# Building Flexibility with the Adapter Pattern



**Gerald Britton**IT SOLUTIONS DESIGNER

@GeraldBritton www.linkedin.com/in/geraldbritton

## Adapters in Real Life







Wall wart

Pipe adapter

Don't try this at home!

#### Motivation



Print names and addresses

**Customer object** 

Make it work with Vendor objects!

**Vendor API is different** 

**Customer: address property** 

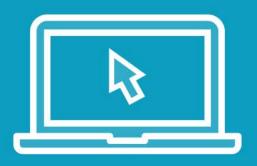
Vendor: number and street properties

Make a new version of your program?

Violates Don't Repeat Yourself (DRY)!

**Conditional logic?** 

#### Demo



Start with original program

Prints customer names and addresses

Modify it to support vendors as well

Adapter

Classification: Structural

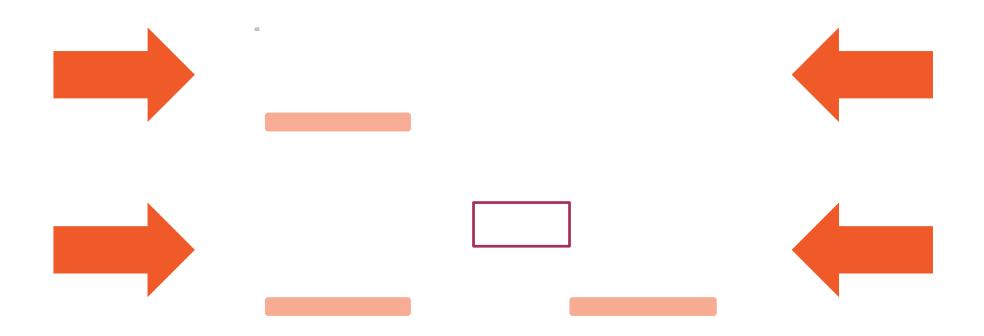
Converts interface of a class
Into another that clients expect
Lets classes work together

Can provide additional functionality
Two types of adapters

- Object adapters: Composition
- Class adapters: Inheritance

Favor composition over inheritance
Also know as the Wrapper pattern

## Object Adapter Structure

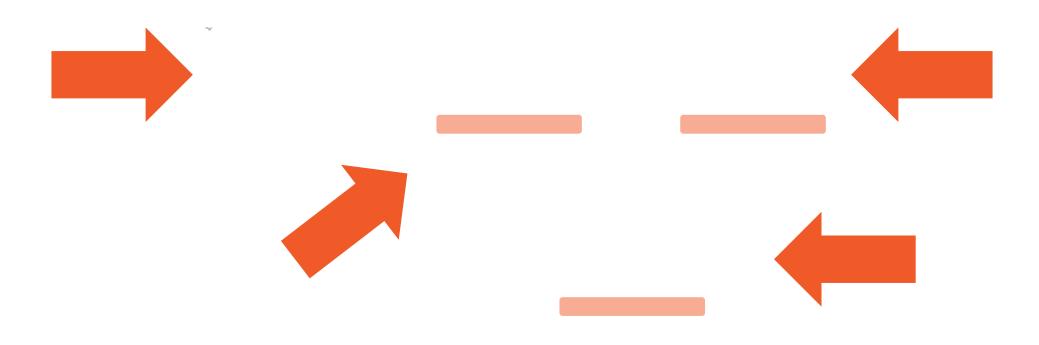


## Demo



Demo 2

## Class Adapter Structure



## Demo



Demo 3

#### Pros and Cons

**Object Adapter** 

**Composition over Inheritance** 

Delegate to the Adaptee

Works with all Adaptee subclasses

**Class Adapter** 

Subclassing

Override Adaptee Methods

Committed to one Adaptee subclass

#### Summary



Adapt an interface to the one you need Create reusable code

New, unrelated or unforeseen interfaces

**Object Adapter: Several subclasses** 

Class Adapter: One subclass

Which one should you use?

It depends!