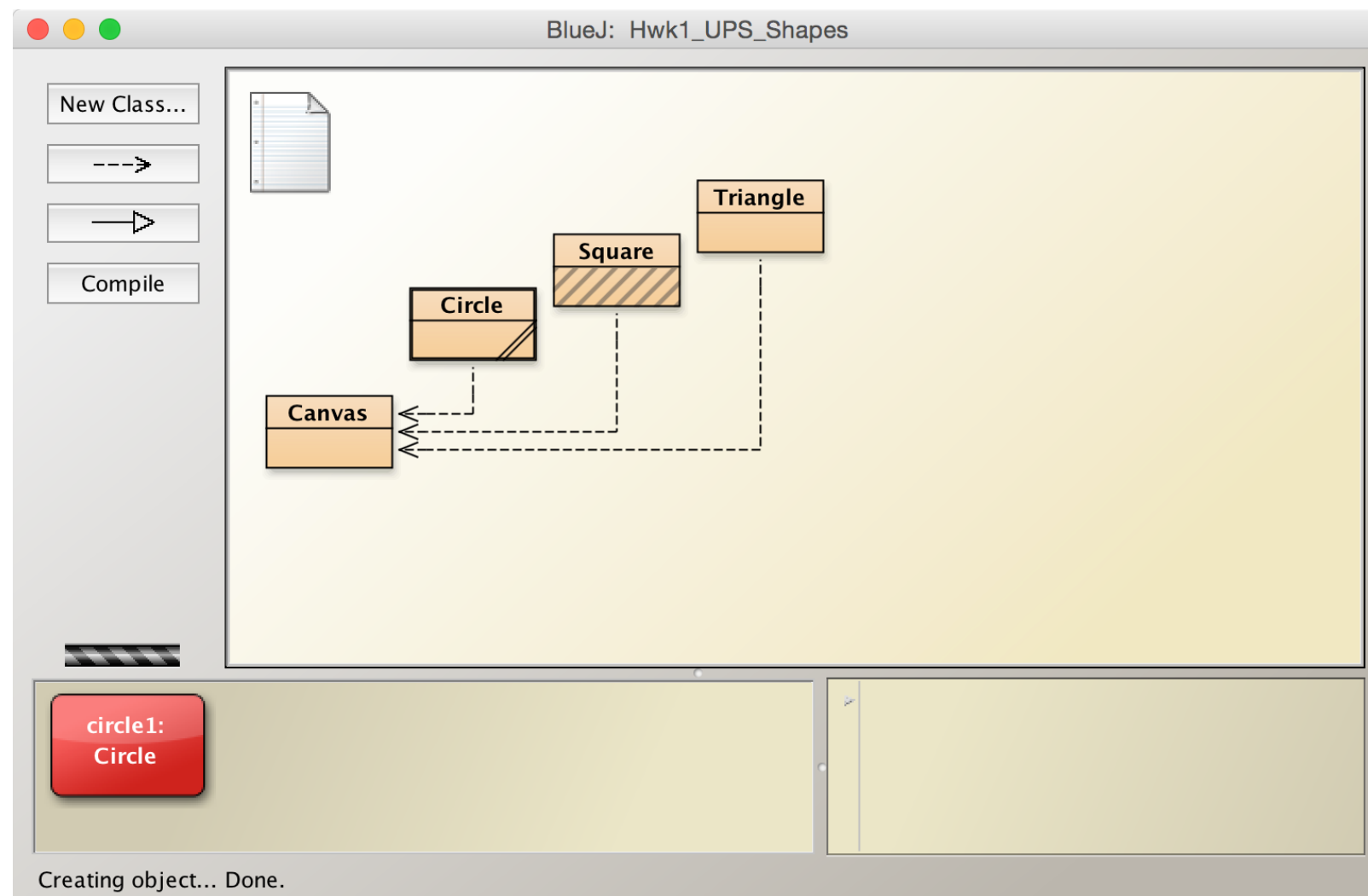


- Now BlueJ will ask you to provide a name for this instance:



Inspecting the Object's State

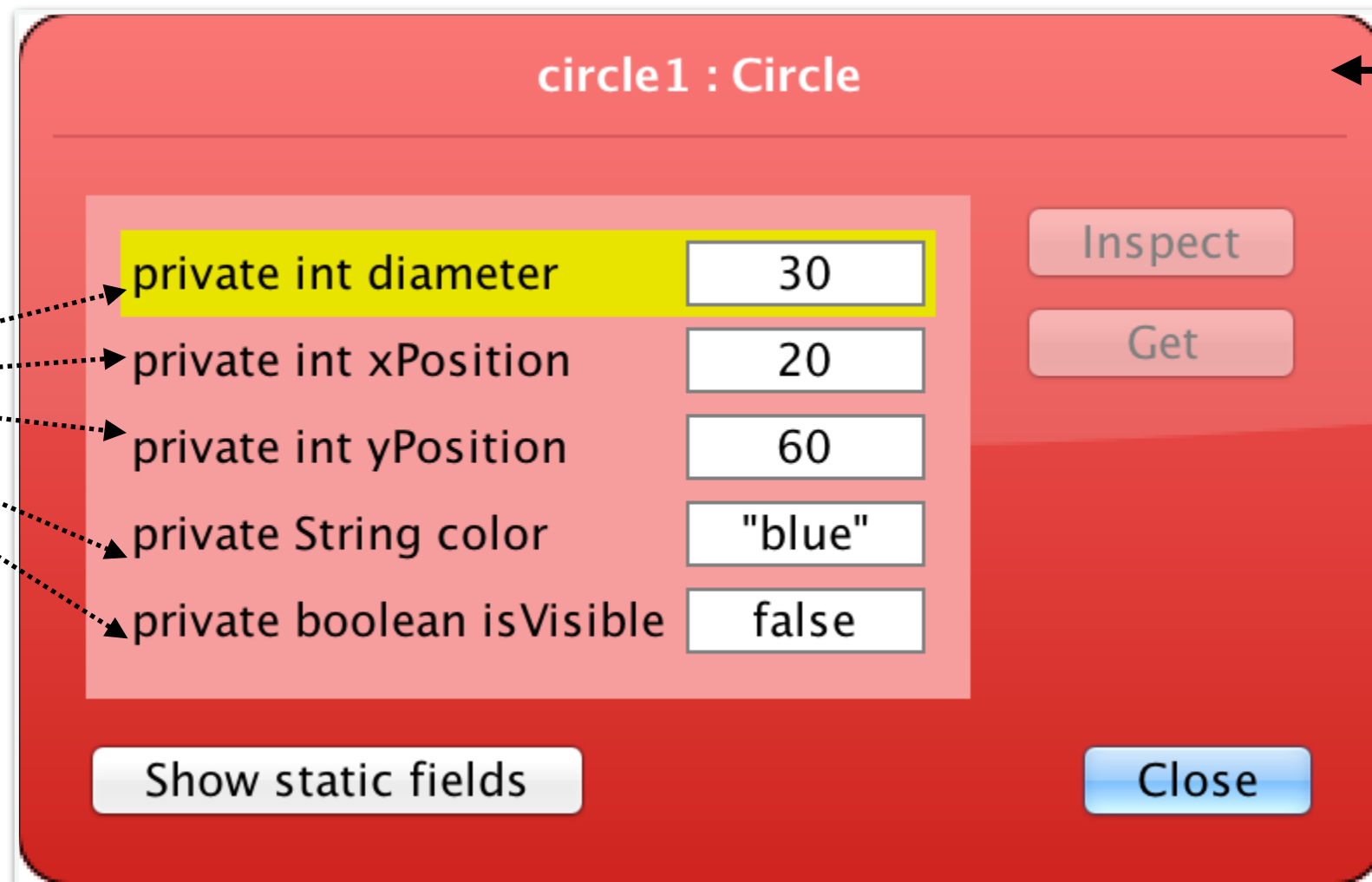
- ▶ The new object appears in the Object Workbench.
 - Note: You can instantiate as many objects as you want!



Inspecting the Object's State

- ▶ Let's take a look at this particular Circle's state.
 - Double-click on the object's box icon from the Workbench
 - No upper or lower limit to the number of fields an object can have

*State of
circle1*



circle1 : Circle

private int diameter	30
private int xPosition	20
private int yPosition	60
private String color	"blue"
private boolean isVisible	false

Inspect

Get

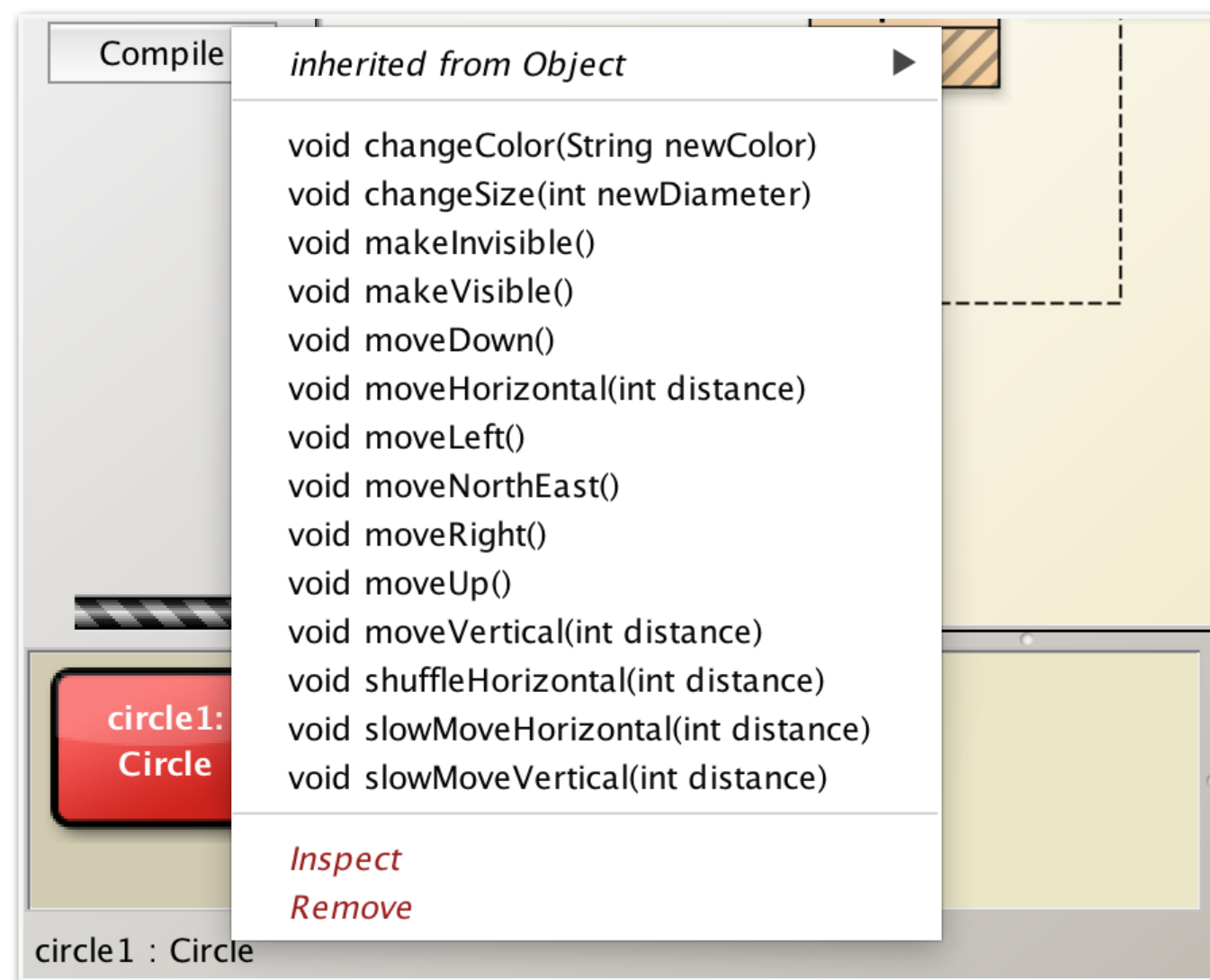
Show static fields

Close

*Instance
variables*

Accessing an Object's Methods

- Now right-click on this object, and you get a menu showing its *instance methods*

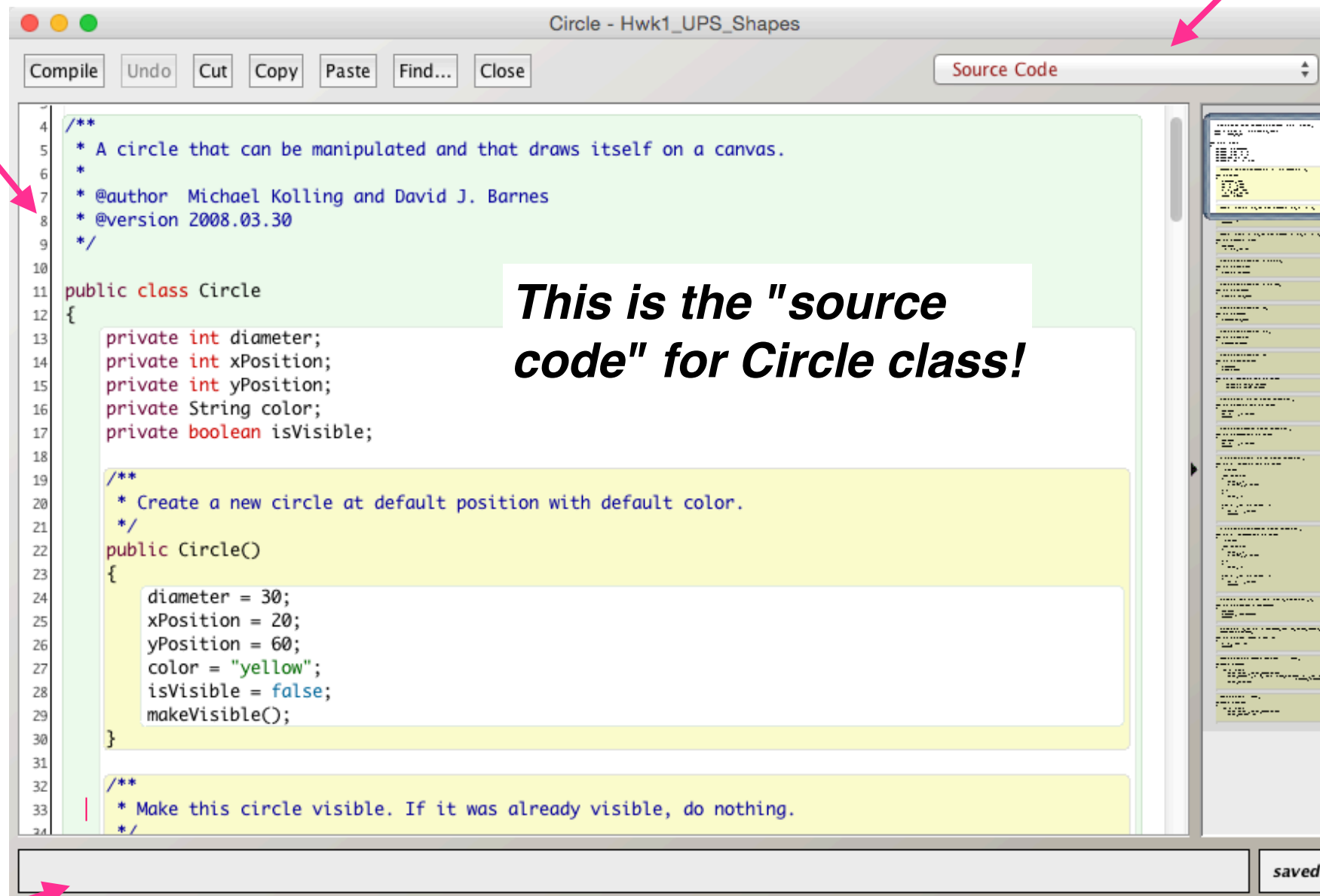


Source Code of a Class

Line Numbers (disabled by default)

To Enable: Options menu > Preferences > Display Line Numbers

Source Code or Documentation



Compile Status

Any syntax errors found when compiling the source code??

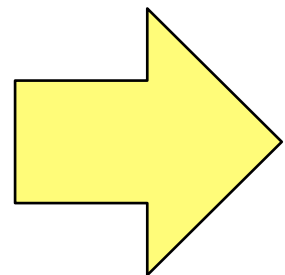
File Status

Saved or Changed

Outline

- ▶ What Are Objects?
 - State and Behavior
- ▶ A Peek at the Source Code
 - Instance Variables and Data Types
 - Constructors
 - Methods
 - Comments
- ▶ Conclusion

Basic Class Structure



(Possible "import" statements)

```
public class ClassName  
{
```

Instance Variables

Constructors

Methods

```
}
```

Instance Variables (or "Fields")

- ▶ An *Instance Variable* is a property that all objects of that class must remember about itself.
- Instance variables of the Circle class:

```
private int diameter;  
private int xPosition;  
private int yPosition;  
private String color;  
private boolean isVisible;
```

- Each instance variable is "declared" using this format:

```
private data-type variable-name;
```



What are these?
(next slide)

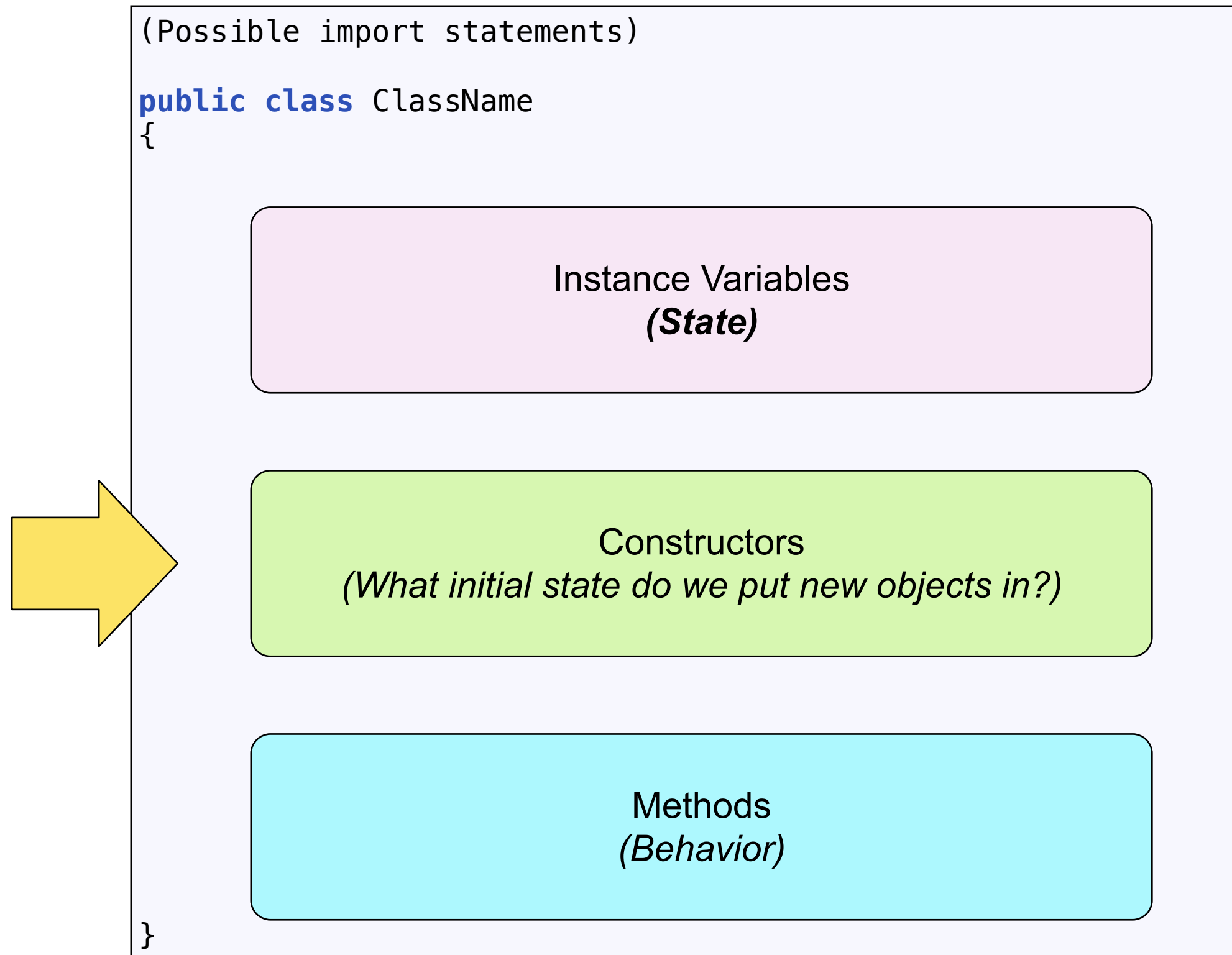


You should to give the instance
variable a descriptive name.

Common Data Types

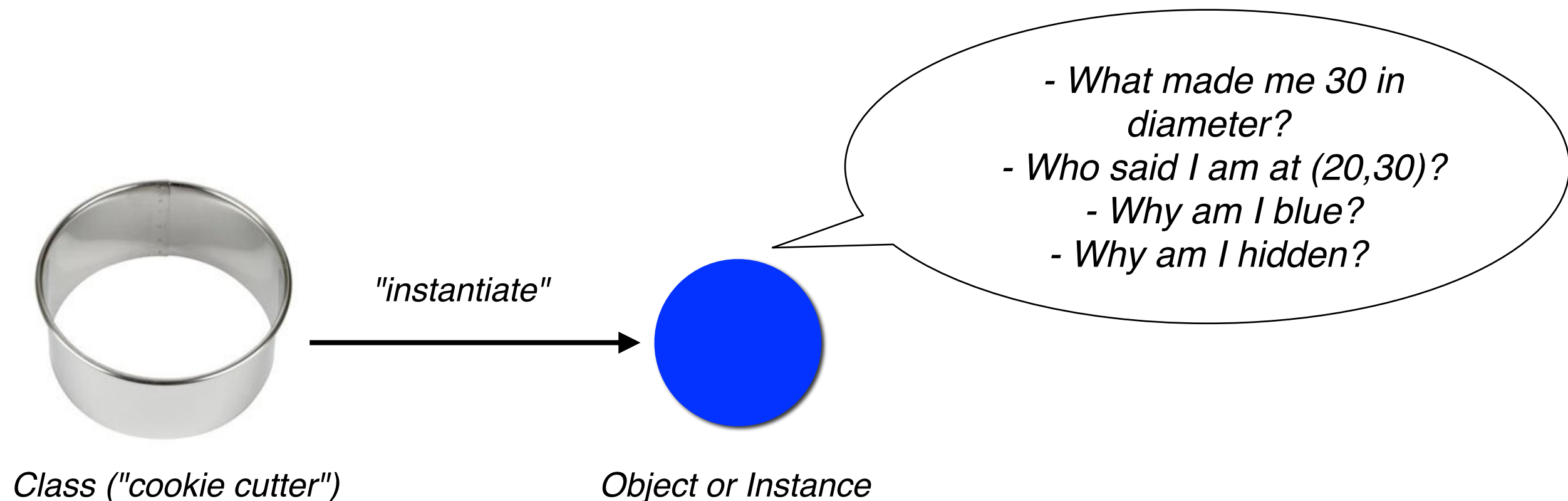
- ▶ Each instance variable is required to have a Data Type.
 - Data types declare the nature of data that a variable can hold.
- ▶ Common data types:
 - An **int** can only store an integer (i.e., whole number).
 - A **double** can store a number with a decimal point.
 - A **boolean** is a true or false (yes or no) value.
 - A **String** is a sequence of letters, symbols, and numbers
 - Values are *always* enclosed in "**double quotes**"
 - Use Strings to store a word, a phrase, a sentence, a paragraph, ...

Basic Class Structure



Def'n: Constructors and Instantiation

- ▶ **Definition:** *"Instantiation"* - The act of creating an object of a class.
- ▶ **Definition:** *"Constructor"*
 - The constructor's code is run immediately upon "instantiation."
 - The code must "assign" values to the instance variables of the new object.




Constructor in the Circle Class

- The "*constructor*" is executed each time a new *object* is instantiated.

```
public class Circle
{
    //fields
    private int diameter;
    private int xPosition;
    private int yPosition;
    private String color;
    private boolean isVisible;

    public Circle() {
        diameter = 30;
        xPosition = 20;
        yPosition = 60;
        color = "blue";
        isVisible = false;
    }

    //(instance methods omitted)
}
```



Variable Assignment Syntax:

```
variable-name = expression;
```

Constructor (Cont.)

- **Syntax:** This is how you write a Constructor in Java

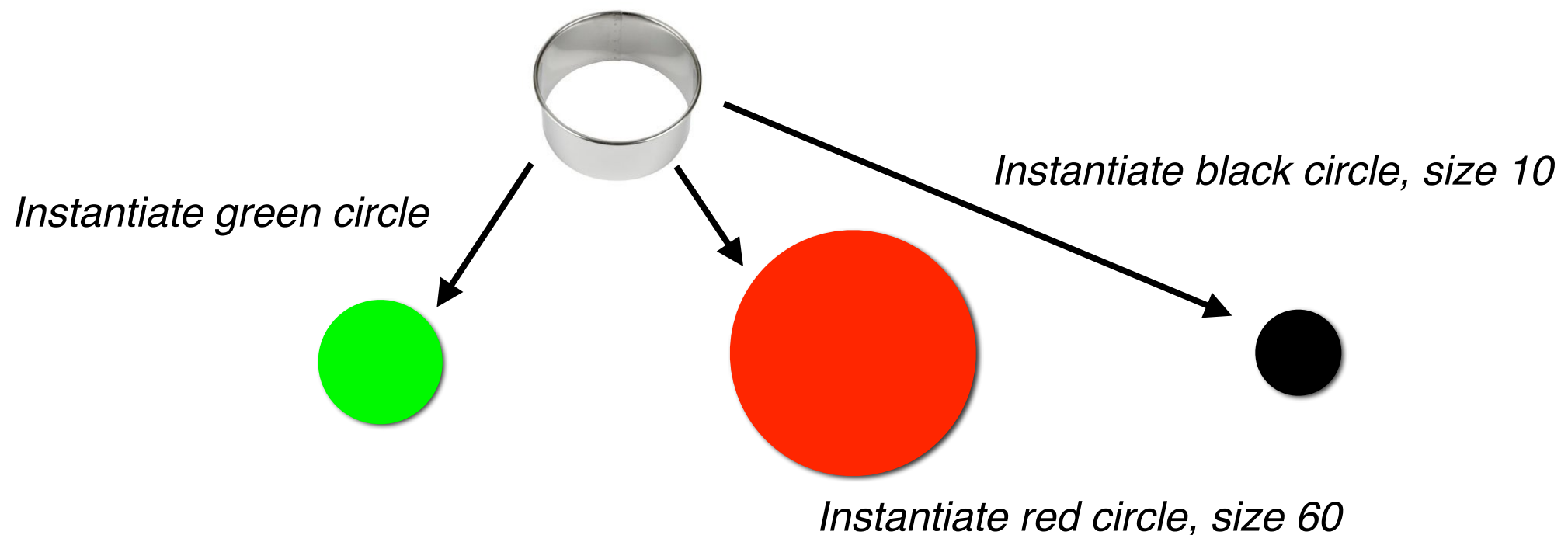
```
public ClassName(input-parameters) {  
    // code to initialize all the  
    // instance variables of the new object  
}
```

- **Important:** remember these rules!

- Constructors are **always** ...
 - Named after the class
- May have a list of input parameters to accept data
 - Declare each input parameter separated by comma
 - If the parameter list is **empty**, it's called the "**default constructor**"

Overloading Constructors

- ▶ We can write (or "overload") multiple constructors
 - Suppose we want to give users more options to instantiate Circles
 - [Together] Let's write another constructor that lets users input the initial **size**.
 - [You] Write a 3rd constructor that lets users input the initial **size** and **color**.



3 Constructors = 3 Ways to Create Objects

```
public class Circle {  
    private int diameter;  
    private int xPosition;  
    private int yPosition;  
    private String color;  
    private boolean isVisible;
```

```
    public Circle() {  
        diameter = 30;  
        xPosition = 20;  
        yPosition = 60;  
        color = "blue";  
        isVisible = false;  
    }
```

(Instantiates a default circle)

```
    public Circle(int initialSize) {  
        diameter = initialSize;  
        xPosition = 20;  
        yPosition = 60;  
        color = "blue";  
        isVisible = false;  
    }
```

*(Instantiates a circle but
inputs a diameter from user)*

```
    public Circle(int initialSize, String initialColor) {  
        diameter = initialSize;  
        xPosition = 20;  
        yPosition = 60;  
        color = initialColor;  
        isVisible = false;  
    }
```

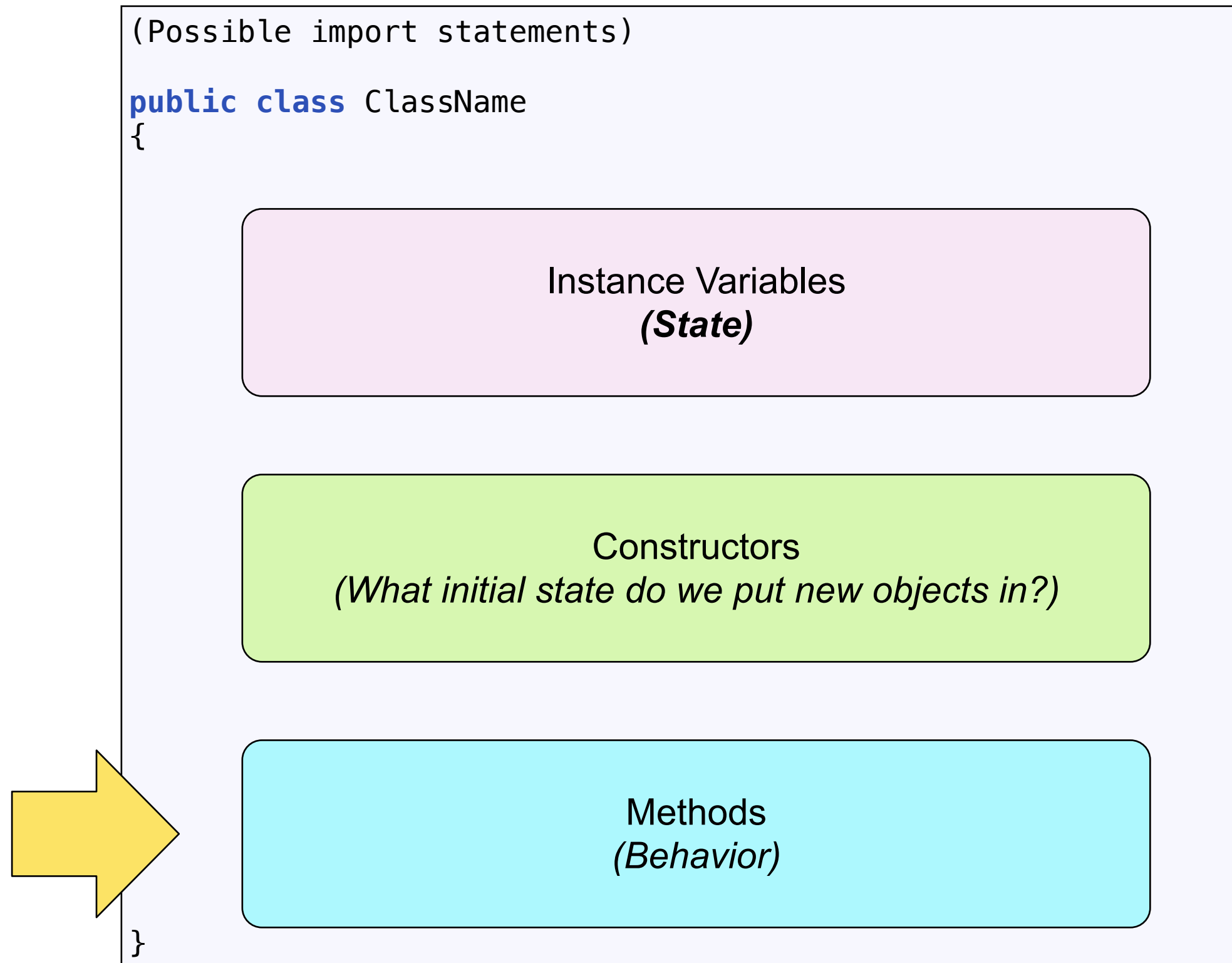
(Inputs a diameter and color from user)

Self-Check: Adding Instance Variables

- ▶ We can have as many "instance variables" as we need.

- ▶ Suppose we also want **Circles** to remember their **areas**.
 - Things to consider:
 - First, we need to declare a new instance variable **area** in the Circle code.
 - *What data-type should it be declared as?*
 - How does **area** get assigned a value?
 - *(Deal with this next)*
 - Maintenance: What if the Circle changes size later?
 - *(Deal with this later)*

Basic Class Structure



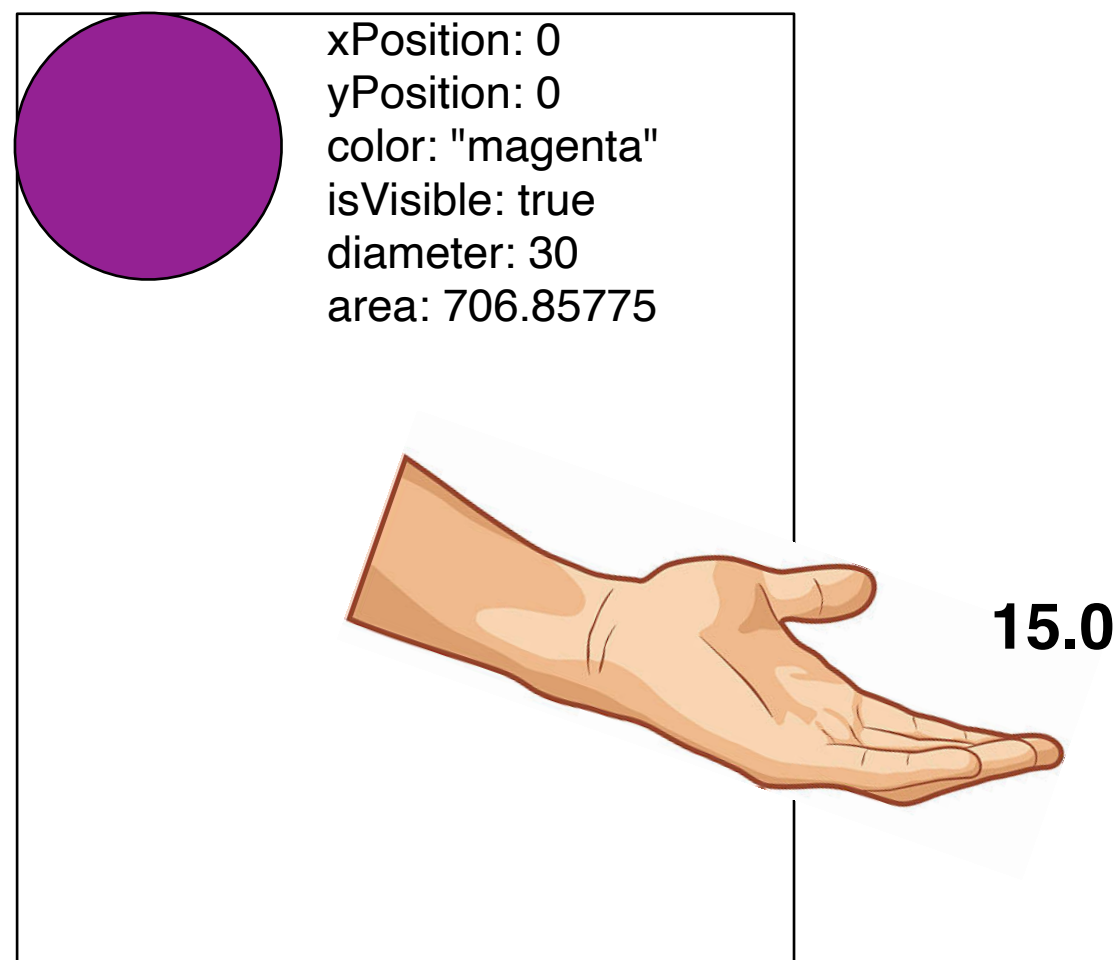
Method Writing Syntax

- ▶ When writing a *method*, consider:
 - What should we name it? Usually an action verb.
 - What input(s) it requires, if any.
 - What's the body, i.e., its algorithm?
 - If the method **returns** (gives back) a value, what data type is it?
 - Use **void** if method does not return a value before it terminates
- ▶ **Syntax for writing a new method:**

```
public return-type method-name(input-parameters) {  
    // instructions for the method routine  
}
```

Let's Write a New Method: `getRadius()`

- ▶ Write a new method, called `radius()` that...
 - Accepts no inputs
 - **returns** the *radius* of the Circle object to the caller



getRadius() Solution

- ▶ Write a new method, called `radius()` that...
 - Accepts no inputs
 - **returns** the *radius* of a Circle object to the method caller

▶ Solution

```
public double radius() {  
    double rad = size * 0.5;    // declare a local variable to store the radius  
    return rad;  
}
```

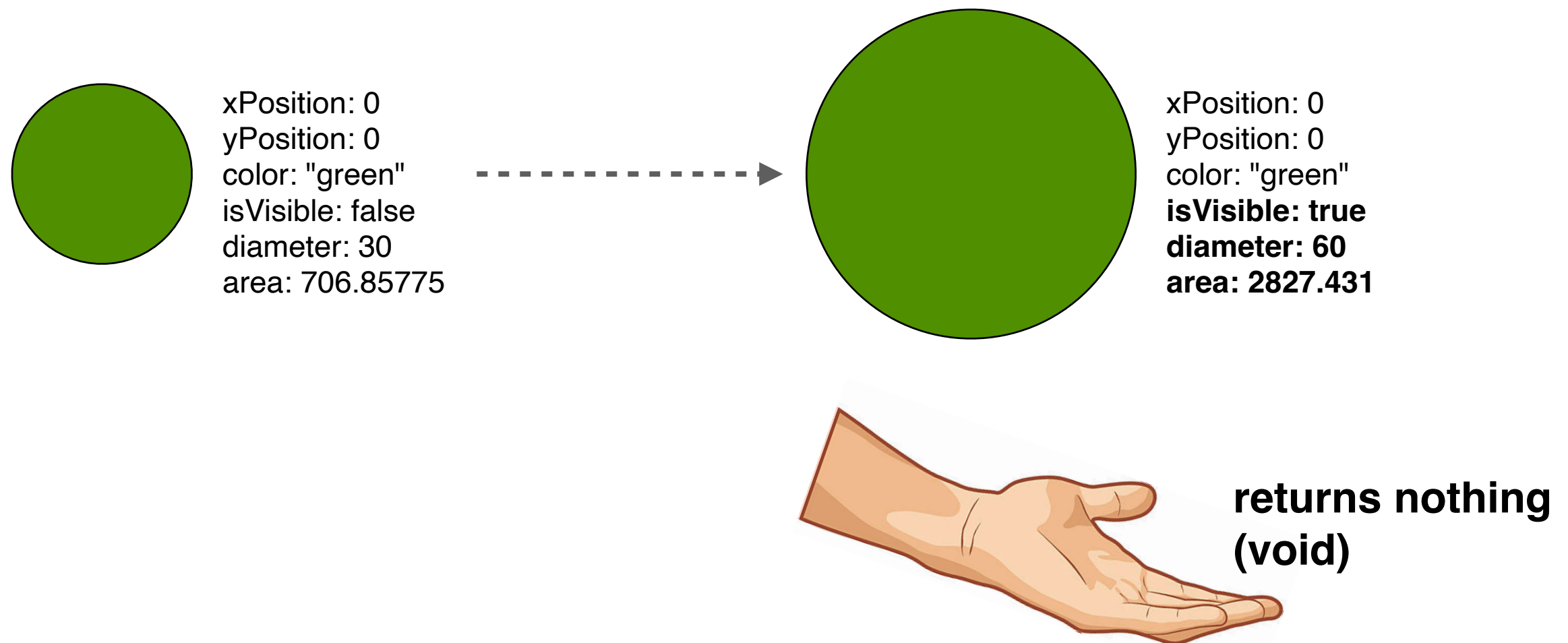
▶ An even simpler alternative:

```
public double radius() {  
    return size * 0.5;    // we don't really need to store the radius first  
}
```

Method Writing Example: `enlarge()`

► **Example:** Write a new method called `enlarge` that enlarges the Circle to twice its current size and shows it to the canvas (even if currently hidden).

- Accepts no inputs
- Returns nothing to the method caller.



Calling Existing Methods

► **Important:** Often perform something *new*, you can *call* existing methods that had been previously written.

► Before writing the new method,

1. Think about whether there are any existing methods we *could* employ.
2. Look through the source code and find their *signatures*.

Examples: `public void makeVisible()`
`public void changeSize(int newDiameter)`

3. Make the call! Write the method's name, and give values to input parameters!

Example to make a method call:
`changeSize(30);`

Method Writing Example (Soln)

- **Example:** Write a new method called `enlarge()` that enlarges the Circle to twice its current size and displays it on canvas.

```
/**
 * Enlarges a circle to twice its current size
 * and makes it visible.
 */
public void enlarge() {

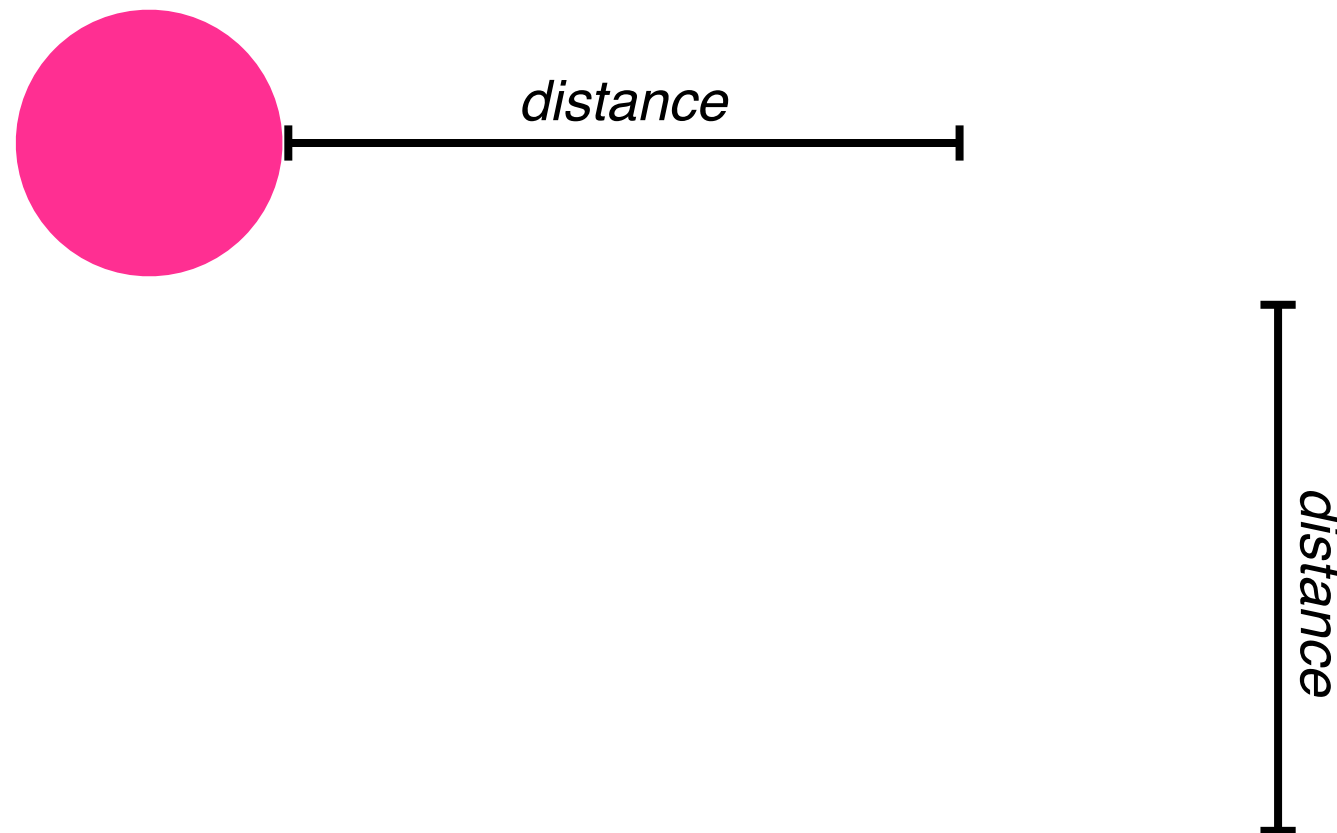
    // current size is stored in instance variable 'size'
    int newDiameter = size * 2;

    // call changeSize() to enlarge the circle!
    changeSize(newDiameter);

    // call makeVisible() to draw it on the canvas for me!
    makeVisible();
}
```

Group Work

- Write a method called `takeALap`(`int` distance) that causes the Circle to move East, South, West, North, ending at the original spot.
 - Each "slow move" is of the input distance.
 - **Returns** the total distance traveled to the caller.



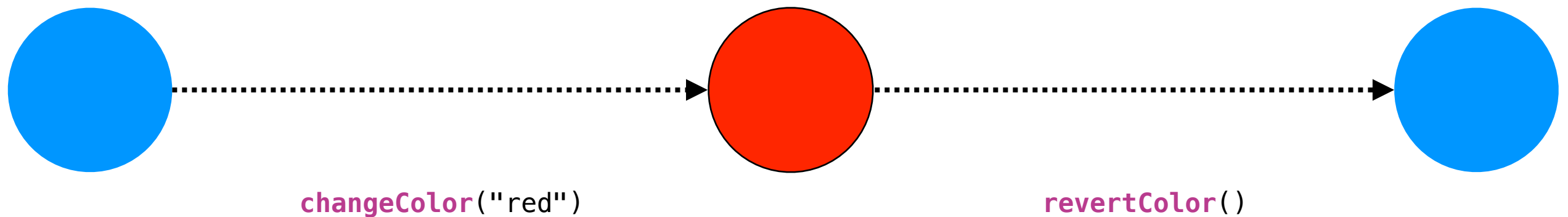
Group Work (Soln)

- ▶ Write a method called `takeALap`(`int` distance) that causes the Circle to move East, South, West, North, ending at the original spot.
 - Each directional move is of the given distance.
 - **Returns** the total distance traveled to the caller.
- ▶ Solution:

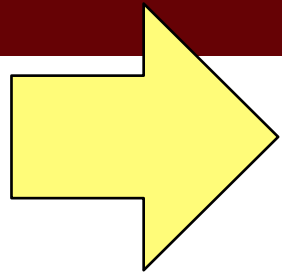
```
/**
 * Causes Circle to take a lap of the given distance per edge.
 *
 * @param distance The length to travel in each direction
 * @return total distance traveled
 */
public int takeALap(int distance) {
    slowMoveHorizontal(distance); // go east
    slowMoveVertical(distance);   // go south
    slowMoveHorizontal(-distance); // go west
    slowMoveVertical(-distance);  // go north
    return distance * 4;
}
```

On your own

- Write a method, `revertColor()`, that reverts the color back to its *original* color (i.e., when the circle was first created).



Basic Class Structure



(Possible import statements)

```
public class ClassName  
{
```

Fields (instance variables)
(State)

Constructors
(What initial state do we put new objects in?)

Methods
(Behavior)

```
}
```

Import Statements

- ▶ You may or may not see *import statements* at the top of your class
- ▶ They are used to include *pre-written classes* so that you don't have to copy and paste that code into the class you're writing!

- For example:

```
import java.util.Scanner;  
import java.util.ArrayList;
```

- The above would allow us to use the Scanner and ArrayList classes in the code we write.

Comments

► *Comments* are a programmer's notes to describe the code

- They are *ignored* by the compiler
- Super important to comment your code

► Two types of comments

- Block (multi-line) comment:

- Example:

```
/*  
    Everything here is ignored by the compiler  
    Can span any number of lines  
*/
```

- Line comment:

- Example:

```
// Everything on this line is ignored by the compiler
```

Outline

- ▶ What Are Objects?
 - State and Behavior
- ▶ A Peek at the Source Code
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- ▶ Conclusion

In Conclusion

- ▶ Object-Oriented Programming (OOP)
 - A program is composed by a bunch of building-blocks (objects)

- ▶ Objects have:
 - Object State (Fields or Instance Variables)
 - Fields are memories that let an object remember things about itself
 - Object Behavior (Instance Methods)
 - Methods perform some action on the object
 - The action is defined by a sequence of statements (an algorithm)
 - Constructor is a special method that sets the default state

In Conclusion (cont.)

- ▶ We get to invent lots of names:
 - Class names
 - Variable names
 - Method names
 - Parameter names

- ▶ Rules
 - Class names start with upper case
 - Others start with lower case
 - Shift case at word boundaries
 - Use meaningful names!

In Conclusion (cont.)

- ▶ We saw some Java syntax:
 - Variable declaration and assignment
 - A few data types: int, boolean, String
 - Curly braces { . . . }
 - Group related statements together
 - Method signatures
 - Contain a name, parameter list
- ▶ Getting a sense of what OOP is all about: bossing objects around
- ▶ *Next time: More... Accessors/Mutators, Local Vars, Printing*