

## Chapter 3: Write Short Units of Code

### The guideline

#### Do:

- Limit the length of code units to 15 lines of code

#### By:

- Not writing units that are longer than 15 lines of code
- Splitting long units into multiple smaller units

#### Rationale:

- Easy to understand
- Easy to test
- Easy to reuse

#### Positive effects on other guidelines:

- Unit Complexity
- Size of codebase

## #1: Write Short Units of Code

How you can measure it

### Count lines of code:

- Every line in the unit that is non-empty and does not contain only comments is a line of code.

```
1  /**
2   * Replaces all occurrences of a word in a given string with blanks.
3   */
4  public static String clearAllMatches(String input, String word) {
5      String result = "";
6      int startIndex = 0;
7      int matchIndex = input.indexOf(word);
8
9      while (matchIndex >= 0) {
10         result += input.substring(startIndex, matchIndex);
11         // Insert spaces as filler
12         for (int i = 0; i < word.length(); i++) {
13             result += " ";
14         }
15         startIndex = matchIndex + word.length();
16         matchIndex = input.indexOf(word, startIndex);
17     }
18
19     result += input.substring(startIndex);
20     return result;
21 }
```

15 lines of  
code