

# Class Inheritance

---



**Jim Wilson**

MOBILE SOLUTIONS DEVELOPER & ARCHITECT

@hedgehogjim jwhh.com



# Overview



**Inheritance overview**

**Derived class relationship to base class**

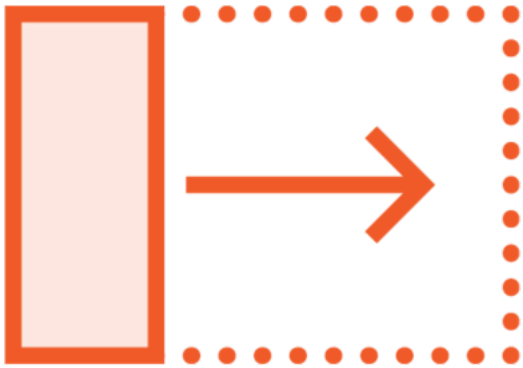
**Member hiding and overriding**

**Role of the Object class**

**Implementing support for equality checks**



# Class Inheritance



Use extends keyword



Derived has characteristics  
of base



Derived can add  
specialization

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    float maxCargoSpace = 1000.0f;  
    float usedCargoSpace;  
    public void add1Package(float h, float w, float d) {  
        float size = h * w * d;  
        if (hasCargoSpace(size))  
            usedCargoSpace += size;  
        else  
            handleNoSpace();  
    }  
}
```

```
private boolean hasCargoSpace(float size) {  
    return usedCargoSpace + size <= maxCargoSpace;  
}  
  
private void handleNoSpace() {  
    System.out.println("Not enough space");  
}  
}
```

# Class Inheritance

## Main.java

```
CargoFlight cf =  
    new CargoFlight();  
cf.add1Package(1.0f, 2.5f, 3.0f);  
  
Passenger jack =  
    new Passenger(0, 2);  
cf.add1Passenger(jack);
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    public add1Package(  
        float h, float w, float d){...}  
  
    // other members elided  
}
```



## References to derived class instances

- Can be assigned to base class references

## Available features

- Dictated by the type of reference being used to access the instance



# References to Derived Class Instances

## Main.java

```
        new CargoFlight();
```

```
Passenger jack =  
    new Passenger(0, 2);
```

```
f.add1Passenger(jack);
```

```
f.add1Package(1.0f, 2.5f, 3.0f);
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    public add1Package(  
        float h, float w, float d){...}  
  
    // other members elided  
}
```



# References to Derived Class Instances

## Main.java

```
Flight[] squadron = new Flight[5]
squadron[0] = new Flight();
squadron[1] = new CargoFlight();
squadron[2] = new CargoFlight();
squadron[3] = new Flight();
squadron[4] = new CargoFlight();
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {
    public add1Package(
        float h, float w, float d){...}

    // other members elided
}
```

# Derived Class Members



## Fields

Hide base class fields with same name



```
class Flight {  
    int seats = 150;  
  
    public void add1Passenger() {  
        if(hasSeating())  
            passengers += 1;  
    }  
  
    private void hasSeating() {  
        return passengers < seats;  
    }  
  
    // other members elided  
}
```

# Field Hiding

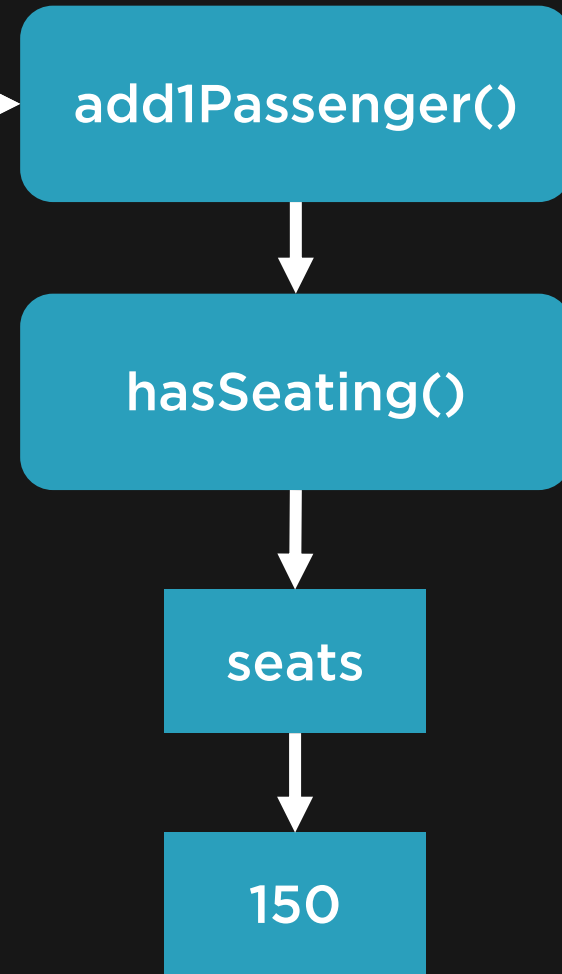
## Flight.java

```
class Flight {  
    int seats = 150;  
    private void hasSeating() {  
        return passengers < seats;  
    }  
    // other members elided  
}
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    int seats = 12;  
    // other members elided  
}
```

```
Flight f1 = new Flight();  
System.out.println(f1.seats); // 150  
  
CargoFlight cf = new CargoFlight();  
System.out.println(cf.seats); // 12  
  
Flight f2 = new CargoFlight();  
System.out.println(f2.seats); // 150  
  
f2.add1Passenger();  
cf.add1Passenger();
```

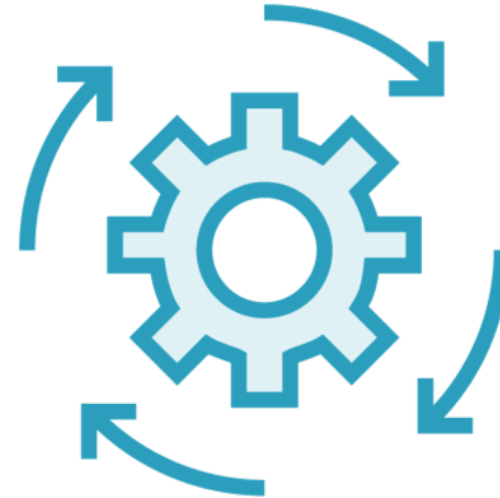


# Derived Class Members



## Fields

Hide base class fields with same name



## Methods

Override base methods with same signature

# Method Overriding

## Flight.java

```
class Flight {  
    int seats = 150;  
    private void hasSeating() {  
        return passengers < seats;  
    }  
    // other members elided  
}
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    int seats = 12;  
    // other members elided  
}
```

# Method Overriding

## Flight.java

```
class Flight {  
    int getSeats() { return 150; }  
    private void hasSeating() {  
        return passengers < seats;  
    }  
    // other members elided  
}
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    int seats = 12;  
    // other members elided  
}
```



# Method Overriding

## Flight.java

```
class Flight {  
    int getSeats() { return 150; }  
    private void hasSeating() {  
        return passengers < getSeats();  
    }  
    // other members elided  
}
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    int seats = 12;  
    // other members elided  
}
```

# Method Overriding

## Flight.java

```
class Flight {  
    int getSeats() { return 150; }  
    private void hasSeating() {  
        return passengers < getSeats();  
    }  
    // other members elided  
}
```

## CargoFlight.java

```
class CargoFlight extends Flight {  
    int getSeats() { return 12; }  
    // other members elided  
}
```

```
Flight f1 = new Flight();  
System.out.println(f1.getSeats()); // 150  
  
CargoFlight cf = new CargoFlight();  
System.out.println(cf.getSeats()); // 12  
  
Flight f2 = new CargoFlight();  
System.out.println(f2.getSeats()); // 12  
  
f2.add1Passenger();  
cf.add1Passenger();
```

```
graph TD; A[add1Passenger()] --> B[hasSeating()]; B --> C[getSeats()]; C --> D[12]
```

add1Passenger()

hasSeating()

getSeats()

12

# Object Class

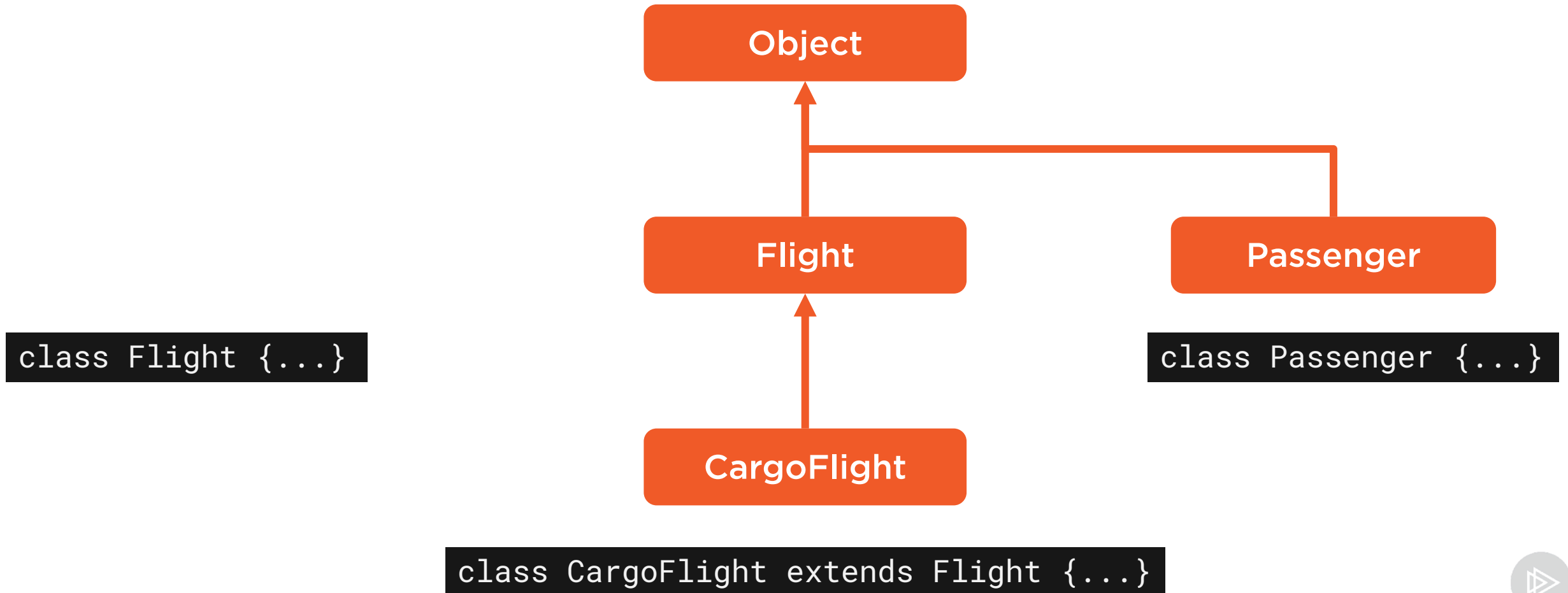
## Root of the Java class hierarchy

- Every class has characteristics of Object
- Object references can reference any array or class instance



# Inheriting from Object

Every class inherits directly or indirectly from the Object class



# Object References

Main.java

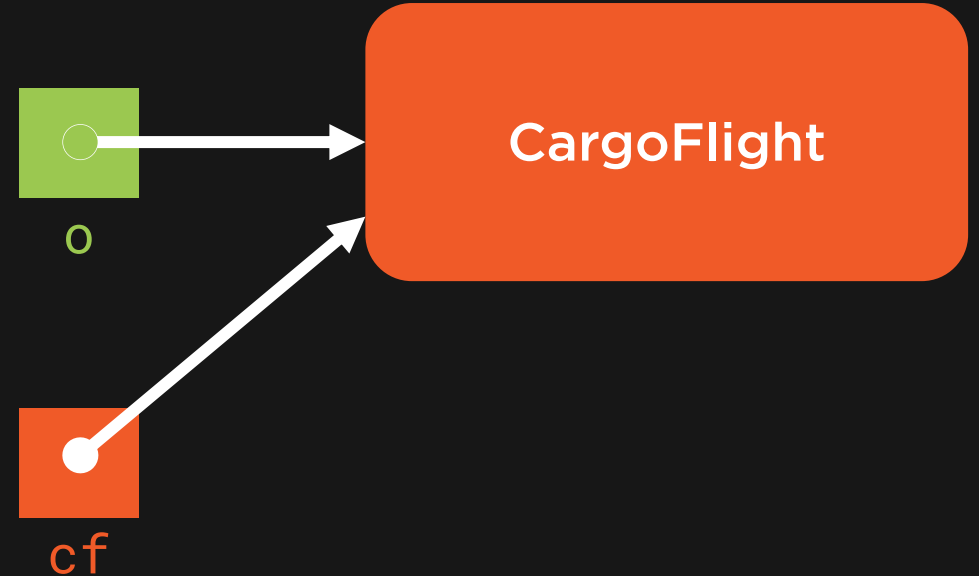
```
Object[] stuff = new Object[3];  
stuff[0] = new Flight();  
stuff[1] = new Passenger(0, 2);  
stuff[2] = new CargoFlight();
```

Main.java

```
Object o = new Passenger();  
o = new Flight[5];
```

# Object References

```
Object o = new CargoFlight();  
o.add1Package(1.0f, 2.5f, 3.0f);  
  
if(o instanceof CargoFlight) {  
    CargoFlight cf = o;  
    cf.add1Package(1.0f, 2.5f, 3.0f);  
}
```



# Object Class Methods

Method	Description
clone	Create a new object instance that duplicates the current instance
hashCode	Get a hash code for current instance
getClass	Return type information for the current instance
finalize	Handle special resource cleanup scenarios
toString	Return a string value representing the current instance
equals	Compare another object to the current instance for equality





# Equality

What does it mean to be equal? ... It depends.

```
Flight f1 = new Flight(175);
```

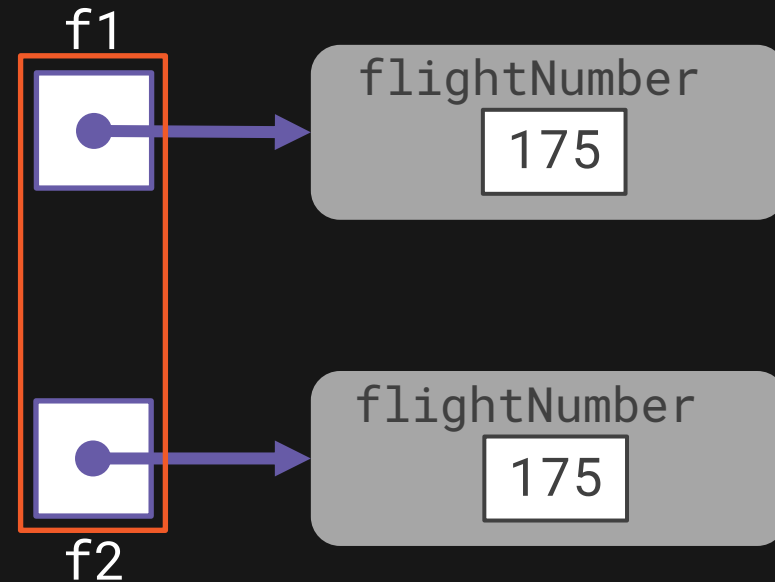
```
Flight f2 = new Flight(175);
```

```
if(f1 == f2) // false
```

```
    // do something
```

```
if(f1.equals(f2)) // false
```

```
    // do something
```



```
public class Flight {  
    private int flightNumber;  
    private char flightClass;  
  
    @Override  
    public boolean equals(Object o) {  
        Flight flight = (Flight) o;  
  
        return flightNumber == flight.flightNumber  
            flightClass == flight.flightClass;  
    }  
} // other members elided
```

# Equality

What does it mean to be equal? ... It depends.

```
Flight f1 = new Flight(175);
```

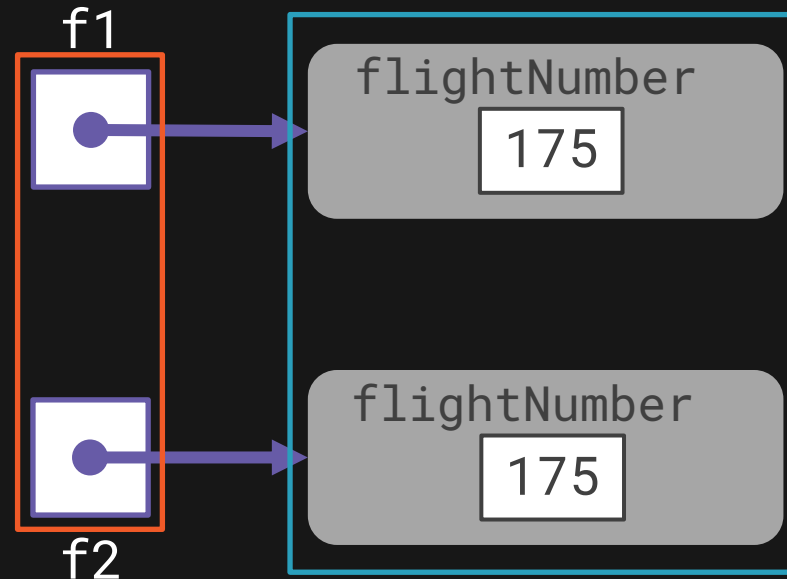
```
Flight f2 = new Flight(175);
```

```
if(f1 == f2) // false  
    // do something
```

```
if(f1.equals(f2)) // true  
    // do something
```

```
Passenger p = new Passenger();
```

```
if(f1.equals(p)) // will crash at runtime  
    // do something
```



```
public class Flight {  
    private int flightNumber;  
    private char flightClass;  
  
    @Override  
    public boolean equals(Object o) {  
        if ( o instanceof Flight )  
            return false;  
  
        Flight flight = (Flight) o;  
  
        return flightNumber == flight.flightNumber &&  
            flightClass == flight.flightClass;  
    }  
} // other members elided
```

# Equality

What does it mean to be equal? ... It depends.

```
Flight f1 = new Flight(175);
```

```
Flight f2 = new Flight(175);
```

```
if(f1 == f2) // false  
    // do something
```

```
if(f1.equals(f2)) // true  
    // do something
```

```
Passenger p = new Passenger();
```

```
if(f1.equals(p)) // false  
    // do something
```



# Summary



## **Inherit one class from another**

- Derived has characteristics of base
- Derived can add specialization



# Summary



## Inheritance and type of reference

- Can assign derived class instance to base class reference
- Available features limited by reference

## Derived class can override methods

- Must have same signature
- Derived class method used even when using a base class reference



# Summary



## Object class

- Root of Java class hierarchy
- Every class has Object characteristics
- Provides methods that classes commonly override

## Checking for equality

- Equality operator checks references
- Override equals method to provide class specific equality comparisons

