**Design Patterns**

* Design Patterns are typical reusable solutions to commonly occurring problems in software design.
* Design Patterns are not finished code but templates or blueprints only that we can customize to solve a recurring design problem in our code.
* The pattern is not a specific piece of code, but a general concept for solving a particular problem. We can follow the pattern details & implement a solution that suits the realities of our own program.

**Design Pattern Vs Algorithm**

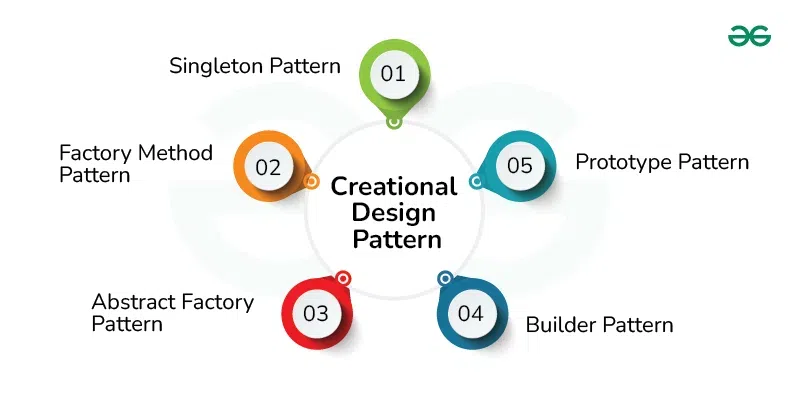
* Both concepts describe typical solutions to some known problems.
* An Algorithm always defines a clear set of actions that can achieve some goal.
* While a Pattern is more high-level description of a solution.

**Classification of Patterns**

* Design Patterns differ by their complexity, level of detail & scale of applicability to the entire system being designed.
* For e.g., Road Construction – We can make an intersection safer by either installing some traffic lights or building an entire multi-level interchange with underground passages for pedestrians.
* The most basic & low-level patterns are often called **Idioms**. They usually apply only to a single programming language.
* The most universal & high-level patterns are Architectural patterns. Developers can implement these patterns in virtually any language. Unlike other patterns, they can be used to design the architecture of an entire application.

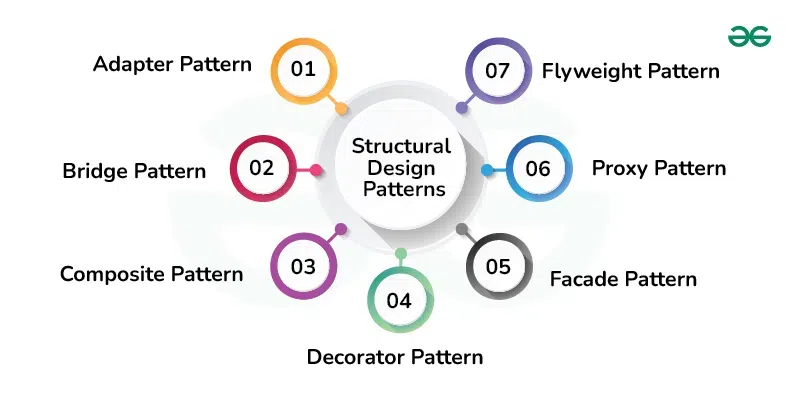
**1. Creational Patterns**

* They provide object creation mechanisms that increase flexibility & reuse of existing code.
* **Creational Design Patterns** focus on the process of object creation or problems related to object creation. They help in making a system independent of how its objects are created, composed & represented.



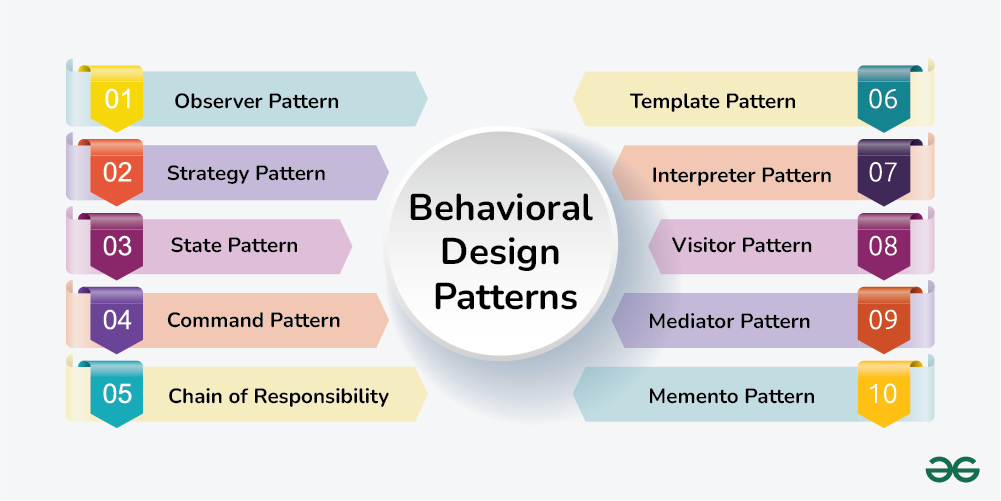
**2. Structural Patterns**

* They explain how to assemble objects & classes into larger structures, while keeping these structure flexible & efficient.
* Structural Design Patterns solves problems related to how classes & objects are composed/assembled to form larger structures which are efficient & flexible in nature.
* They use inheritance to compose interfaces or implementations.



**3. Behavioral Patterns**

* They take care of effective communication & the assignment of responsibilities b/w objects.
* Behavioral Design Patterns are concerned with algorithms & the assignment of responsibilities b/w objects.
* They describe not just patterns of objects or classes but also the patterns of communication b/w them.
* These patterns characterize complex control flow that’s difficult to follow at run-time.



**Creational Design Patterns**

**1. Factory Method Design Pattern**

* Factory method design pattern provides an interface for creating objects in a superclass, but allows subclasses to alter the type of objects that will be created.

2. Abstract Factory Method Design Pattern

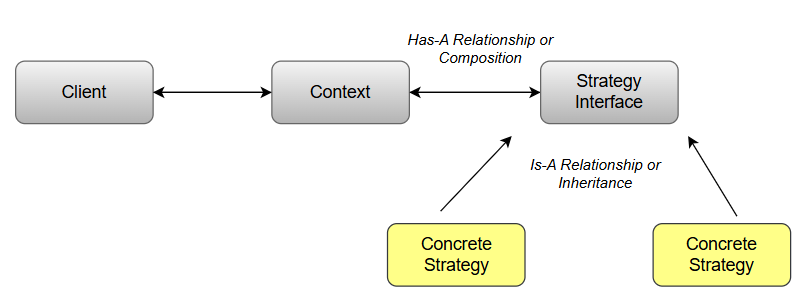
3. Builder Design Pattern

* Builder design pattern lets us construct complex objects step by step. This pattern separates the construction of a complex object from its representation, allowing the same construction process to create different representations.

**Strategy Design Pattern**

* Strategy Design pattern is a behavioral Design pattern that lets us dynamically choose or change the behavior of an object by encapsulating it into different strategies rather than sticking with one.
* In simpler terms, this pattern provides a way to extract the behavior of an object into separate classes that can be swapped in & out at runtime.
* This enable the object to be more flexible & reusable, as different strategies can be easily added or modified without changing the client’s core code.
* It is based on the principle of Composition over Inheritance.

**Components of Strategy Design Pattern**



**Note:**

* Communications b/w the components happen in a structured & decoupled manner i.e.; the context is not required to be aware of the exact behavior of each strategy.
* As long as they follow the same interface, strategies can be switched without affecting the client or other strategies.

**1. Client**

* Client is responsible for configuring the appropriate strategy based on the requirement & providing it to the context.
* It creates an instance of the desired concrete strategy & passes it to the context, enabling the context to use the selected strategy to perform the task.

**2. Context**

* Context acts as a mediator between the clients & strategies and it maintains a reference to a strategy object & calls its methods to perform the task without exposing the actual strategies behavior to client.

**3. Strategy Interface**

* Strategy interface enables decoupling between the context & the specific/concrete strategies by ensuring that all the strategies follow the same set of rules & can be interchangeable used by the context.
* It can be an abstract class or interface that specifies a set of methods that all concrete strategies must implement.

**4. Concrete Strategies**

* Concrete strategies are the various implementations of the Strategy interface with each concrete strategy defining a specific algorithm or behavior to the task/method defined by the Strategy interface.
* They are interchangeable & can be selected by the client based on the task requirement.

**Use cases**

* Avoid Code Duplication – Suppose multiple concrete classes have same functionality, then they can be encapsulated to one generic strategy class.
* Multiple algorithms: e.g., Sorting algorithm – Different sorting algos can be encapsulated into separate strategies & passed to an object that needs sorting.
* Encapsulating algorithms
* Runtime selection
* Reducing conditional statements
* Testing & Extensibility
* Validation rules
* Text formatting
* Database access
* Payment strategy

**Benefits**

* Improved code flexibility
* Better code reusability
* Encourages better coding practices
* Simplifies testing

**Disadvantages**

* The application must be aware of all the strategies to select the right one for the right solution.
* The Strategy interface defines a set of features, some of which might be not relevant for some concrete strategies. ----> *Violating the Liskov Substitution Principle* (its solution can be used)
* **Imp:** In most cases, the client/application configures the context with the required strategy object. Therefore, the client needs to create & maintain 2 objects instead of one.

**Best Practices for implementing the Strategy Design Pattern**

* Keep the interface simple & focused on a single responsibility
* Encapsulate any stateful behavior in the concrete strategy classes, rather than in the context class.
* Use Dependency injection to pass the concrete strategy to the context class, rather than creating it directly in the context class.
* Use an enum or a factory class to provide a centralized place for creating & managing concrete strategy objects.

Example 1: Vehicle

|  |
| --- |
| **Scenarios:**  Suppose we’ve a “Vehicle” class with drive () method & multiple classes extend Vehicle class & according to their requirement, drive () method is being overridden by these inheritors.   * class **Vehicle**: drive () method – Sysout (“Normal Drive Capability”) * class **SportsVehicle** extends **Vehicle**: Overrides drive () method – Sysout (“Sports Capability”) * class **PassengerVehicle** extends **Vehicle**: uses parent Vehicle class drive () method definition * class **OffRoadVehicle** extends **Vehicle**: Overrides drive () method – Sysout (“Sports Capability”) * class **GoodsVehicle** extends **Vehicle**: uses parent Vehicle class drive () method definition     **Problem:**  Above, we can see SportsVehicle & OffRoadVehicle classes have common definition that is resulting in code duplication.  **Solution:**  To avoid code duplication, we can use Strategy Design pattern.  **Step 1:** Client class will provide the Vehicle Context object.  **Note:** In most of the cases client provides the vehicle context object along with Strategy object but in this specific example, the VehicleContext extensions are providing the actual Strategy object.  **Step 2:** Based on the Vehicle Context object, a strategy object will be returned.  **Step 3:** Based on the strategy object, the specific method/behavior will be called. |