

Factory Pattern

Design Pattern Details

Title	Factory Method Pattern
Description	The factory method pattern is a creational design pattern that abstracts the creation of object to concrete implementations of various factories. This allows developers to change how objects are created, modify specifications for new objects, and otherwise decouple implementation details from just getting a new object.
Anatomy diagram	<p style="text-align: center;">Factory Pattern</p> <pre>graph TD subgraph Factories direction TB AquaticPetFactory["<<interface>> AnimalFactory
+ create(): Animal"] SnakeCloningFactory["+ create(): Animal"] RaceHorseFactory["+ create(): Animal"] end subgraph Animals direction TB Horse["+ move():int
+ view(): String"] Snake["+ move():int
+ view(): String"] Duck["+ move():int
+ view(): String"] end AquaticPetFactory --> Snake SnakeCloningFactory --> Snake RaceHorseFactory --> Horse AquaticPetFactory --> SnakeCloningFactory SnakeCloningFactory --> RaceHorseFactory SnakeCloningFactory --> Horse RaceHorseFactory --> Snake RaceHorseFactory --> Duck Snake --> Horse Snake --> Snake Snake --> Duck Horse --> Snake Snake --> Duck Duck --> Snake Duck --> Duck</pre>
Key to anatomy diagram	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. AnimalFactory factories create Animal objects2. A Horse, Duck, or Snake object "is-a" animal3. An AnimalFactory concretion - like AquaticPetFactory "is-a" Animal Factory

Specifications

Usage	As a creational design pattern, the Factory Pattern or more specifically Factory Method pattern is used to abstract how objects are created. This is usually accomplished either with inheritance or more flexibly implementing an "Interface" - whether this is done with a shared set of methods in language that might use duck typing (like python) or more strictly with an actual Interface like in Java.
Variations	<p>The Factory Pattern takes on a variety of different flavors. More commonly and discretely, Factory Method pattern is used to abstract and delegate how different types of objects are created with various configurations. Alternatively, at a higher level Abstract Factory can be used to abstract not only factories but the types of objects created. More information can be found below.</p> <p>Factory Method Pattern: http://www.blackwasp.co.uk/factorymethod.aspx</p> <p>Abstract Factory Pattern: http://www.blackwasp.co.uk/abstractfactory.aspx</p>
Behavior	Factories create new objects based on their concrete implementation. This can change dynamically at runtime.