

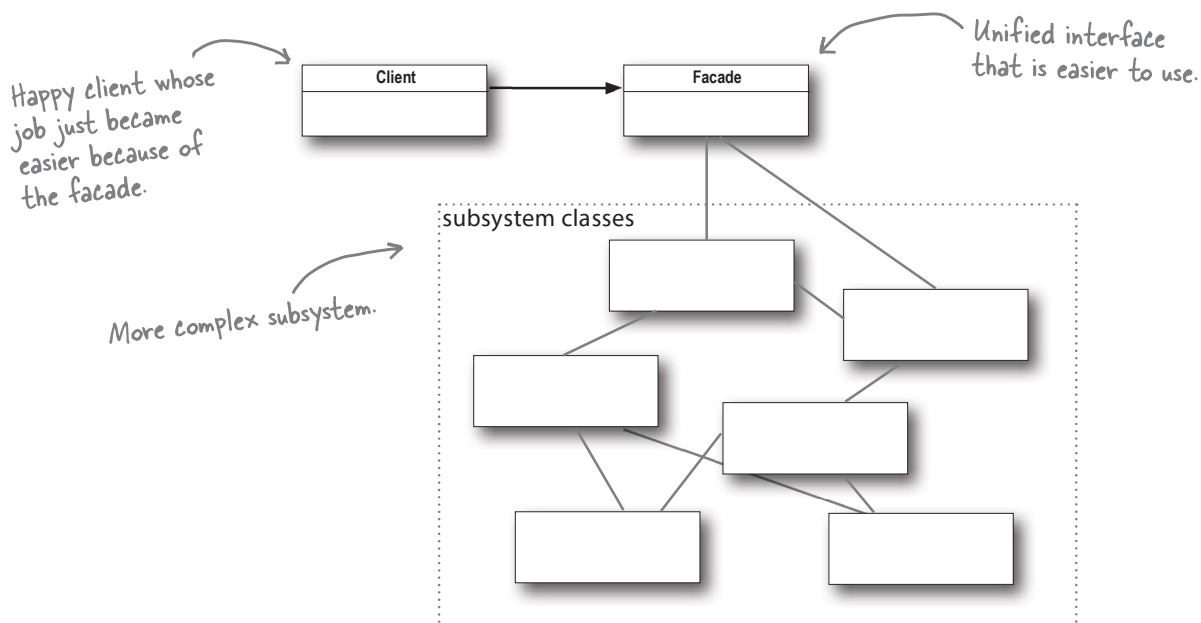
Facade Pattern defined

To use the Facade Pattern, we create a class that simplifies and unifies a set of more complex classes that belong to some subsystem. Unlike a lot of patterns, Facade is fairly straightforward; there are no mind-bending abstractions to get your head around. But that doesn't make it any less powerful: the Facade Pattern allows us to avoid tight coupling between clients and subsystems, and, as you will see shortly, also helps us adhere to a new object-oriented principle.

Before we introduce that new principle, let's take a look at the official definition of the pattern:

The Facade Pattern provides a unified interface to a set of interfaces in a subsystem. Facade defines a higher-level interface that makes the subsystem easier to use.

There isn't a lot here that you don't already know, but one of the most important things to remember about a pattern is its intent. This definition tells us loud and clear that the purpose of the facade is to make a subsystem easier to use through a simplified interface. You can see this in the pattern's class diagram:



That's it; you've got another pattern under your belt! Now, it's time for that new OO principle. Watch out, this one can challenge some assumptions!