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Design Patterns: Builder

Mitch Keenan

Design Patterns: Builder

1. What are design patterns?
2. What is the Builder pattern?
3. When should it be used?
4. Examples

Design Patterns

A **design pattern** is a general repeatable solution to a commonly occurring problem in software design.

– Gang of Four

Examples:

- Singleton
- Observer
- **Builder**

Builder

The intent of the Builder is to...

Separate the construction of a complex object from its representation so that the same construction process can create different representations.

Which is a fancy way of saying, a builder is a class which lets you use chained methods to build your target object. This also allows you to easily make a small change and build another.

When should Builder be used? (in JS)

When you...

- Have an object which could take many parameters in it's constructor
- Need multiple instances of said object, with some or all being slightly different

Builders in JavaScript - 1

```
class Bird {  
    constructor(builder) {  
        this.wingspan = builder.wingspan;  
        this.habitat = builder.habitat;  
        this.nestType = builder.nestType;  
    }  
}
```

Builders in JavaScript - 2

```
static class BirdBuilder {  
    static withWingspan(wingspan) {  
        this.wingspan = wingspan;  
    }  
  
    static withHabitat(habitat) {  
        this.habitat = habitat;  
    }  
  
    static withNestType(nestType) {  
        this.nestType = nestType;  
    }  
  
    static build() {  
        return new Bird(this);  
    }  
}
```


Builders in JavaScript - 3

```
const builder = new BirdBuilder();

const woodpecker = builder
  .withWingspan(10)
  .withHabitat('forest')
  .withNestType('hole')
  .build()

console.log(woodpecker)
// { wingspan: 10, habitat: 'forest', nestType: 'hole' }
```

```
const parrot = builder
  .withWingspan(40)
  .withHabitat('ship')
  .build()

console.log(parrot)
// { wingspan: 40, habitat: 'ship', nestType: 'hole' }
```

demo

Builder Example

Rosie JS

jQuery

Builder Pros

1. Simplify complex construction
2. Reduces repetition in certain cases

Builder Cons

1. Extra overhead for every property
2. Not as useful in a highly mutable language with restricted access to `private`
3. Harder to ensure a fully initialized object

Resources

Demos

- [demo](#)
- [Rosie JS](#)

Reading

- [Source Making: Builder](#)
- [Addy Osmani: Builder](#)
- [Design Patterns - Gang of Four](#) (*warning: slow pdf link*)