

Relationships in Java

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There are 2 types of relationships in Java:

1. Association
2. Inheritance

Association

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There are 2 types of associations:

1. Composition
2. Aggregation

Composition (part-of)

Composition is when one class owns other classes and other classes can not meaningfully exist, when the owner is destroyed.

ex: engine is a part-of Car. If the car is destroyed, engine will also be destroyed.

Aggregation (has-a)

In Aggregation, including objects can exist without being part of the main object.

For ex: Student HAS-A Certificate

For ex: Student HAS-A Address

Anonymous Object

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An Object that does not have a name (reference variable) is known as anonymous object.

Ex: new Certificate("OCJA", 35000);

If we want to use an object name repeatedly we will assign a name to an object.

Certificate cert1 = new Certificate("OCJP", 25000);

If we want to use an object only once, we can use anonymous object.

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Inheritance (is-a)

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Inheritance is a mechanism in Java where a class object acquires all the properties and behaviors of its parent class object.

Ex: Employee IS-A Person

Ex: Student IS-A Person

Ex: Maruti IS-A Car

Ex: WagonR IS-A Maruti

Employee is the child class.

A child class is also known as derived class, sub class

Person is the Parent class
A parent class is also known as base class, super class

Example:

Parent class -> Shape

Child class -> Rectangle extends Shape

Child class -> Triangle extends Shape

Grand Child Class -> Cuboid extends Rectangle

Types of Inheritance

There are 3 types of inheritance:

1. Single Inheritance
2. Multilevel Inheritance
3. Hierarchical Inheritance

Refer figure: 01_inh_types.png

Single Inheritance

class Figure {

}

class Rectangle extends Figure {

}

Multilevel Inheritance

class Cuboid extends Rectangle {

}

Hierarchical Inheritance

class Circle extends Figure {

}

Inheritance Properties

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- The child class inherits variables & methods of parent class
 - The child class do not inherit constructors of parent class
 - The parent class cannot access any member of child classes

Constructor during Inheritance

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- Constructors are not inherited by child classes.
- So the child classes have to define their own constructors for use.
- Whenever a constructor in child class is created it will automatically call the default constructor of parent class whether we write it or not
- We can however call any other parent class constructor with super()

super keyword

super is used to call parent class constructor, methods and variables

super(args-list) : constructor

super.method() : method

super.variable : variable

Runtime Polymorphism

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Upcasting

A reference variable of a superclass can be assigned a reference to any subclass object

For example:

```
class Figure {}
```

```
class Rectangle extends Figure {}
```

```
Figure f = new Figure();
```

```
Rectangle r = new Rectangle();
```

```
f = r;
```

This is known as Upcasting

Downcasting

A sub class cannot be assigned a super class reference directly. However it can be done with downcasting.

```
Figure f = new Figure();
```

```
Rectangle r = new Rectangle();
```

```
r = (Rectangle)f;
```

This is known as Downcasting

Method Overriding

When a method in a subclass has the same name and same number/types of parameter as a method in its super-class, then the method in the subclass is said to override the method in the super-class.

Parent class reference can call the overridden method if it is storing child class object.

Two necessary conditions of method overriding:

1. The method in child class should have the same signature as that in parent class

2. The access modifier in the child class should have a visibility equal to or greater than that of parent class method

@Override

- The Override annotation monitors the above two necessary conditions for method overriding.
- If either the signature of child class method does not match or access is reduced, @Override shows an error

Polymorphism

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Polymorphism means same name different functions

There are 2 types of Polymorphism:

1. Compile Time Polymorphism
2. Run Time Polymorphism

Compile Time Polymorphism

- In Java, Compile Time Polymorphism is achieved through method/constructor overloading.
- Here the call to the appropriate method is resolved at compile time
- It is also known as
 - Static binding
 - Early binding
 - Static Polymorphism
 - Eager binding

Run Time Polymorphism

- If a parent class reference stores the address of a child class object, then it can call the overridden methods in child class
- In Java, Run Time Polymorphism is achieved through method overriding.
- Here the call to the appropriate method is resolved at run time
- It is also known as
 - Dynamic binding
 - Late binding
 - Dynamic Polymorphism
 - Lazy binding

final keyword

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final can be used with:

1. Class - to stop inheritance
2. Method - to stop overriding
3. Variable - to stop re-assignment

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Abstraction

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Hiding the implementation is known as abstraction

There are 2 ways to achieve abstraction:

1. Abstract class
2. Interfaces

2 terms that we should know:

1. Concrete

- A method with a definition is a concrete method
- A class in which all methods are concrete is a concrete class

2. Abstract

- A method without a definition is an abstract method
- A class in which even 1 method is abstract is an abstract class

=> Concrete means non-abstract and abstract means non-concrete

Abstract Class

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A class that wants its child class to

- Reuse its functionality
- at the same time compulsorily define some methods is an Abstract class

Features

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- An abstract class cannot be instantiated
- An abstract class can contain both abstract and concrete methods or one of them or none of them
- An abstract class can have everything that a normal class has
 - Instance variables
 - Static variables
 - methods
 - constructors
 - etc
- The child MUST provide the implementation of all abstract methods in parent class
- If the child class chooses not to define parent class abstract method, then that child class too should be declared abstract

When to use Abstract classes

- When we want to reuse the properties and behavior of a parent class.
- When the parent class do not want to define a method on its own
- When we want to implement RTP

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