

Learning Object-Oriented Programming

Explore and crack the OOP code in Python, JavaScript, and C#



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Gastón C. Hillar



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Preface

Object-oriented programming, also known as OOP, is a required skill in absolutely any modern software developer job. It makes a lot of sense because object-oriented programming allows you to maximize code reuse and minimize the maintenance costs. However, learning object-oriented programming is challenging because it includes too many abstract concepts that require real-life examples to make it easy to understand. In addition, object-oriented code that doesn't follow best practices can easily become a maintenance nightmare.

Nowadays, you need to work with more than one programming language at the same time to develop applications. For example, a modern Internet of Things project may require the Python code running on a board and a combination of C#, JavaScript, and HTML code to develop both the web and mobile apps that allow users to control the Internet of Things device. Thus, learning object-oriented programming for a single programming language is usually not enough.

This book allows you to develop high-quality reusable object-oriented code in Python, JavaScript, and C#. You will learn the object-oriented programming principles and how they are or will be used in each of the three covered programming languages. You will also learn how to capture objects from real-world elements and create object-oriented code that represents them. This book will help you understand the different approaches of Python, JavaScript, and C# toward object-oriented code. You will maximize code reuse in the three programming languages and reduce maintenance costs. Your code will become easy to understand and it will work with representations of real-life elements.

What this book covers

Chapter 1, Objects Everywhere, covers the principles of object-oriented paradigms and some of the differences in the approaches toward object-oriented code in each of the three covered programming languages: Python, JavaScript, and C#. You will understand how real-world objects can become part of fundamental elements in the code.

Chapter 2, Classes and Instances, tells you how to generate blueprints in order to create objects. You will understand the difference between classes, prototypes, and instances in object-oriented programming.

Chapter 3, Encapsulation of Data, teaches you how to organize data in the blueprints that generate objects. You will understand the different members of a class, learn the difference between mutability and immutability, and customize methods and fields to protect them against undesired access.

Chapter 4, Inheritance and Specialization, explores how to create a hierarchy of blueprints that generate objects. We will take advantage of inheritance and many related features to specialize behavior.

Chapter 5, Interfaces, Multiple Inheritance, and Composition, works with more complex scenarios in which we have to use instances that belong to more than one blueprint. We will use the different features included in each of the three covered programming languages to code an application that requires the combination of multiple blueprints in a single instance.

Chapter 6, Duck Typing and Generics, covers how to maximize code reuse by writing code capable of working with objects of different types. In this chapter, you will learn parametric polymorphism, generics, and duck typing.

Chapter 7, Organization of Object-Oriented Code, provides information on how to write code for a complex application that requires dozens of classes, interfaces, and constructor functions according to the programing language that you use. It will help you understand the importance of organizing object-oriented code and think about the best solution to organize object-oriented code.

Chapter 8, Taking Full Advantage of Object-Oriented Programming, talks about how to refactor existing code to take advantage of all the object-oriented programming techniques that you learned so far. The difference between writing object-oriented code from scratch and refactoring existing code is explained in this chapter. It will also help you prepare object-oriented code for future requirements.

What you need for this book

You will need a computer with at least an Intel Core i3 CPU or equivalent with 4 GB RAM, running on Windows 7 or a higher version, Mac OS X Mountain Lion or a higher version, or any Linux version that is capable of running Python 3.4, and a browser with JavaScript support.

You will need Python 3.4.3 installed on your computer. You can work with your favorite editor or use any Python IDE that is compatible with the mentioned Python version.

In order to work with the C# examples, you will need Visual Studio 2015 or 2013. You can use the free Express editions to run all the examples. If you aren't working on Windows, you can use Xamarin Studio 5.5 or higher.

In order to work with the JavaScript examples, you will need web browsers such as Chrome 40.x or higher, Firefox 37.x or higher, Safari 8.x or higher, Internet Explorer 10 or higher that provides a JavaScript console.

Who this book is for

If you're a Python, JavaScript, or C# developer and want to learn the basics of object-oriented programming with real-world examples, this book is for you.

Conventions

In this book, you will find a number of text styles that distinguish between different kinds of information. Here are some examples of these styles and an explanation of their meaning.

Code words in text, database table names, folder names, filenames, file extensions, pathnames, dummy URLs, user input, and Twitter handles are shown as follows: "We can use a rectangle class as a blueprint to generate the four different rectangle instances."

A block of code is set as follows:

```
function calculateArea(width, height) {
  return new Rectangle(width, height).calculateArea();
}
calculateArea(143, 187);
```

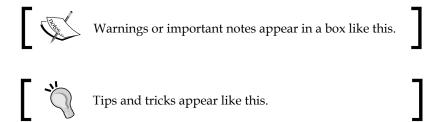
When we wish to draw your attention to a particular part of a code block, the relevant lines or items are set in bold:

```
function Mammal() {}
Mammal.prototype = new Animal();
Mammal.prototype.constructor = Mammal;
Mammal.prototype.isPregnant = false;
Mammal.prototype.pairsOfEyes = 1;
```

Any command-line input or output is written as follows:

```
Rectangle {width: 293, height: 117}
Rectangle {width: 293, height: 137}
```

New terms and **important words** are shown in bold. Words that you see on the screen, for example, in menus or dialog boxes, appear in the text like this: "The following line prints "**System.Object**" as a result in the **Immediate Window** in the IDE."



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Questions

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1 Objects Everywhere

Objects are everywhere, and therefore, it is very important to recognize elements, known as objects, from real-world situations. It is also important to understand how they can easily be translated into object-oriented code. In this chapter, you will learn the principles of object-oriented paradigms and some of the differences in the approaches towards object-oriented code in each of the three programming languages: Python, JavaScript, and C#. In this chapter, we will:

- Understand how real-world objects can become a part of fundamental elements in the code
- Recognize objects from nouns
- Generate blueprints for objects and understand classes
- Recognize attributes to generate fields
- Recognize actions from verbs to generate methods
- Work with UML diagrams and translate them into object-oriented code
- Organize blueprints to generate different classes
- Identify the object-oriented approaches in Python, JavaScript, and C#

Recognizing objects from nouns

Let's imagine, we have to develop a new simple application, and we receive a description with the requirements. The application must allow users to calculate the areas and perimeters of squares, rectangles, circles, and ellipses.

It is indeed a very simple application, and you can start writing code in Python, JavaScript, and C#. You can create four functions that calculate the areas of the shapes mentioned earlier. Moreover, you can create four additional functions that calculate the perimeters for them. For example, the following seven functions would do the job:

- calculateSquareArea: This receives the parameters of the square and returns the value of the calculated area for the shape
- calculateRectangleArea: This receives the parameters of the rectangle and returns the value of the calculated area for the shape
- calculateCircleArea: This receives the parameters of the circle and returns the value of the calculated area for the shape
- calculateEllipseArea: This receives the parameters of the ellipse and returns the value of the calculated area for the shape
- calculateSquarePerimeter: This receives the parameters of the square and returns the value of the calculated perimeter for the shape
- calculateRectanglePerimeter: This receives the parameters of the rectangle and returns the value of the calculated perimeter for the shape
- calculateCirclePerimeter: This receives the parameters of the circle and returns the value of the calculated perimeter for the shape

However, let's forget a bit about programming languages and functions. Let's recognize the real-world objects from the application's requirements. It is necessary to calculate the areas and perimeters of four elements, that is, four nouns in the requirements that represent real-life objects:

- Square
- Rectangle
- Circle
- Ellipse

We can design our application by following an object-oriented paradigm. Instead of creating a set of functions that perform the required tasks, we can create software objects that represent the state and behavior of a square, rectangle, circle, and an ellipse. This way, the different objects mimic the real-world shapes. We can work with the objects to specify the different attributes required to calculate their areas and their perimeters.

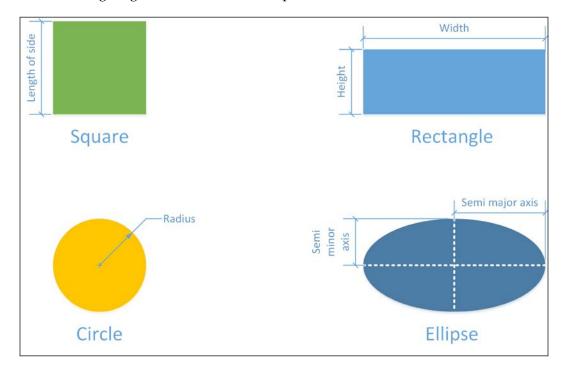
Now, let's move to the real world and think about the four shapes. Imagine that you have to draw the four shapes on paper and calculate both their areas and perimeters. What information do you require for each of the shapes? Think about this, and then, take a look at the following table that summarizes the data required for each shape:

| Shape | Required data |
|-----------|---|
| Square | Length of side |
| Rectangle | Width and height |
| Circle | Radius (usually labeled as r) |
| Ellipse | Semi-major axis (usually labeled as a) and semi-minor axis (usually labeled as b) |



The data required by each of the shapes is going to be encapsulated in each object. For example, the object that represents a rectangle encapsulates both the rectangle's width and height. *Data encapsulation* is one of the major pillars of object-oriented programming.

The following diagram shows the four shapes drawn and their elements:



Generating blueprints for objects

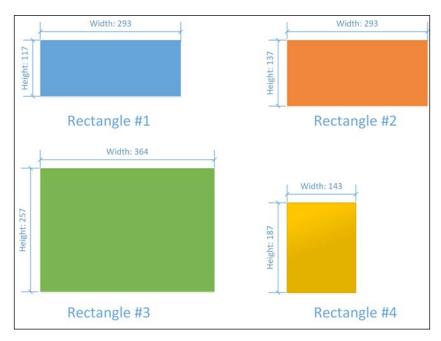
Imagine that you want to draw and calculate the areas of four different rectangles. You will end up with four rectangles drawn, with their different widths, heights, and calculated areas. It would be great to have a blueprint to simplify the process of drawing each rectangle with their different widths and heights.

In object-oriented programming, a class is a blueprint or a template definition from which the objects are created. Classes are models that define the state and behavior of an object. After defining a class that defines the state and behavior of a rectangle, we can use it to generate objects that represent the state and behavior of each real-world rectangle.



Objects are also known as instances. For example, we can say each rectangle object is an instance of the rectangle class.

The following image shows four rectangle instances drawn, with their widths and heights specified: Rectangle #1, Rectangle #2, Rectangle #3, and Rectangle #4. We can use a rectangle class as a blueprint to generate the four different rectangle instances. It is very important to understand the difference between a class and the objects or instances generated through its usage. Object-oriented programming allows us to discover the blueprint we used to generate a specific object. Thus, we are able to infer that each object is an instance of the rectangle class.



We recognized four completely different real-world objects from the application's requirements. We need classes to create the objects, and therefore, we require the following four classes:

- Square
- Rectangle
- Circle
- Ellipse

Recognizing attributes/fields

We already know the information required for each of the shapes. Now, it is time to design the classes to include the necessary attributes that provide the required data to each instance. In other words, we have to make sure that each class has the necessary variables that encapsulate all the data required by the objects to perform all the tasks.

Let's start with the **Square** class. It is necessary to know the length of side for each instance of this class, that is, for each square object. Thus, we need an encapsulated variable that allows each instance of this class to specify the value of the length of side.



The variables defined in a class to encapsulate data for each instance of the class are known as **attributes** or **fields**. Each instance has its own independent value for the attributes or fields defined in the class.

The Square class defines a floating point attribute named LengthOfSide whose initial value is equal to 0 for any new instance of the class. After you create an instance of the Square class, it is possible to change the value of the LengthOfSide attribute.

For example, imagine that you create two instances of the Square class. One of the instances is named **square1**, and the other is **square2**. The instance names allow you to access the encapsulated data for each object, and therefore, you can use them to change the values of the exposed attributes.

Imagine that our object-oriented programming language uses a dot (.) to allow us to access the attributes of the instances. So, square1.LengthOfSide provides access to the length of side for the Square instance named square1, and square2. LengthOfSide does the same for the Square instance named square2.

You can assign the value 10 to square1.LengthOfSide and 20 to square2. LengthOfSide. This way, each Square instance is going to have a different value for the LengthOfSide attribute.

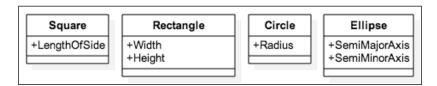
Now, let's move to the **Rectangle** class. We can define two floating-point attributes for this class: Width and Height. Their initial values are also going to be 0. Then, you can create two instances of the Rectangle class: rectangle1 and **rectangle2**.

You can assign the value 10 to rectangle1. Width and 20 to rectangle1. Height. This way, rectangle1 represents a 10×20 rectangle. You can assign the value 30 to rectangle2. Width and 50 to rectangle2. Height to make the second Rectangle instance, which represents a 30×50 rectangle.

The following table summarizes the floating-point attributes defined for each class:

| Class name | Attributes list |
|------------|-----------------|
| Square | LengthOfSide |
| Rectangle | Width |
| | Height |
| Circle | Radius |
| Ellipse | SemiMajorAxis |

The following image shows a **UML** (**Unified Modeling Language**) diagram with the four classes and their attributes:



Recognizing actions from verbs – methods

So far, we have designed four classes and identified the necessary attributes for each of them. Now, it is time to add the necessary pieces of code that work with the previously defined attributes to perform all the tasks. In other words, we have to make sure that each class has the necessary encapsulated functions that process the attribute values specified in the objects to perform all the tasks.

Let's start with the **Square** class. The application's requirements specified that we have to calculate the areas and perimeters of squares. Thus, we need pieces of code that allow each instance of this class to use the **LengthOfSide** value to calculate the area and the perimeter.



The functions or subroutines defined in a class to encapsulate the behavior for each instance of the class are known as **methods**. Each instance can access the set of methods exposed by the class. The code specified in a method is able to work with the attributes specified in the class. When we execute a method, it will use the attributes of the specific instance. A good practice is to define the methods in a logical place, that is, in the place where the required data is kept.

The Square class defines the following two parameterless methods. Notice that we declare the code for both methods in the definition of the Square class:

- CalculateArea: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated area for the square. The method returns the square of the LengthOfSide attribute value (*LengthOfSide*² or *LengthOfSide* ^ 2).
- CalculatePerimeter: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated perimeter for the square. The method returns the LengthOfSide attribute value multiplied by 4 (4 * LengthOfSide).

Imagine that, our object-oriented programming language uses a dot (.) to allow us to execute methods of the instances. Remember that we had two instances of the Square class: square1 with LengthOfSide equal to 10 and square2 with LengthOfSide equal to 20. If we call square1. CalculateArea, it would return the result of 10^2 , which is 100. On the other hand, if we call square2. CalculateArea, it would return the result of 20^2 , which is 400. Each instance has a diverse value for the LengthOfSide attribute, and therefore, the results of executing the CalculateArea method are different.

If we call square 1. Calculate Perimeter, it would return the result of 4*10, which is 40. On the other hand, if we call square 2. Calculate Perimeter, it would return the result of 4*20, which is 80.

Now, let's move to the **Rectangle** class. We need exactly two methods with the same names specified for the Square class. However, they have to calculate the results in a different way.

- CalculateArea: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated area for the rectangle. The method returns the result of the multiplication of the Width attribute value by the Height attribute value (Width * Height).
- CalculatePerimeter: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated perimeter for the rectangle. The method returns the sum of two times the Width attribute value and two times the Height attribute value (2 * Width + 2 * Height).

Remember that, we had two instances of the Rectangle class: rectangle1 representing a 10×20 rectangle and rectangle2 representing a 30×50 rectangle. If we call rectangle1. CalculateArea, it would return the result of 10×20 , which is 200. On the other hand, if we call rectangle2. CalculateArea, it would return the result of 30×50 , which is 1500. Each instance has a diverse value for both the Width and Height attributes, and therefore, the results of executing the CalculateArea method are different.

If we call rectangle1. CalculatePerimeter, it would return the result of 2*10+2*20, which is 60. On the other hand, if we call rectangle2. CalculatePerimeter, it would return the result of 2*30+2*50, which is 160.

The **Circle** class also needs two methods with the same names. The two methods are explained as follows:

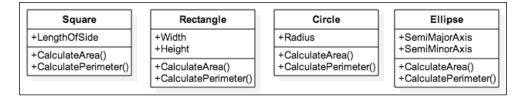
- CalculateArea: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated area for the circle. The method returns the result of the multiplication of π by the square of the Radius attribute value ($\pi * Radius^2$ or $\pi * (Radius^2 > 2)$).
- CalculatePerimeter: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated perimeter for the circle. The method returns the result of the multiplication of π by two times the Radius attribute value.

Finally, the **Ellipse** class defines two methods with the same names but with different code and a specific problem with the perimeter. The following are the two methods:

• CalculateArea: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated area for the ellipse. The method returns the result of the multiplication of π by the square of the Radius attribute value (π * SemiMajorAxis * SemiMinorAxis).

• CalculatePerimeter: This returns a floating-point value with the calculated approximation of the perimeter for the ellipse. Perimeters are very difficult to calculate for ellipses, and therefore, there are many formulas that provide approximations. An exact formula needs an infinite series of calculations. Thus, let's consider that the method returns the result of a formula that isn't very accurate and that we will have to improve on it later. The method returns the result of $2 * \pi * SquareRoot ((SemiMajorAxis^2 + SemiMinorAxis^2)/2)$.

The following figure shows an updated version of the UML diagram with the four classes, their attributes, and their methods:



Organizing the blueprints – classes

So far, our object-oriented solution includes four classes with their attributes and methods. However, if we take another look at these four classes, we would notice that all of them have the same two methods: CalculateArea and CalculatePerimeter. The code for the methods in each class is different, because each shape uses a different formula to calculate either the area or the perimeter. However, the declarations or the contracts for the methods are the same. Both methods have the same name, are always parameterless, and both return a floating-point value.

When we talked about the four classes, we said we were talking about four different geometrical shapes or simply, shapes. Thus, we can generalize the required behavior for the four shapes. The four shapes must declare the CalculateArea and CalculatePerimeter methods with the previously explained declarations. We can create a contract to make sure that the four classes provide the required behavior.

The contract will be a class named Shape, and it will generalize the requirements for the geometrical shapes in our application. The Shape class declares two parameterless methods that return a floating-point value: CalculateArea and CalculatePerimeter. Then, we can declare the four classes as subclasses of the **Shape** class that inherit these definitions, but provide the specific code for each of these methods.



We can define the Shape class as an abstract class, because we don't want to be able to create instances of this class. We want to be able to create instances of Square, Rectangle, Circle, or Ellipse. In this case, the Shape abstract class declares two abstract methods. We call CalculateArea and CalculatePerimeter abstract methods because the abstract class declares them without an implementation, that is, without code. The subclasses of Shape implement the methods because they provide code while maintaining the same method declarations specified in the Shape superclass. Abstraction and hierarchy are the two major pillars of object-oriented programming.

Object-oriented programming allows us to discover whether an object is an instance of a specific superclass. After we changed the organization of the four classes and they became subclasses of the Shape class, any instance of Square, Rectangle, Circle, or Ellipse is also an instance of the Shape class. In fact, it isn't difficult to explain the abstraction because we are telling the truth about the object-oriented model that represents the real world. It makes sense to say that a rectangle is indeed a shape, and therefore, an instance of a Rectangle class is a Shape class. An instance of a Rectangle class is both a Shape class (the superclass of the Rectangle class) and a Rectangle class (the class that we used to create the object).

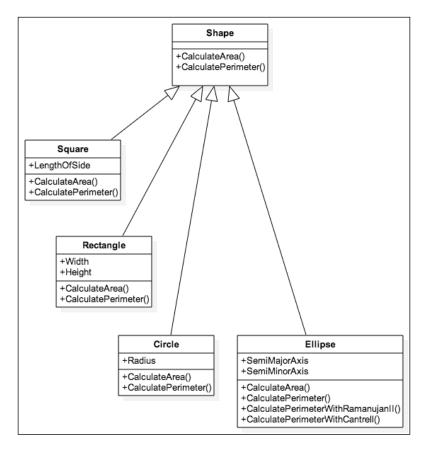
When we were implementing the Ellipse class, we discovered a specific problem for this shape; there are many formulas that provide approximations of the perimeter value. Thus, it makes sense to add additional methods that calculate the perimeter using other formulas.

We can define the following two additional parameterless methods, that is, two methods without any parameter. These methods return a floating-point value to the Ellipse class to solve the specific problem of the ellipse shape. The following are the two methods:

- CalculatePerimeterWithRamanujanII: This uses the second version of a formula developed by Srinivasa Aiyangar Ramanujan
- CalculatePerimeterWithCantrell: This uses a formula proposed by David W. Cantrell

This way, the Ellipse class implements the methods specified in the Shape superclass. The Ellipse class also adds two specific methods that aren't included in any of the other subclasses of Shape.

The following diagram shows an updated version of the UML diagram with the abstract class, its four subclasses, their attributes, and their methods:



Object-oriented approaches in Python, JavaScript, and C#

Python, JavaScript, and C# support object-oriented programming, also known as OOP. However, each programming language takes a different approach. Both Python and C# support classes and inheritance. Therefore, you can use the different syntax provided by each of these programming languages to declare the Shape class and its four subclasses. Then, you can create instances of each of the subclasses and call the different methods.

On the other hand, JavaScript uses an object-oriented model that doesn't use classes. This object-oriented model is known as **prototype-based programming**. However, don't worry. Everything you have learned so far in your simple object-oriented design journey can be coded in JavaScript. Instead of using inheritance to achieve behavior reuse, we can expand upon existing objects. Thus, we can say that objects serve as prototypes in JavaScript. Instead of focusing on classes, we work with instances and decorate them to emulate inheritance in class-based languages.

Ö

The object-oriented model known as prototype-based programing is also known by other names such as classless programming, instance-based programming, or prototype-oriented programming.

There are other important differences between Python, JavaScript, and C#. They have a great impact on the way you can code object-oriented designs. However, you will learn different ways throughout this book to make it possible to code the same object-oriented design in the three programming languages.

Summary

In this chapter, you learned how to recognize real-world elements and translate them into the different components of the object-oriented paradigm: classes, attributes, methods, and instances. You understood the differences between classes (blueprints or templates) and the objects (instances). We designed a few classes with attributes and methods that represented blueprints for real-life objects. Then, we improved the initial design by taking advantage of the power of abstraction, and we specialized in the Ellipse class.

Now that you have learned some of the basics of the object-oriented paradigm, you are ready to start creating classes and instances in Python, JavaScript, and C# in the next chapter.

2 Classes and Instances

In this chapter, we will start generating blueprints to create objects in each of the three programming languages: Python, JavaScript, and C#. We will:

- Understand the differences between classes, prototypes, and instances in object-oriented programming
- Learn an object's lifecycle and how object constructors and destructors work
- Declare classes in Python and C# and use workarounds to have a similar feature in JavaScript
- Customize the process that takes place when you create instances in Python, C#, and JavaScript
- Customize the process that takes place when you destroy instances in Python, C#, and JavaScript
- Create different types of objects in Python, C#, and JavaScript

Understanding classes and instances

In the previous chapter, you learned some of the basics of the object-oriented paradigm, including classes and objects, also known as instances. Now, when you dive deep into the programming languages, the class is always going to be the type and the blueprint. The object is the working instance of the class, and one or more variables can hold a reference to an instance.

Let's move to the world of our best friends, the dogs. If we want to model an object-oriented application that has to work with dogs and about a dozen dog breeds, we will definitely have a Dog abstract class. Each dog breed required in our application will be a subclass of the Dog superclass. For example, let's assume that we have the following subclasses of Dog:

- TibetanSpaniel: This is a blueprint for the dogs that belong to the Tibetan Spaniel breed
- SmoothFoxTerrier: This is a blueprint for the dogs that belong to the Smooth Fox Terrier breed

So, each dog breed will become a subclass of Dog and a type in the programming language. Each dog breed is a blueprint that we will be able to use to create instances. Brian and Merlin are two dogs. Brian belongs to the Tibetan Spaniel breed, and Merlin belongs to the Smooth Fox Terrier breed. In our application, Brian will be an instance of the TibetanSpaniel subclass, and Merlin will be an instance of the SmoothFoxTerrier subclass.

As both Brian and Merlin are dogs, they will share many attributes. Some of these attributes will be initialized by the class, because the dog breed they belong to determines some features, for example, the area of origin, the average size, and the watchdog ability. However, other attributes will be specific to the instance, such as the name, weight, age, and hair color.

Understanding constructors and destructors

When you ask the programming language to create an instance of a specific class, something happens under the hood. The programming language runtime creates a new instance of the specified type, allocates the necessary memory, and then executes the code specified in the constructor. When the runtime executes the code within the constructor, there is already a live instance of the class. Thus, you have access to the attributes and methods defined in the class. However, as you might have guessed, you must be careful with the code you put within the constructor, because you might end up generating large delays when you create instances of the class.



Constructors are extremely useful to execute setup code and properly initialize a new instance.

So, for example, before you can call the CalculateArea method, you want the Width and Height attributes for each new Rectangle instance to have a value initialized to 0. Constructors are extremely useful when we want to define the attributes of the instances of a class right after their creation.

Sometimes, we need specific arguments to be available when we are creating an instance. We can design different constructors with the necessary arguments and use them to create instances of a class. This way, we can make sure that there is no way of creating specific classes without using the authorized constructors that ask for the necessary arguments.

At some point, your application won't need to work with an instance anymore. For example, once you calculate the perimeter of an ellipse and display the results to the user, you don't need the specific <code>Ellipse</code> instance anymore. Some programming languages require you to be careful about leaving live instances alive. You have to explicitly destroy them and de-allocate the memory that it was consuming.

The runtimes of Python, C#, and JavaScript use a garbage-collection mechanism that automatically de-allocates memory used by instances that aren't referenced anymore. The garbage-collection process is a bit more complicated, and each programming language and runtime has specific considerations that should be taken into account to avoid unnecessary memory pressure. However, let's keep our focus on the object's life cycle. In these programming languages, when the runtime detects that you aren't referencing an instance anymore and when a garbage collection occurs, the runtime executes the code specified within the instance's destructor.



You can use the destructor to perform any necessary cleanup before the object is destroyed and removed from memory. However, take into account that JavaScript doesn't provide you with the possibility to customize a destructor.

For example, think about the following situation. You need to count the number of instances of a specific class that are being kept alive. You can have a variable shared by all the classes. Then, you customize the class constructor to atomically increase the value for the counter, that is, increase the value of the variable shared by all the classes of the same time. Finally, you customize the class destructor to automatically decrease the value for the counter. This way, you can check the value of this variable to know the objects that are being referenced in your application.

Declaring classes in Python

Throughout this book, we will work with Python 3.4.3. However, all the explanations and code samples are compatible with Python 3.x.x. Therefore, you can work with previous Python versions as long as the major version number is 3. We will use JetBrains PyCharm Community Edition 4 as the main Python IDE and the supplier of an interactive Python console. However, you can use your favorite Python IDE or just the Python console.



Everything is a class in Python, that is, all the elements that can be named in Python are classes. Guido van Rossum designed Python according to the first-class everything principle. Thus, all the types are classes, from the simplest types to the most complex ones: integers, strings, lists, dictionaries, and so on. This way, there is no difference between an integer (int), a string, and a list. Everything is treated in the same way. Even functions, methods, and modules are classes.

For example, when we enter the following lines in a Python console, we create a new instance of the int class. The console will display <class 'int' > as a result of the second line. This way, we know that area is an instance of the int class:

```
area = 250
type(area)
```

When we type the following lines in a Python console, we create a new instance of the function class. The console will display <class 'function'> as a result of the second line. Thus, calculateArea is an instance of the function class:

```
def calculateArea(width, height):
    return width * height

type(CalculateArea)
```

Let's analyze the simple calculateArea function. This function receives two arguments: width and height. It returns the width value multiplied by the height value. If we call the function with two int values, that is, two int instances, the function will return a new instance of int with the result of width multiplied by height. The following lines call the calculateArea function and save the returned int instance in the rectangleArea variable. The console will display <class 'int'> as a result of the third line. Thus, rectangleArea is an instance of the int class:

```
rectangleArea = calculateArea(300, 200)
print(rectangleArea)
type(rectangleArea)
```

The following lines create a new minimal Rectangle class in Python:

```
class Rectangle:
    pass
```

The class keyword followed by the class name (Rectangle) and a colon (:) composes the header of the class definition. In this case, the class doesn't have a parent class or a superclass. Therefore, there aren't superclasses enclosed in parentheses after the class name and before the colon (:). The indented block of statements that follows the class definition composes the body of the class. In this case, there is just a single statement, pass, and the class doesn't define either attributes or methods. The Rectangle class is the simplest possible class we can declare in Python.



Any new class you create that doesn't specify a superclass will be a subclass of the builtins.object class. Thus, the Rectangle class is a subclass of builtins.object.

The following line prints True as a result in a Python console, because the Rectangle class is a subclass of object:

```
issubclass(Rectangle, object)
```

The following lines represent an equivalent way of creating the Rectangle class in Python. However, we don't need to specify that the class inherits from an object because it adds unnecessary boilerplate code:

```
class Rectangle(object):
    pass
```

Customizing constructors in Python

We want to initialize instances of the Rectangle class with the values of both width and height. After we create an instance of a class, Python automatically calls the __init__ method. Thus, we can use this method to receive both the width and height arguments. We can then use these arguments to initialize attributes with the same names. We can think of the __init__ method as the equivalent of a constructor in other object-oriented programming languages.

The following lines create a Rectangle class and declare an __init__ method within the body of the class:

```
class Rectangle:
    def __init__(self, width, height):
        print("I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.")
        self.width = width
        self.height = height
```

This method receives three arguments: self, width, and height. The first argument is a reference to the instance that called the method. We used the name self for this argument. It is important to notice that self is not a Python keyword. It is just the name for the first argument, and it is usually called self. The code within the method prints a message indicating that the code is initializing a new Rectangle instance. This way, we will understand when the code within the __init__ method is executed.

Then, the following two lines create the width and height attributes for the instance and assign them the values received as arguments with the same names. We use self.width and self.height to create the attributes for the instance. We create two attributes for the Rectangle instance right after its creation.

The following lines create two instances of the Rectangle class named rectangle1 and rectangle2. The Python console will display I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance. after we enter each line in the Python console:

```
rectangle1 = Rectangle(293, 117)
rectangle2 = Rectangle(293, 137)
```

```
Python 3.4.3 (v3.4.3:9b73f1c3e601, Feb 23 2015, 02:52:03)
[GCC 4.2.1 (Apple Inc. build 5666) (dot 3)] on darwin

>>> class Rectangle:
    def __init__(self, width, height):
        print("I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.")
        self.width = width
        self.height = height

>>> rectangle1 = Rectangle(293, 117)
rectangle2 = Rectangle(293, 137)
I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
```

The preceding screenshot shows the Python console. Each line that creates an instance specifies the class name followed by the desired values for both the width and the height as arguments enclosed in parentheses. If we take a look at the declaration of the __init__ method within the Rectangle class, we will notice that we just need to specify the second and third arguments (width and height). Also, we just need to skip the required first parameter (self). Python resolves many things under the hood. We just need to make sure that we specify the values for the required arguments after self to successfully create and initialize an instance of Rectangle.

After we execute the previous lines, we can check the values for rectangle1.width, rectangle1.height, rectangle2.width, and rectangle2.height.

The following line will generate a TypeError error and won't create an instance of Rectangle because we missed the two required arguments: width and height. The specific error message is TypeError: __init__() missing 2 required positional arguments: 'width' and 'height'. The error message is shown in the following screenshot:

rectangleError = Rectangle()

```
>>> rectangle1.width
293
>>> rectangle1.height
117
>>> rectangle2.width
293
>>> rectangle2.height
137
+
Traceback (most recent call last):
   File "<input>", line 1, in <module>
TypeError: __init__() missing 2 required positional arguments: 'width' and 'height'
>>>
```

Customizing destructors in Python

We want to know when the instances of the Rectangle class are removed from memory, that is, when the objects become inaccessible and get deleted by the garbage-collection mechanism. However, it is very important to notice that the ways in which garbage collection works depends on the implementation of Python. Remember that, Python runs on a wide variety of platforms.

Before Python removes an instance from memory, it calls the __del__ method. Thus, we can use this method to add any code we want to run before the instance is destroyed. We can think of the __del__ method as the equivalent of a destructor in other object-oriented programming languages.

The following lines declare a __del__ method within the body of the Rectangle class. Remember that Python always receives self as the first argument for any instance method:

The following lines create two instances of the Rectangle class: rectangleToDelete1 and rectangleToDelete2. Then, the next lines assign None to both variables. Therefore, the reference count for both objects reaches 0, and the garbage-collection mechanism deletes them. The Python console will display I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance. and then A Rectangle instance is being destroyed. twice in the Python console. Python executes the code within the __del__ method after we assign None to each variable that had the only reference to an instance of the Rectangle class:

```
rectangleToDestroy1 = Rectangle(293, 117)
rectangleToDestroy2 = Rectangle(293, 137)
rectangleToDestroy1 = None
rectangleToDestroy2 = None
```

```
class Rectangle:
       def __init__(self, width, height):
           print("I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.")
           self.width = width
           self.height = height
       def __del__(self):
           print('A Rectangle instance is being destroyed.')
       rectangleToDestroy1 = Rectangle(293, 117)
rectangleToDestroy2 = Rectangle(293, 137)
   rectangleToDestroy1 = None
   rectangleToDestroy2 = None
   I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
   I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
   A Rectangle instance is being destroyed.
   A Rectangle instance is being destroyed.
<u>6</u>: TODO
           Python Console
                              Terminal
```



You can add some cleanup code within the __del__ method. However, take into account that most of the time, you can follow best practices to release resources without having to add code to the __del__ method. Remember that you don't know exactly when the __del__ method is going to be executed. Even when the reference count reaches 0, the Python implementation might keep the resources until the appropriate garbage collection destroys the instances.

The following lines create a rectangle3 instance of the Rectangle class and then assign a referenceToRectangle3 reference to this object. Thus, the reference count to the object increases to 2. The next line assigns None to rectangle3, and therefore, the reference count for the object goes down from 2 to 1. As the referenceToRectangle3 variable stills holds a reference to the Rectangle instance, Python doesn't destroy the instance, and we don't see the results of the execution of the __del__ method:

```
rectangle3 = Rectangle(364, 257)
referenceToRectangle3 = rectangle3
rectangle3 = None
```

Python destroys the instance if we add a line that assigns None to referenceToRectangle3:

```
referenceToRectangle3 = None
```

However, it is very important to know that you don't need to assign None to a reference to force Python to destroy objects. In the previous examples, we wanted to understand how the __del__ method worked. Python will automatically destroy the objects when they aren't referenced anymore.

Creating instances of classes in Python

We already created instances of the simple Rectangle class. We just needed to use the class name, specify the required arguments enclosed in parentheses, and assign the result to a variable.

The following lines declare a calculate_area method within the body of the Rectangle class:

```
def calculate_area(self):
    return self.width * self.height
```

The method doesn't require arguments to be called from an instance because it just declares the previously explained self parameter. The following lines create an instance of the Rectangle class named rectangle4 and then print the results of the call to the calculate area method for this object:

```
rectangle4 = Rectangle(143, 187)
print(rectangle4.calculate_area())
```

Now, imagine that we want to have a function that receives the width and height values of a rectangle and returns the calculated area. We can take advantage of the Rectangle class to code this new function. We just need to create an instance of the Rectangle class with the width and height received as parameters and return the result of the call to the calculate_area method. Remember that we don't have to worry about releasing the resources required by the Rectangle instance, because the reference count for this object will become 0 after the function returns the result. The following lines show the code for the calculateArea independent function, which isn't part of the Rectangle class body:

```
def calculateArea(width, height):
    return Rectangle(width, height).calculate_area()
print(calculateArea(143, 187))
```

Notice that the Python console displays the following messages. Thus, we can see that the instance is destroyed and the code within the __del__ method is executed. The messages are shown in the following screenshot:

```
I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
A Rectangle instance is being destroyed.
26741
```

```
rectangle4 = Rectangle(143, 187)
rectangle4.calculate_area()
I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
print(rectangle4.calculate_area())
26741
def calculateArea(width, height):
return Rectangle(width, height).calculate_area()

print(calculateArea(143, 187))
I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
A Rectangle instance is being destroyed.
26741

print(calculateArea(143, 187))
I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance.
A Rectangle instance is being destroyed.
26741
```

Declaring classes in C#

Throughout this book, we will work with C# 6.0 (introduced in Microsoft Visual Studio 2015). However, most of the explanations and code samples are also compatible with C# 5.0 (introduced in Visual Studio 2013). If a specific example uses C# 6.0 syntax and isn't compatible with C# 5.0, the code will be properly labeled with the compatibility warning. We will use Visual Studio Community 2015 as the main IDE. However, you can also run the examples using Mono or Xamarin.

The following lines declare a new minimal Circle class in C#:

```
class Circle
{
}
```

The class keyword followed by the class name (Circle) composes the header of the class definition. In this case, the class doesn't have a parent class or a superclass. Therefore, there aren't any superclasses listed after the class name and a colon (:). A pair of curly braces ({}) encloses the class body after the class header. In this case, the class body is empty. The Circle class is the simplest possible class we can declare in C#.



Any new class you create that doesn't specify a superclass will be a subclass of the System. Object class in C#. Thus, the Circle class is a subclass of System. Object.

The following lines represent an equivalent way of creating the Circle class in C#. However, we don't need to specify that the class inherits from System.Object, because it adds unnecessary boilerplate code:

```
class Circle: System.Object
{
}
```

Customizing constructors in C#

We want to initialize instances of the Circle class with the radius value. In order to do so, we can take advantage of the constructors in C#. Constructors are special class methods that are automatically executed when we create an instance of a given type. The runtime executes the code within the constructor before any other code within a class.

We can define a constructor that receives the radius value as an argument and use it to initialize an attribute with the same name. We can define as many constructors as we want. Therefore, we can provide many different ways of initializing a class. In this case, we just need one constructor.

The following lines create a Circle class and define a constructor within the class body.

```
class Circle
{
  private double radius;

  public Circle(double radius)
  {
    Console.WriteLine(String.Format("I'm initializing a new Circle instance with a radius value of {0}.", radius));
    this.radius = radius;
  }
}
```

The constructor is a public class method that uses the same name as the class: Circle. The method receives a single argument: radius. The code within the method prints a message on the console, indicating that the code is initializing a new Circle instance with a specific radius value. This way, we will understand when the code within the constructor is executed. As the constructor has an argument, it is known as a parameterized constructor.

Then, the following line assigns the radius double value received as an argument to the private radius double field. We use this.radius to access the private radius attribute for the instance and radius to reference the argument. In C#, the this keyword provides access to the instance that has been created and the one we want to initialize. The line before the constructor declares the private radius double field. At this time, we won't pay attention to the difference between the private and public keywords. We will dive deep into the proper usage of these keywords in Chapter 3, Encapsulation of Data.

The following lines create two instances of the Circle class: circle1 and circle2. The **Windows Console** application will display I'm initializing a new Circle instance with a radius value of, followed by the radius value specified in the call to the constructor of each instance:

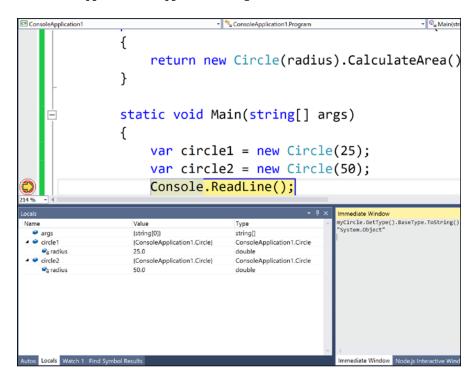
```
class Chapter01
{
  public static void Main(string[] args)
  {
```

```
var circle1 = new Circle(25);
var circle2 = new Circle(50);
Console.ReadLine();
}
```

Each line that creates an instance uses the new keyword, followed by the desired value for the radius as an argument enclosed in parentheses. We used the var keyword to let C# automatically assign the Circle type for each of the variables. After we execute the two lines that create the instances of Circle, we can use an inspector, such as the **Autos Window**, the **Watch Window**, or the **Immediate Window**, to check the values for circle1.radius and circle2.radius.

The following line prints "System.Object" as a result in the Immediate Window in the IDE. This is because the Circle class is a subclass of System.Object:

```
circle1.GetType().BaseType.ToString()
```



The following line won't allow the console application to compile and will display a build error. This is because the compiler cannot find a parameterless constructor declared in the Circle class. The specific error message is ConsoleApplication does not contain a constructor that takes 0 arguments. The following screenshot displays the var circleError = new Circle(); error:

Customizing destructors in C#

We want to know when the instances of the Circle class are removed from memory, that is, when the objects go out of scope and the garbage-collection mechanism removes them from memory. Destructors are the special class methods that are automatically executed when the run time destroys an instance of a given type. Thus, we can use them to add any code we want to run before the instance is destroyed.

The destructor is a special class method that uses the same name as the class, but prefixed with a tilde (~): ~Circle. The destructor must be parameterless, and it cannot return a value.

The following lines declare a destructor (a ~Circle method) within the body of the Circle class:

```
~Circle()
{
   Console.WriteLine(String.Format("I'm destroying the Circle instance
with a radius value of {0}.", radius));
}
```

The code within the destructor prints a message on the console indicating that the runtime is destroying a Circle instance with a specific radius value. This way, we will understand when the code within the destructor is executed.

If we execute the console application after adding the code for the destructor to the Circle class, we will see the following lines in the console output. The first two lines will appear before we press a key. After we press a key, we will see the two lines indicating that the code within the destructor has been executed. This is because the two variables circle1 and circle2 have run out of scope and the garbage collector has destroyed the objects:

```
I'm initializing a new Circle instance with a radius value of 25.
I'm initializing a new Circle instance with a radius value of 50.
I'm destroying the Circle instance with a radius value of 50.
I'm destroying the Circle instance with a radius value of 25.
```

Creating instances of classes in C#

We already created instances of the simple Circle class. We just needed to use the new keyword followed by the class name, specify the required arguments enclosed in parentheses, and assign the result to a variable.

The following lines declare a public CalculateArea method within the body of the Circle class:

```
public double CalculateArea()
{
  return Math.PI * Math.Pow(this.radius, 2);
}
```

The method doesn't require arguments to be called. It returns the result of the multiplication of π by the square of the radius field value (this.radius). The following lines show a new version of the Main method. These lines create two instances of the Circle class: circle1 and circle2. The lines then display the results of calling the CalculateArea method for the two objects. The new lines are highlighted, as follows:

```
class Chapter01
{
   public static void Main(string[] args)
   {
      var circle1 = new Circle(25f);
      var circle2 = new Circle(50f);
      Console.WriteLine(String.Format("The area for circle #1 is {0}", circle1.CalculateArea()));
      Console.WriteLine(String.Format("The area for circle #2 is {0}", circle2.CalculateArea()));
      Console.ReadLine();
   }
}
```

Now, imagine that we want to have a function that receives the radius value of a circle and has to return the calculated area. We can take advantage of the Circle class to code this new function. We just need to create an instance of the Circle class with the radius received as a parameter and return the result of the call to the CalculateArea method. Remember that, we don't have to worry about releasing the resources required by the Circle instance, because the object will go out of scope after the function returns the result. The following lines show the code for the new CalculateCircleArea function that isn't part of the Circle class body. The function is a method of the Chapter 1, Objects Everywhere class body, which also has the Main method:

```
class Chapter01
{
   private static double CalculateCircleArea(double radius)
   {
      return new Circle(radius).CalculateArea();
   }

   static void Main(string[] args)
   {
      double radius = 50;
      Console.WriteLine(String.Format("The area for a circle with a radius of {0} is {1} ", radius, CalculateCircleArea(radius)));
      Console.ReadLine();
   }
}
```

The Windows command line displays the following messages. Thus, we can see that the instance is destroyed and the code within the destructor is executed:

```
I'm initializing a new Circle instance with a radius value of 50.

The area for a circle with a radius of 50 is 7853.98163397448

I'm destroying the Circle instance with a radius value of 50.
```

Understanding that functions are objects in JavaScript

We will use **Chrome Developer Tools** (**CDT**), as the main JavaScript console. However, you can run the examples in any other browser that provides a JavaScript console.

Functions are first-class citizens in JavaScript. In fact, functions are objects in JavaScript. When we type the following lines in a JavaScript console, we create a new function object. Thus, calculateArea is an object, and its type is function. Notice the results of writing the following lines in a JavaScript console. The displayed type for calculateArea is a function, as follows:

```
function calculateArea(width, height) { return width * height; }
typeof(calculateArea)
```

The calculateArea function receives two arguments: width and height. It returns the width value multiplied by the height value. The following line calls the calculateArea function and saves the returned number in the rectangleArea variable:

```
var rectangleArea = calculateArea(300, 200);
console.log(rectangleArea);
```

Functions are special objects in JavaScript that contain code and that you can invoke. They contain properties and methods. For example, if we type the following line, the JavaScript console will display the value for the name property of the function object, that is, the calculateArea function:

console.log(calculateArea.name);

"

Downloading the example code

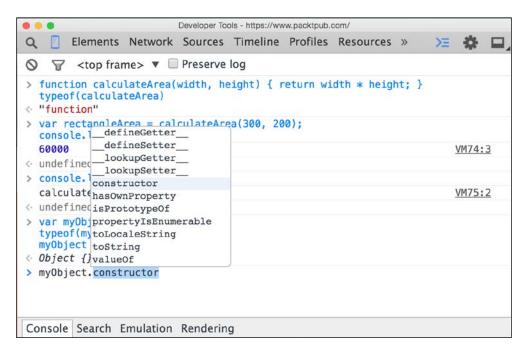
You can download the example code files from your account at http://www.packtpub.com for all the Packt Publishing books you have purchased. If you purchased this book elsewhere, you can visit http://www.packtpub.com/support and register to have the files e-mailed directly to you.

Working with constructor functions in JavaScript

The following lines of code create an object named myObject without any specific properties or methods. This line checks the type of the variable (myObject) and then prints the key-value pairs that define the object on the JavaScript console:

```
var myObject = {};
typeof(myObject);
myObject
```

The preceding lines created an empty object. Therefore, the result of the last line shows <code>Object</code> {} on the console. There are no properties or methods defined in the object. However, if we enter <code>myObject</code>. (<code>myObject</code> followed by a dot) in a JavaScript console with autocomplete features, we will see many properties and methods listed, as shown in the following screenshot. The object includes many built-in properties and methods:



The following lines of code create an object named myRectangle with two key-value pairs enclosed within a pair of curly braces ({}). A colon (:) separates the key from the value and a comma (,) separates the key-value pairs. The next line checks the type of the variable (object) and prints the key-value pairs that define the object on the JavaScript console:

```
var myRectangle = { width: 300, height: 200 };
typeof(myRectangle);
myRectangle
```

The preceding lines created an object with two properties: width and height. The result of the last line shows Object {width: 300, height: 200} on the console. Thus, the width property has an initial value of 300, and the height property has an initial value of 200. If we enter myRectangle. (myRectangle followed by a dot) in a JavaScript console with autocomplete features, we will see the width and height properties listed with the built-in properties and methods, as shown in the following screenshot:

```
> console.log(calculateArea.name);
                                                  defineGetter
  calculateArea
                                                                          VM75:2
                                                  defineSetter
 undefined
                                                  lookupGetter_
> var myObject = {};
                                                 lookupSetter
  typeof(myObject);
                                               constructor
  myObject
                                               hasOwnProperty
< Object {}</pre>
                                               height
> var myRectangle = { width: 300, height: 200 isPrototypeOf
  typeof(myRectangle);
                                                propertyIsEnumerable
  myRectangle
                                                toLocaleString
    Object {width: 300, height: 200}
                                                toString
> myRectangle
                                               value0f
    Object {width: 300, height: 200}
                                               width
                                   myRectangle.width
```

So far, we have been creating independent objects. The first example was an empty object, and the second case was an object with two properties with their initial values initialized. However, if we want to create another object with the same properties but different values, we would have to specify the property names again. For example, the following line creates another object named <code>myRectangle2</code>, with the same two keys, but different values:

```
var myRectangle2 = { width: 500, height: 150 };
```

However, we are repeating code and can have typos when we enter the key names, that is, the names for the future properties of the instance. Imagine that we had written the following line instead of the preceding line (notice that the code contains typos):

```
var myRectangle2 = { widh: 500, hight: 150 };
```

The previous line will generate widh and hight properties instead of width and height. Thus, if we want to retrieve the value from myRectangle2.width, we would receive undefined as a response. This is because myRectangle2 created the widh property instead of width.

We want to initialize new rectangle objects with the values of both the width and the height. However, we don't want a typo to generate problems in our code. Thus, we need a blueprint that generates and initializes properties with the same names. In addition, we want to log a message to the console whenever we have a new rectangle object. In order to do so, we can take advantage of the constructor function. The following lines declare a Rectangle constructor function in JavaScript:

```
function Rectangle(width, height) {
  console.log("I'm creating a new Rectangle");
  this.width = width;
  this.height = height;
}
```



Notice the capitalized name of the function, Rectangle instead of rectangle. It is a good practice to capitalize constructor functions to distinguish them from the other functions.

The constructor function receives two arguments: width and height. The code within the function is able to access the new instance of the current object that has been created with the this keyword. Thus, you can translate this to the current object. The code within the function prints a message on the JavaScript console, indicating that it is creating a new rectangle. The code then uses the received width and height arguments to initialize properties with the same names. We use this.width and this.height to create the properties for the instance. We create two properties for the instance right after its creation. We can think of the constructor function as the equivalent of a constructor in other object-oriented programming languages.

The following lines create two Rectangle objects named rectangle1 and rectangle2. Notice the usage of the new keyword to call the constructor function, with the width and height values enclosed in parentheses. The Python console will display I'm initializing a new Rectangle instance. after we enter each line in the Python console:

```
var rectangle1 = new Rectangle(293, 117);
var rectangle2 = new Rectangle(293, 137);
```

Each line that creates an instance uses the new keyword followed by the constructor function and the desired values for both the width and the height as arguments enclosed in parentheses. After we execute the previous lines, we can check the values for rectangle1.width, rectangle1.height, rectangle2.width, and rectangle2.height.

Enter the following two lines in the console:

```
rectangle1;
rectangle2;
```

The console will display the following two lines:

```
Rectangle {width: 293, height: 117}
Rectangle {width: 293, height: 137}
```

It is very clear that we have created two Rectangle objects and not just two Object objects. We can see that the constructor function name appears before the key-value pairs.

Enter the following line in the console:

rectangle1 instanceof Rectangle

The console will display true as a result of the evaluation of the previous expression, because rectangle1 is an instance of Rectangle. This way, we can determine whether an object is a Rectangle object, that is, an instance created using the Rectangle constructor function.

Creating instances in JavaScript

We already created instances with the simple Rectangle constructor function. We just needed to use the new keyword and the constructor function name. We then need to specify the required arguments enclosed in parentheses and assign the result to a variable.

The following lines declare a new version of the Rectangle constructor function that adds a calculateArea function to the blueprint:

```
function Rectangle(width, height) {
   console.log("I'm creating a new Rectangle");
   this.width = width;
   this.height = height;

   this.calculateArea = function() {
      return this.width * this.height;
   }
}
```

The new constructor function adds a parameterless calculateArea method to the instance. The following lines of code create a new Rectangle object named rectangle3 and then print the results of the call to the calculateArea method for this object:

```
var rectangle3 = new Rectangle(143, 187);
rectangle3.calculateArea();
```

If we enter the following line, the JavaScript console will display the same code we entered to create the new version of the Rectangle constructor function. Thus, we might create a new Rectangle object by calling the rectangle3.constructor function in the next line. Remember that the constructor property is automatically generated by JavaScript, and this property in is a function:

```
var rectangle4 = new rectangle3.constructor(300, 200);
```

Now, imagine that we want to have a function that receives the width and height values of a rectangle and returns the calculated area. We can take advantage of a Rectangle object to code this new function. We just need to create a Rectangle object using the Rectangle constructor function with width and height received as parameters. We then need to return the result of the call to the calculateArea method. Remember that we don't have to worry about releasing the resources required by the Rectangle object, because the variable will go out of scope after the function returns the result. The following lines show the code for the calculateArea independent function, which isn't a part of the Rectangle constructor function:

```
function calculateArea(width, height) {
  return new Rectangle(width, height).calculateArea();
}
calculateArea(143, 187);
```

Summary

In this chapter, you learned about an object's life cycle. You also learned how object constructors and destructors work. We declared classes in Python and C# and used constructor functions in JavaScript to generate blueprints for objects. We customized constructors and destructors, and tested their personalized behavior in action. We understood different ways of generating instances in the three programming languages.

Now that you have learned to start creating classes and instances, we are ready to share, protect, and hide data with the data-encapsulation features of Python, JavaScript, and C#, which is the topic of the next chapter.

5 Encapsulation of Data

In this chapter, we will start organizing data in blueprints that generate objects. We will protect and hide data in each of the three covered programming languages: Python, JavaScript, and C#. We will:

- Understand the different members of a class
- Learn the difference between mutability and immutability
- Customize methods and fields to protect them against undesired access
- Work with access modifiers, naming conventions, and properties
- Customize getter and setter methods
- Create properties with getters and setters in Python, C#, and JavaScript

Understanding the different members of a class

So far, we have been working with simple classes and used them to generate instances in Python and C#. We also defined the functions of a constructor to generate objects based on prototypes in JavaScript. Now, it's time to dive deeper to understand the different members of a class.

The following list enumerates all the possible element types that you can include in a class definition. We already worked with many of these elements:

- Constructor
- Destructor
- Class fields or class attributes
- · Class methods
- Nested classes

- Instance fields or instance attributes
- Properties with getters and/or setters
- Events

You already learned how constructors and destructors work in Python and C#. We also worked with constructor functions in JavaScript. So far, we have been using instance fields, also known as instance attributes, to encapsulate data in our instances. We can access these fields or attributes without any kind of restriction as variables within an instance. We also worked with instance methods that we could invoke without any kind of restrictions.

However, as happens in real-world situations, sometimes restrictions are necessary to avoid serious problems. Sometimes, we want to restrict access or transform-specific instance fields in read-only attributes. The different programming languages take different approaches that allow you to establish restrictions for the different members of a class. We can combine these restrictions with properties that can define getters and/or setters.



Properties can define get and/or set methods, also known as **getters** and **setters**. Setters allow you to control how values are set to protected instance attributes, that is, these methods are used to change the values of underlying instance attributes. Getters allow you to control how values are returned. Getters don't change the values of the underlying attributes.

Sometimes, all the members of a class share the same field or attribute, and we don't need to have a specific value for each instance. For example, the dog breeds have some profile values, such as the average size of males (width and height) and the average size of females (width and height). We can define the following class fields to store the values that are shared by the averageMaleWidth, averageMaleHeight, averageFemaleWidth, and averageFemaleHeight instances. All these instances have access to the same class field and their values. However, it's also possible to apply restrictions to their access.

Events allow instances to notify other objects when an event takes place. A publisher instance raises or sends an event, whereas a subscriber instance receives or handles the event. Instances can subscribe to events to add the necessary code to be executed when an event is raised, that is, when something of interest occurs. You can think about events as a mechanism to generate subscriber-publisher relationships between instances. For example, you can use events to make a dog bark when another dog arrives near it.

It's also possible to define methods that don't require an instance of a specific class to be called; therefore, you can invoke them by specifying the class name and the method name. These methods are known as class methods; they operate on a class as a whole and have access to class fields, but they don't have access to any instance members (such as instance fields, properties, or methods) because there is no instance at all. The class methods are useful when you want to include methods related to a class; you don't want to generate an instance to call them.

Protecting and hiding data

When we design classes, we want to make sure that all the necessary data is available to the methods that will operate on this data; therefore, we encapsulate the data. However, we just want the relevant information to be visible to the users of our classes that will create instances, change values of accessible attributes or properties, and call the available methods. Therefore, we want to hide or protect some data that is just needed for internal use. We don't want accidental changes to sensitive data.

For example, when we create a new instance of any dog breed, we can use its name and birth date as two parameters for a constructor. The constructor initializes the values of two internal fields: m name and m birthDate.

We don't want a user of our dog breed class to be able to change a dog's name after an instance has been initialized because the name is not supposed to change. Thus, we define a property called Name with a getter method, but without a setter method. This way, it's possible to retrieve the dog's name, but we cannot change it because there isn't a setter method defined for the property. The getter method just returns the value of the m_name internal field. In addition, we can protect the internal m_name field to avoid the users of a class to access the m_name field from any instance of the class.

We don't want a user of our dog breed class to be able to change a dog's birth date after an instance has been initialized because the dog won't be born again on a different date. In fact, we just want to make the dog's age available to different users. Thus, we define a property called Age with a getter method, but without a setter method. This way, it's possible to retrieve the dog's age, but we cannot change it because there isn't a setter method defined for a property. The getter method returns the result of calculating the dog's age based on the current date and the value of the m_birthDate internal field. As in the previous example, we can also protect the internal m_birthDate field to prevent the users of a class to access a field from any instance of a class.

This way, our class can make two read-only properties, Name and Age, public. The m_name and m_birthDate internal fields aren't public and cannot be accessed from the instances of a class. The read-only properties expose the values of all internal fields.

Working with properties

It's possible to manually add getter and setter methods to emulate how properties work. For example, we can add a <code>GetName</code> method that just returns the value of the <code>m_name</code> internal field. Each time we want to retrieve a dog's name, it will be necessary to call the <code>GetName</code> method for that specific instance.

A dog's favorite toy may change over time. However, we still want to use getter and setter methods to keep control over the procedure of retrieving and setting the value of an underlying m_favoriteToy internal field. We always want users to change the values of a field using the getter and setter methods, just in case we need to add some code within these methods in the future. For example, we can decide that whenever a dog's favorite toy changes, it's necessary to update the dog's playfulness score. If we force the user to use the setter method whenever he/she needs to update the dog's favorite toy, we can easily add the necessary code that updates the dog's playfulness score within this setter method.

We can manually add both getter and setter methods to emulate how properties work for the m_favoriteToy internal field. We have to add a GetFavoriteToy getter method and a SetFavoriteToy setter method. This way, whenever we want to retrieve a dog's favorite toy, it will be necessary to call the GetFavoriteToy method for a specific instance. Whenever we want to specify a new value to a dog's favorite toy, it will be necessary to call the SetFavoriteToy method with the new favorite toy as an argument.

The getter and setter methods combined with the access protection of the <code>m_favoriteToy</code> internal field make it possible to have absolute control over the way in which the dog's favorite toy is retrieved and set. However, it would be nicer to define a public property named <code>FavoriteToy</code>. Whenever we assign a value to the <code>FavoriteToy</code> property, the <code>SetFavoriteToy</code> setter method is called under the hood with the value to be assigned as an argument. Whenever we specify the <code>FavoriteToy</code> property in any expression, the <code>GetFavoriteToy</code> getter method is called under the hood to retrieve the actual value.



Each programming language provides a different mechanism and syntax to define properties and customize the getter and setter methods. Based on our goals, we can combine properties, getter and setters methods, the underlying fields, and the access protection mechanisms.

Understanding the difference between mutability and immutability

By default, any instance field or attribute works like a variable; therefore, we can change their values. When we create an instance of a class that defines many public instance fields, we are creating a mutable object, that is, an object that can change its state.

For example, let's think about a class named MutableVector3D that represents a mutable 3D vector with three public instance fields: X, Y, and Z. We can create a new MutableVector3D instance and initialize the X, Y, and Z attributes. Then, we can call the Sum method with their delta values for X, Y, and Z as arguments. The delta values specify the difference between the existing value and the new or desired value. So, for example, if we specify a positive value of 20 in the deltaX parameter, it means that we want to add 20 to the X value.

The following lines show pseudocode in a neutral programming language that create a new MutableVector3D instance called myMutableVector, initialized with values for the X, Y, and Z fields. Then, the code calls the Sum method with the delta values for X, Y, and Z as arguments, as shown in the following code:

```
myMutableVector = new MutableVector3D instance with X = 30, Y = 50 and Z = 70 myMutableVector.Sum(deltaX: 20, deltaY: 30, deltaZ: 15)
```

The initial values for the myMutableVector field are 30 for X, 50 for Y, and 70 for Z. The Sum method changes the values of all the three fields; therefore, the object state mutates as follows:

- myMutableVector.X mutates from 30 to 30 + 20 = 50
- myMutableVector.Y mutates from 50 to 50 + 30 = 80
- myMutableVector.Z mutates from 70 to 70 + 15 = 85



The values for the myMutableVector field after the call to the Sum method are 50 for X, 80 for Y, and 85 for Z. We can say this method mutated the object's state; therefore, myMutableVector is a mutable object: an instance of a mutable class.

Mutability is very important in object-oriented programming. In fact, whenever we expose fields and/or properties, we will create a class that will generate mutable instances. However, sometimes a mutable object can become a problem. In certain situations, we want to avoid objects to change their state. For example, when we work with a concurrent code, an object that cannot change its state solves many concurrency problems and avoids potential bugs.

For example, we can create an immutable version of the previous MutableVector3D class to represent an immutable 3D vector. The new ImmutableVector3D class has three read-only properties: X, Y, and Z. Thus, there are only three getter methods without setter methods, and we cannot change the values of the underlying internal fields: m_X, m_Y, and m_Z. We can create a new ImmutableVector3D instance and initialize the underlying internal fields: m_X, m_Y, and m_Z. X, Y, and Z attributes. Then, we can call the Sum method with the delta values for X, Y, and Z as arguments.

The following lines show the pseudocode in a neutral programming language that create a new ImmutableVector3D instance called myImmutableVector, which is initialized with values for X, Y, and Z as arguments. Then, the pseudocode calls the Sum method with the delta values for X, Y, and Z as arguments:

```
myImmutableVector = new ImmutableVector3D instance with X = 30, Y = 50 and Z = 70 myImmutableSumVector = myImmutableVector.Sum(deltaX: 20, deltaY: 30, deltaZ: 15)
```

However, this time the Sum method returns a new instance of the ImmutableVector3D class with the X, Y, and Z values initialized to the sum of X, Y, and Z and the delta values for X, Y, and Z. So, myImmutableSumVector is a new ImmutableVector3D instance initialized with X = 50, Y = 80, and Z = 85. The call to the Sum method generated a new instance and didn't mutate the existing object.

The immutable version adds an overhead as compared with the mutable version because it's necessary to create a new instance of a class as a result of calling the sum method. The mutable version just changed the values for the attributes and it wasn't necessary to generate a new instance. Obviously, the immutable version has a memory and a performance overhead. However, when we work with the concurrent code, it makes sense to pay for the extra overhead to avoid potential issues caused by mutable objects.

Encapsulating data in Python

First, we will add attributes to a class in Python and then use prefixes to hide specific members of a class. We will use property getters and setters to control how we write and retrieve values to and from related attributes. We will use methods to add behaviors to classes, and we will create the mutable and immutable version of a 3D vector to understand the difference between an object that mutates state and an object that doesn't.

Adding attributes to a class

The TibetanSpaniel class is a blueprint for dogs that belong to the Tibetan Spaniel breed. This class should inherit from a Dog superclass, but we will forget about inheritance and other dog breeds for a while. We will use the TibetanSpaniel class to understand the difference between class attributes and instance attributes.

As happens with any other dog breed, Tibetan Spaniel dogs have some profile values. We will define the following class attributes to store the values that are shared by all the members of the Tibetan Spaniel breed. Note that the valid values for scores are from 0 to 10; 0 is the lowest skill and 10 the highest.

- family: This is the family to which the dog breed belongs
- area_of_origin: This is the are a of origin of the dog breed
- learning_rate: This is the typical learning rate score for the members of this dog breed
- obedience: This is the average obedience score for the members of this dog breed
- problem_solving: This is the average problem solving score for the members of this dog breed

The following lines create a TibetanSpaniel class and declare the previously enumerated class attributes and a init method within the body of a class:

```
class TibetanSpaniel:
  family = "Companion, herding"
  area_of_origin = "Tibet"
  learning_rate = 9
  obedience = 3
  problem_solving = 8

def __init__(self, name, favorite_toy, watchdog_ability):
    self.name = name
    self.watchdog_ability = watchdog_ability
    self.favorite_toy = favorite_toy
```

The preceding code assigns a value to each class variable after the class header within the class body and without self. as its prefix. This code assigns a value outside of any method because there is no need to create any instance to access the attributes of a class.

It's common practice to place the class attributes at the top, right after the class header.

The following command prints the value of the previously declared family class attribute. Note that we didn't create any instance of the TibetanSpaniel class. Also, we specify an attribute after the class name and a dot:

```
print(TibetanSpaniel.family)
```

The following command creates an instance of the TibetanSpaniel class and then prints the value of the family class attribute. In this case, we will use an instance to access the class attribute:

```
brian = TibetanSpaniel("Brian", "Talking Minion", 4)
print(brian.family)
```

You can assign a new value to any class attribute. For example, the following command assigns 4 to the obedience class attribute:

```
TibetanSpaniel.obedience = 4
```

However, we must be very careful when we want to assign a new value to a class variable. We must address the class attribute through a class and not through an instance. If we assign a value to obedience through an instance named brian, Python will create a new instance attribute called obedience, instead of changing the value of the class attribute with the same name.

The following commands illustrate the problem. The first command creates a new instance attribute called obedience and sets its value to 8; therefore, brian. obedience will be 8. However, if we check the value of the TibetanSpaniel. obedience or type (brian) . obedience class variable, the value continues to be 4:

```
brian.obedience = 8
print(brian.obedience)
print(type(brian).obedience)
print (TibetanSpaniel.obedience)
```

Hiding data in Python using prefixes

The previously declared TibetanSpaniel class exposes the instance and class attributes without any kind of restriction. Thus, we can access these attributes and change their values. Python uses a special naming convention for attributes to control their accessibility. So far, we have been using attribute names without any kind of prefix; therefore, we could access attribute names within a class definition and outside of a class definition. These kinds of attributes are known as public attributes and are exposed without any restriction.

In Python, we can mark an attribute as protected by prefixing the attribute name with a leading underscore (_). For example, if we want to convert the name attribute from a public to a protected attribute, we just need to change its name from name to _name.

Whenever we mark an attribute as protected, we are telling the users of the class that they shouldn't use these attributes outside of the class definition. Thus, only the code written within the class definition and within subclasses should access attributes marked as protected. We say *should*, because Python doesn't provide a real shield for the attributes marked as protected; the language just expects users to be honest and take into account the naming convention. The following command shows a new version of the __init__ method for the TibetanSpaniel class that declares three instance attributes as protected by adding a leading underscore () to names:

```
def __init__(self, name, favorite_toy, watchdog_ability):
    self._name = name
    self._watchdog_ability = watchdog_ability
    self._favorite_toy = favorite_toy
```

We can mark an attribute as private by prefixing the attribute name with two leading underscores (__). For example, if we want to convert the name attribute from a protected to a private attribute, we just need to change its name from name to __name.

Whenever we mark an attribute as private, Python doesn't allow users to access the attribute outside of the class definition. The restriction also applies to subclasses; therefore, only the code written within a class can access attributes marked as private.

Python still provides access to these attributes outside of the class definition with a different name composed of a leading underscore (_), followed by the class name and the private attribute name. For example, if we use __name to mark name as a private attribute, it will be accessible with the TibetanSpaniel__name name. Obviously, the language expects users to be honest, take into account the naming convention, and avoid accessing the renamed private attribute. The following commands show a new version of the __init__ method for the TibetanSpaniel class that declares three instance attributes as private by adding two leading underscores (_) to names:

```
def __init__(self, name, favorite_toy, watchdog_ability):
    self.__name = name
    self.__watchdog_ability = watchdog_ability
    self.__favorite_toy = favorite_toy
```



The same naming convention applies to instance attributes, class attributes, instance methods, and class methods.

Using property getters and setters in Python

Python provides a simple mechanism to define properties and specify the getter and/or setter methods. We want to make the following changes to our TibetanSpaniel class:

- Encapsulate the name attribute with a read-only name property
- Encapsulate the favorite toy attribute with a favorite toy property
- Encapsulate the __watchdog_ability attribute with a watchdog_ability property and include the code in the setter method to assign 0 to the underlying attribute if the value specified is lower than 0 and 10 if the value specified is higher than 10
- Define a protection_score read-only property with a getter method
 that calculates and returns a protection score based on the values of the
 __watchdog_ability private instance attribute, the learning_rate public
 class attribute, and the problem solving public class attribute

We want a read-only name property; therefore, we just need to define a getter method that returns the value of the related __name private attribute. We just need to define a method named name and decorate it with @property. The following commands within the class body will do the job. Note that @property is included before the method's header:

```
@property
def name(self):
    return self. name
```

After we add a getter method to define a read-only name property, we can create an instance of the edited class and try to change the value of the read-only property name, as shown in the following command:

```
merlin = TibetanSpaniel("Merlin", "Talking Smurf", 6)
merlin.name = "brian"
```

The Python console will display the following error because there is no setter method defined for the name property:

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
   File "<input>", line 1, in <module>
AttributeError: can't set attribute
```

We want to encapsulate the __favorite_toy private attribute with the favorite_toy property; therefore, we have to define both getter and setter methods. The getter method returns the value of the related __favorite_toy private attribute. The setter method receives the new favorite toy value as an argument and assigns this value to the related __favorite_toy private attribute. We have to decorate the setter method with @favorite_toy.setter, that is, @, followed by the property name and .setter. The following commands within the class body will do the job:

```
@property
def favorite_toy(self):
    return self.__favorite_toy

@favorite_toy.setter
def favorite_toy(self, favorite_toy):
    self.__favorite_toy = favorite_toy
```

The setter method for the favorite_toy property is very simple. The watchdog_ability property requires a setter method with more code to transform values lower than 0 in 0 and values higher than 10 in 10. The following class body will do the job:

```
@property
def watchdog_ability(self):
    return self.__watchdog_ability

@watchdog_ability.setter
def watchdog_ability(self, watchdog_ability):
    if watchdog_ability < 0:
        self.__watchdog_ability = 0
    elif watchdog_ability > 10:
        self.__watchdog_ability = 10
    else:
        self.__watchdog_ability = watchdog_ability
```

After we add the watchdog_ability property, we will create an instance of the edited class and try to set different values to this property, as shown in the following code:

```
hugo = TibetanSpaniel("Hugo", "Tennis ball", 7)
hugo.watchdog_ability = -3
print(hugo.watchdog_ability)
hugo.watchdog_ability = 30
print(hugo.watchdog_ability)
hugo.watchdog_ability = 8
print(hugo.watchdog_ability)
```

In the preceding code, after we specified -3 as the desired value for the watchdog_ability property, we printed its actual value and the result was 0. After we specified 30, the actual printed value was 10. Finally, after we specified 8, the actual printed value was 8. The code in the setter method did its job. This is how we could control the values accepted for the underlying private instance attribute.

We want a read-only protection_score property. However, this time the getter method must calculate and return a protection score based on a private instance attribute and two public class attributes. Note that the code accesses the public class attributes through type(self), followed by the attribute name. It's a safe way to access class attributes because we can change the class name or work with inheritance without unexpected issues. The following commands in the class body will do the job:

```
@property
def protection_score(self):
```

```
return math.floor((self.__watchdog_ability + type(self).learning_
rate + type(self).problem_solving) / 3)
```

After we add the protection_score property, we will create an instance of the edited class and print the value of this read-only property:

```
cole = TibetanSpaniel("Cole", "Soccer ball", 4)
print(cole.protection_score)
```

Here is the complete code for the TibetanSpaniel class along with properties:

```
class TibetanSpaniel:
   family = "Companion, herding"
   area_of_origin = "Tibet"
   learning rate = 9
   obedience = 3
   problem solving = 8
   def __init__(self, name, favorite_toy, watchdog_ability):
       self. name = name
       self. watchdog ability = watchdog ability
       self. favorite toy = favorite toy
   @property
   def name(self):
       return self. name
   @property
   def favorite_toy(self):
       return self. favorite toy
   @favorite_toy.setter
   def favorite_toy(self, favorite_toy):
        self.__favorite_toy = favorite_toy
   @property
   def watchdog ability(self):
       return self.__watchdog_ability
   @watchdog ability.setter
   def watchdog_ability(self, watchdog_ability):
       if watchdog_ability < 0:</pre>
            self.__watchdog_ability = 0
       elif watchdog ability > 10:
            self.__watchdog_ability = 10
       else:
```

```
self.__watchdog_ability = watchdog_ability

@property
def protection_score(self):
    return math.floor((self.__watchdog_ability + type(self).
learning_rate + type(self).problem_solving) / 3)
```

Using methods to add behaviors to classes in Python

So far, we have added instance methods to classes and used getter and setter methods combined with decorators to define properties. Now, we want to generate a class to represent the mutable version of a 3D vector.

We will use properties with simple getter and setter methods for x, y, and z. The sum public instance method receives the delta values for x, y, and z and mutates an object, that is, the setter method changes the values of x, y, and z. Here is the initial code of the MutableVector3D class:

```
class MutableVector3D:
   def __init__(self, x, y, z):
       self. x = x
       self._y = y
        self._z = z
    def sum(self, delta x, delta y, delta z):
        self.\_x += delta\_x
        self. y += delta y
        self. z += delta z
    @property
    def x(self):
       return self._x
    @x.setter
    def x(self, x):
       self.\_x = x
    @property
    def y(self):
       return self. y
    @y.setter
    def y(self, y):
```

```
self.__y = y

@property
def z(self):
    return self.__z

@z.setter
def z(self, z):
    self.__z = z
```

It's a very common requirement to generate a 3D vector with all the values initialized to 0, that is, x = 0, y = 0, and z = 0. A 3D vector with these values is known as an origin vector. We can add a class method to the MutableVector3D class named origin_vector to generate a new instance of the class initialized with all the values initialized to 0. It's necessary to add the @classmethod decorator before the class method header. Instead of receiving self as the first argument, a class method receives the current class; the parameter name is usually named cls. The following code defines the origin vector class method:

```
@classmethod
def origin_vector(cls):
    return cls(0, 0, 0)
```

The preceding method returns a new instance of the current class (cls) with 0 as the initial value for the three elements. The class method receives cls as the only argument; therefore, it will be a parameterless method when we call it because Python includes a class as a parameter under the hood. The following command calls the origin_vector class method to generate a 3D vector, calls the sum method for the generated instance, and prints the values for the three elements:

```
mutableVector3D = MutableVector3D.origin_vector()
mutableVector3D.sum(5, 10, 15)
print(mutableVector3D.x, mutableVector3D.y, mutableVector3D.z)
```

Now, we want to generate a class to represent the immutable version of a 3D vector. In this case, we will use read-only properties for x, y, and z. The sum public instance method receives the delta values for x, y, and z and returns a new instance of the same class with the values of x, y, and z initialized with the results of the sum. Here is the code of the ImmutableVector3D class:

```
class ImmutableVector3D:
    def __init__(self, x, y, z):
        self.__x = x
        self.__y = y
```

```
self. z = z
   def sum(self, delta x, delta y, delta z):
       return type(self)(self. x + delta x, self. y + delta y,
self.__z + delta_z)
   @property
   def x(self):
       return self. x
   @property
   def y(self):
       return self. y
   @property
   def z(self):
       return self. z
   @classmethod
   def equal elements vector(cls, initial value):
        return cls(initial_value, initial_value, initial_value)
   @classmethod
   def origin vector(cls):
       return cls.equal elements vector(0)
```

Note that the sum method uses type (self) to generate and return a new instance of the current class. In this case, the origin_vector class method returns the results of calling the equal_elements_vector class method with 0 as an argument. Remember that the cls argument refers to the actual class. The equal_elements_vector class method receives an initial_value argument for all the elements of the 3D vector, creates an instance of the actual class, and initializes all the elements with the received unique value. The origin_vector class method demonstrates how we can call another class method in a class method.

The following command calls the <code>origin_vector</code> class method to generate a 3D vector, calls the <code>sum</code> method for the generated instance, and prints the values for the three elements of the new instance returned by the <code>sum</code> method:

```
vector0 = ImmutableVector3D.origin_vector()
vector1 = vector0.sum(5, 10, 15)
print(vector1.x, vector1.y, vector1.z)
```



As explained previously, we can change the values of the private attributes; therefore, the ImmutableVector3D class isn't 100 percent immutable. However, we are all adults and don't expect the users of a class with read-only properties to change the values of private attributes hidden under difficult to access names.

Encapsulating data in C#

First, we will add fields to a class in C# and then use access modifiers to hide and protect a specific member of a class from unauthorized access. We will use property getters and setters to control how we write and retrieve values to and from related fields.

We will work with auto-implemented properties to reduce the boilerplate code. We will use methods to add behaviors to classes and create the mutable and immutable version of a 3D vector to understand the difference between an object that mutates state and an object that doesn't.

Adding fields to a class

The SmoothFoxTerrier class is a blueprint for dogs that belong to the Smooth Fox Terrier breed. This class should inherit from a Dog superclass, but we will forget about inheritance and other dog breeds for a while and use the SmoothFoxTerrier class to understand the difference between class fields and instance fields.

We will define the following class attributes to store the values that are shared by all the members of the Smooth Fox Terrier breed. The valid values for scores are from 0 to 10; 0 is the lowest skill and 10 the highest:

- Family: This is the family to which the dog breed belongs
- AreaOfOrigin: This is the area of origin of the dog breed
- Energy: This is the average energy score for the dog breed
- ColdTolerance: This is the average cold tolerance score for the dog breed
- HeatTolerance: This is the average heat tolerance score for the dog breed

The following code creates the SmoothFoxTerrier class and declares the previously enumerated fields and a constructor in the body of the class:

```
class SmoothFoxTerrier
{
  public static string Family = "Terrier";
  public static string AreaOfOrigin = "England";
```

```
public static int Energy = 10;
 public static int ColdTolerance = 8;
 public static int HeatTolerance = 8;
 public string Name;
 public int WatchdogAbility;
 public string FavoriteToy;
 public SmoothFoxTerrier(string name, int watchdogAbility, string
favoriteToy)
 {
   this.Name = name;
   this.WatchdogAbility = watchdogAbility;
   this.FavoriteToy = favoriteToy;
}
```

The preceding code initializes each class field in the same line that declares the field. The only difference between a class field and an instance field is the inclusion of the static keyword. This indicates that we want to create a class field.



In C#, class fields are also known as static fields.

The following command prints the value of the previously declared Family static field. Note that we didn't create any instance of the SmoothFoxTerrier class, and we specify a field after the class name and a dot:

Debug.WriteLine(SmoothFoxTerrier.Family);



C# doesn't allow you to access a static field from an instance reference; therefore, we always require to use a class type to access a static field.

You can assign a new value to any static field declared as a variable. For example, the following command assigns 8 to the Energy static field:

```
SmoothFoxTerrier.Energy = 8;
```

We can easily convert a static field to a read-only static field by replacing the static keyword with the const one. For example, we don't want the users of a class to change the average energy score. Therefore, we can change the line that declared the static Energy field with the following command that creates a static constant or read-only field:

```
public const int Energy = 10;
```

Using access modifiers

The previously declared SmoothFoxTerrier class exposes the instance and static fields without any kind of restriction because we declared them with the public access modifier. Therefore, we can access these attributes and change their values, except for the static Energy field that we converted to a static constant.

C# uses type member access modifiers to control which code has access to a specific type member. So far, we have been declaring all the fields with the public access modifier. Therefore, we could access them in a class definition and outside of a class definition.

We can use any of the following access modifiers instead of public to restrict access to any field:

- protected: C# doesn't allow users to access a field outside of the class definition. Only the code in a class or its derived classes can access the field.
- private: C# doesn't allow users to access a field outside of the class definition. Only the code in the class can access the field. Its derived classes cannot access the field.
- internal: C# doesn't allow users to access a field outside of the assembly in which a class is included. The code within the same assembly can access the field. Its derived classes cannot access the field.
- protected internal: C# doesn't allow users to access a field outside of the
 assembly in which a class is included unless it's a derived class. The code
 within the same assembly can access the field. Its derived classes can access
 the field, as happens with protected fields without the addition of the
 internal modifier.

The following command shows how we can change the declaration of the public Name field to a protected field. We replace the public access modifier with protected and the name from Name to _name. As a naming convention, we will prefix the field name with a leading underscore () symbol for protected or private fields:

```
protected string _name;
```

Whenever we use the protected access modifier in a field declaration, we restrict access to this field to the code written within the class definition and within subclasses. C# generates a real shield for the fields marked as protected; there is no way to access them outside of the explained boundaries.

The following commands show a new version of the SmoothFoxTerrier class that declares three instance fields as protected by replacing the public access modifier with protected. In addition, field names add a leading underscore (_) as a prefix and use a lowercase first letter:

```
class SmoothFoxTerrier
 public static string Family = "Terrier";
 public static string AreaOfOrigin = "England";
 public static int Energy = 10;
 public static int ColdTolerance = 8;
 public static int HeatTolerance = 8;
 protected string name;
 protected int watchdogAbility;
 protected string favoriteToy;
 public SmoothFoxTerrier(string name, int watchdogAbility, string
favoriteToy)
 {
   this. name = name;
   this. watchdogAbility = watchdogAbility;
   this. favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
 }
}
```

The following code shows how we can change the declaration of the _name protected field to a private field. We replace the protected access modifier with private:

```
private string name;
```

Whenever we use the private access modifier in a field declaration, we restrict access to the field to the code written in the class definition and subclasses. C# generates a real shield for the fields marked as private; there is no way to access these outside of the class definition. The restriction also applies to subclasses; therefore, only the code written in a class can access attributes marked as private.

The following commands show a new version of the instance fields declaration for the SmoothFoxTerrier class that declares the three instance fields as private, replacing the protected keyword with private:

```
private string _name;
private int _watchdogAbility;
private string favoriteToy;
```

After the previous changes are done, it's necessary to replace the code in the constructor with the following commands. This helps initialize new field names:

```
public SmoothFoxTerrier(string name, int watchdogAbility, string
favoriteToy)
{
   this._name = name;
   this._watchdogAbility = watchdogAbility;
   this._favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
}
```



We can use the same access modifiers for any type of member, including instance fields, static fields, instance methods, and static methods.

Using property getters and setters in C#

C# provides a simple yet powerful mechanism to define properties and specify the getter method and/or the setter method. We want to make the following changes to our SmoothFoxTerrier class:

- Encapsulate the name field with a read-only Name property.
- Encapsulate the favoriteToy attribute with a FavoriteToy property.
- Encapsulate the _watchdogAbility attribute with a WatchdogAbility property and include the code in the setter method to assign 0 to the underlying attribute if the value specified is lower than 0 and assign 10 when the value specified is higher than 10.
- Define a ProtectionScore read-only property with a getter method that calculates and returns a protection score based on the values of the _watchdogAbility private instance field, the ColdTolerance public static field, and the HeatTolerance public static field.

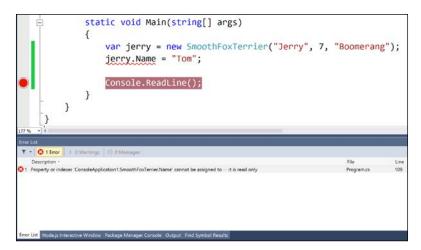
We want a read-only Name property; therefore, we just need to define a getter method that returns the value of the related _name private field. We just need to add some code in the class body. We declare the Name property as a public field of the string type, followed by the definition of the getter method enclosed within a pair of curly braces ({}). This encloses the definition of the getter method and/or the setter method. In this case, we just need a getter method. The get keyword starts the definition of the getter method whose contents are enclosed within a pair of curly braces ({}). The following code in the class body will do the job:

```
public string Name
{
   get
   {
    return _name;
   }
}
```

After we add a getter method to define a read-only Name property, we will create an instance of the edited class and write code that changes the value of the Name read-only property, as shown in the following command:

```
var jerry = new SmoothFoxTerrier("Jerry", 7, "Boomerang");
jerry.Name = "Tom";
```

The code that assigns a value to the read-only Name property won't allow the console application to compile. It will display a build error because the compiler cannot find a setter method declared for the Name property. The specific error message is Property or indexer 'ConsoleApplication1.SmoothFoxTerrier.Name' cannot be assigned to -- it is read only. The following screenshot shows the generated error in the IDE:



We want to encapsulate the _favoriteToy private field with a FavoriteToy property; therefore, we have to define the getter method and the setter method. The getter method returns the value of the related _favoriteToy private field. The setter method receives the new favorite toy value as an argument named value and assigns this value to the related __favoriteToy private field. We declare the FavoriteToy property as a public field of the string type, followed by the definition of the getter method and the setter method enclosed in a pair of curly braces ({}). The get keyword starts the definition of the getter method whose contents are enclosed within a pair of curly braces ({}). The set keyword starts the definition of the setter method whose contents are enclosed within a pair of curly braces ({}). The set keyword doesn't declare an argument named value. However, the code in this method receives the value assigned to the property in an implicit argument named value. The following code in the class body will do the job:

```
public string FavoriteToy
{
   get
   {
    return this._favoriteToy;
   }
   set
   {
    this._favoriteToy = value;
   }
}
```

The setter method for the FavoriteToy property is very simple because it just assigns the specified value to the related private field. The WatchdogAbility property requires a setter method with more code to transform values lower than 0 to 0 and values higher than 10 to 10. The following code in the class body will do the job:

```
public string FavoriteToy
{
   get
   {
     return this._favoriteToy;
   }
   setpublic int WatchdogAbility
   {
      get
      {
       return this._watchdogAbility;
}
```

```
}
set
{
    if (value < 0) {
        this._watchdogAbility = 0;
    } else if (value > 10) {
        this._watchdogAbility = 10;
    } else {
        this._watchdogAbility = value;
    }
}

}

this._favoriteToy = value;
}
```

After we add the WatchdogAbility property, we will create an instance of the edited class and try to set different values to this property, as shown in the following code:

```
var tom = new SmoothFoxTerrier("Tom", 8, "Boomerang");
tom.WatchdogAbility = -9;
Console.WriteLine(tom.WatchdogAbility);
tom.WatchdogAbility = 52;
Console.WriteLine(tom.WatchdogAbility);
tom.WatchdogAbility = 9;
Console.WriteLine(tom.WatchdogAbility);
```

After we specified -9 as the desired value for the WatchdogAbility property, we printed its actual value to the console and the result was 0. After we specified 52, the actual printed value was 10. Finally, after we specified 9, the actual printed value was 9. The code in the setter method did its job; we can control all the values accepted for the underlying private instance field.

We want a read-only ProtectionScore property. However, this time, the getter method must calculate and return a protection score based on a private instance field and two public static fields. Note that the code accesses all the public class fields through SmoothFoxTerrier, followed by the static field name. The following code in the class body will do the job:

```
public int ProtectionScore
{
   get
   {
```

```
return (int)Math.Floor ((this._watchdogAbility + SmoothFoxTerrier.
ColdTolerance + SmoothFoxTerrier.HeatTolerance) / 3d);
}
```

After we add the ProtectionScore property, we will create an instance of the edited class and print the value of this read-only property to the console:

```
var laura = new SmoothFoxTerrier("Laura", "Old sneakers", 9);
console.WriteLine(laura.ProtectionScore);
```

The following code shows the complete code for the SmoothFoxTerrier class with its properties:

```
class SmoothFoxTerrier
 public static string Family = "Terrier";
 public static string AreaOfOrigin = "England";
 public const int Energy = 10;
 public static int ColdTolerance = 8;
 public static int HeatTolerance = 8;
 private string name;
 private int _watchdogAbility;
 private string _favoriteToy;
 public string Name
   get
     return this._name;
 public string FavoriteToy
   get
     return this. favoriteToy;
   set
     this._favoriteToy = value;
```

```
public int WatchdogAbility
   get
     return this._watchdogAbility;
   set
     if (value < 0) {
       this._watchdogAbility = 0;
     } else if (value > 10) {
       this._watchdogAbility = 10;
      } else {
       this. watchdogAbility = value;
   }
 }
 public int ProtectionScore
   get
     return Math.Floor ((this._watchdogAbility + SmoothFoxTerrier.
ColdTolerance + SmoothFoxTerrier.HeatTolerance) / 3);
 public SmoothFoxTerrier(string name, int watchdogAbility, string
favoriteToy)
   this._name = name;
   this._watchdogAbility = watchdogAbility;
   this._favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
}
```

Working with auto-implemented properties

When we don't require any specific logic in the getter method or the setter method, we can take advantage of a simplified mechanism to declare properties called auto-implemented properties. For example, the following code use auto-implemented properties to simplify the declaration of the FavoriteToy property:

```
public string FavoriteToy { get; set; }
```

The previous code declares the FavoriteToy property with empty getter and setter methods. The compiler creates a private and anonymous field related to the defined property that only the property's automatically generated getters and setters access. If you need to customize either the getter method or the setter method in the future, you can replace the usage of auto-implemented properties with specific getter and setter methods and add your own private field to support a property if necessary.

If we use the previously defined FavoriteToy property with auto-implemented properties, we have to remove the _favoriteToy private field. In addition, we have to assign the favoriteToy private field received as an argument in the constructor to the FavoriteToy property instead of working with the private field, as shown in the following code:

```
this.FavoriteToy = favoriteToy;
```

We can also use auto-implemented properties when we want to create a read-only property that doesn't require any specific logic in the getter method. For example, the following code uses auto-implemented properties to simplify the declaration of the Name property:

```
public string Name { get; private set; }
```

The preceding code declares the setter method, also known as the **set accessor**, as private. This way, Name is a read-only property. As in the previous example, if we use the previously defined Name property with auto-implemented properties, we have to remove the _name private field. In addition, we have to assign the name property received as an argument in the constructor to the Name property instead of working with the private field, as shown in the following line of code:

```
this.Name = name;
```

The setter method is private; therefore, we can set the value for Name in the class. However, we cannot access the setter method outside of this class; therefore, it becomes a read-only property.

Using methods to add behaviors to classes in C#

So far, we have added instance methods to a class in C#, and used getter and setter methods to define properties. Now, we want to generate a class to represent the mutable version of a 3D vector in C#.

We will use auto-implemented properties for X, Y, and Z. The public Sum instance method receives the delta values for X, Y, and Z (deltaX, deltaY, and deltaZ) and mutates the object, that is, the method changes the values of X, Y, and Z. The following shows the initial code of the MutableVector3D class:

```
class MutableVector3D
{
  public double X { get; set; }
  public double Y { get; set; }
  public double Z { get; set; }

  public void Sum(double deltaX, double deltaY, double deltaZ)
  {
    this.X += deltaX;
    this.Y += deltaY;
    this.Z += deltaZ;
  }

  public MutableVector3D(double x, double y, double z)
  {
    this.X = x;
    this.Y = y;
    this.Z = z;
  }
}
```

It's a very common requirement to generate a 3D vector with all the values initialized to 0, that is, X = 0, Y = 0, and Z = 0. A 3D vector with these values is known as an origin vector. We can add a class method to the MutableVector3D class named OriginVector to generate a new instance of the class initialized with all the values initialized to 0. Class methods are also known as static methods in C#. It's necessary to add the static keyword after the public access modifier before the class method name. The following commands define the OriginVector static method:

```
public static MutableVector3D OriginVector()
{
   return new MutableVector3D(0, 0, 0);
}
```

The preceding method returns a new instance of the MutableVector3D class with 0 as the initial value for all the three elements. The following code calls the OriginVector static method to generate a 3D vector, calls the Sum method for the generated instance, and prints the values for all the three elements on the console output:

```
var mutableVector3D = MutableVector3D.OriginVector();
mutableVector3D.Sum(5, 10, 15);
Console.WriteLine(mutableVector3D.X, mutableVector3D.Y,
mutableVector3D.Z)
```

Now, we want to generate a class to represent the immutable version of a 3D vector. In this case, we will use read-only properties for X, Y, and Z. We will use auto-generated properties with private set. The Sum public instance method receives the delta values for X, Y, and Z (deltaX, deltaY, and deltaZ) and returns a new instance of the same class with the values of X, Y, and Z initialized with the results of the sum. The code for the ImmutableVector3D class is as follows:

```
class ImmutableVector3D
  public double X { get; private set; }
  public double Y { get; private set; }
 public double Z { get; private set; }
  public ImmutableVector3D Sum(double deltaX, double deltaY, double
deltaZ)
    return new ImmutableVector3D (
    this.X + deltaX,
    this.Y + deltaY,
    this.Z + deltaZ);
  public ImmutableVector3D(double x, double y, double z)
    this.X = x;
    this.Y = y;
    this.Z = z;
  public static ImmutableVector3D EqualElementsVector(double
initialValue)
    return new ImmutableVector3D(initialValue, initialValue,
initialValue);
```

```
}

public static ImmutableVector3D OriginVector()
{
   return ImmutableVector3D.EqualElementsVector(0);
}
```

In the new class, the Sum method returns a new instance of the ImmutableVector3D class, that is, the current class. In this case, the OriginVector static method returns the results of calling the EqualElementsVector static method with 0 as an argument. The EqualElementsVector class method receives an initialValue argument for all the elements of the 3D vector, creates an instance of the actual class, and initializes all the elements with the received unique value. The OriginVector static method demonstrates how we can call another static method in a static method.

The following code calls the OriginVector static method to generate a 3D vector, calls the Sum method for the generated instance, and prints all the values for the three elements of the new instance returned by the Sum method on the console output:

```
var vector0 = ImmutableVector3D.OriginVector();
var vector1 = vector0.Sum(5, 10, 15);
Console.WriteLine(vector1.X, vector1.Y, vector1.Z);
```



C# doesn't allow users of the ImmutableVector3D class to change the values of X, Y, and Z properties. The code doesn't compile if you try to assign a new value to any of these properties. Thus, we can say that the ImmutableVector3D class is 100 percent immutable.

Encapsulating data in JavaScript

First, we will add properties to a constructor function in JavaScript. Then, we will use local variables to hide and protect specific members of a class from unauthorized access. We will use property getters and setters to control how we write and retrieve values to and from related local variables.

We will use methods to add behaviors to objects. Also, we will create the mutable and immutable version of a 3D vector to understand the difference between an object that mutates state and an object that doesn't.

Adding properties to a constructor function

As it so happens with dogs, cats also have breeds. The ScottishFold constructor function provides a blueprint for cats that belong to the Scottish Fold breed. We will use the ScottishFold constructor function to understand how we can take advantage of the fact that a constructor function is an object in JavaScript.

As it so happens with any other cat breeds, Scottish Fold cats have some profile values. We will add the following properties to the constructor function to store the values that are shared by all the members of the Scottish Fold breed. Note that the valid values for scores range from 0 to 5; 0 is the lowest skill and 5 the highest:

- generalHealth: This is a score based on the genetic illnesses that are common to the cat breed
- affectionateWithFamily: This is a score based on the probability for the cat to shower the whole family with affection
- intelligence: This is a score based on how smart the cats that belong to this breed are
- kidFriendly: This is a score based on how tolerant of children the cats that belong to this breed are
- petFriendly: This is a score based on the likeliness of the cats that belong to this breed are to accept other pets at home

The following code defines a ScottishFold constructor function and then adds the previously enumerated attributes as properties of the constructor function:

```
function ScottishFold(name, favoriteToy, energy) {
   this.name = name;
   this.favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
   this.energy = energy;
}

ScottishFold.generalHealth = 3;
ScottishFold.affectionateWithFamily = 5;
ScottishFold.intelligence = 4;
ScottishFold.kidFriendly = 5;
ScottishFold.petFriendly = 4;
```

The preceding code assigns a value to properties of the ScottishFold constructor function after the definition of the constructor function. The following line of code prints the value of the previously declared generalHealth property. Note that we didn't use the ScottishFold constructor function to create any instance; we specify an attribute after the constructor function name and a dot:

```
console.log(ScottishFold.generalHealth)
```

You can assign a new value to any constructor function property. For example, the following line of code assigns the value 4 to the generalHealth property:

```
ScottishFold.generalHealth = 4;
```

The following lines of code creates an instance with the ScottishFold constructor function and then prints the value of the generalHealth property. In this case, we can use an instance to access a property through the constructor function stored in the constructor property:

```
Var lucifer = new ScottishFold("Lucifer", "Tennis ball", 4);
console.log(lucifer.constructor.generalHealth);
```

Hiding data in JavaScript with local variables

The previously declared ScottishFold constructor function generates instances that expose the instance and constructor function properties without any kind of restriction. Thus, we can access these properties and change their values.

JavaScript doesn't provide access modifiers. However, we can declare local variables in constructor functions to protect them from being accessed outside of the object blueprint definition. Only functions that are declared in the constructor function will be able to access local variables. The following code shows a new version of the ScottishFold constructor function that declares three local variables using the var keyword instead of the this. prefix. In addition, the following code adds a leading underscore (_) to the names:

```
function ScottishFold(name, favoriteToy, energy) {
  var _name = name;
  var _favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
  var _energy = energy;
}
```

The constructor function saves the values of all the three arguments in local variables. Thus, if we create a ScottishFold instance, we won't be able to access these variables. The following code tries to retrieve the value of all the local variables from a ScottishFold instance. The three lines that use all the variable names display undefined because there is no property with specified names. Only functions that are defined in the constructor function can access all the local variables:

```
Var lucifer = new ScottishFold("Lucifer", "Tennis ball", 4);
console.log(lucifer._name);
console.log(lucifer._favoriteToy);
console.log(lucifer._energy);
```

Using property getters and setters in JavaScript

JavaScript provides a mechanism to specify the getter method and/or setter method for properties. We want to make the following changes to our ScottishFold class:

- Encapsulate the name local variable with a read-only name property
- Encapsulate the favoriteToy local variable with a favoriteToy property
- Encapsulate the _energy local variable with an energy property and include a code in the setter method to assign 0 to the underlying attribute if the value specified is lower than 0, and assign 5 if the value specified is higher than 5

We want a read-only name property; therefore, we just need to define a getter method that returns the value of the related _name local variable. We just need to add some code in the class function declaration:

```
function ScottishFold(name, favoriteToy, energy) {
  var _name = name;
  var _favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
  var _energy = energy;

Object.defineProperty(this, 'name', { get: function() { return _name; }
});
}
```

The code calls the Object.defineProperty function with the following arguments:

- this: This is the instance.
- 'name': This is the desired name for the property as a string.
- This is an object with the getter function code specified in the get property. Note that the getter function can access the _name variable defined in the constructor function.

After we add a getter method to define a read-only name property, we can create an instance of the edited constructor function and write code that reads, tries to change, and reads again the value of the name read-only property, as shown in the following code:

```
var lucifer = new ScottishFold("Lucifer", "Tennis ball", 4);
console.log(lucifer.name);
lucifer.name = "Jerry";
console.log(lucifer.name);
```

After we change the value of the name property, we can print the value of this property on the JavaScript console. It's still the same value that we specified when calling the Lucifer constructor function. There is no setter method defined; therefore, name is a read-only property.

We want to encapsulate the _favoriteToy local variable with a favoriteToy property; therefore, we have to define getter and setter methods. The getter method returns the value of the related _favoriteToy local variable. The setter method receives the new favorite toy value as a val argument named and assigns this value to the related _favoriteToy local variable. The following code in the class function declaration will do the job:

```
function ScottishFold(name, favoriteToy, energy) {
  var _name = name;
  var _favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
  var _energy = energy;

  Object.defineProperty(this, 'name', { get: function() { return _name;
  });
   Object.defineProperty(this, 'favoriteToy', { get: function() {
  return _favoriteToy; }, set: function(val) { _favoriteToy = val; } });
}
```

The setter method for the favoriteToy property is very simple because it just assigns the specified value to the related local variable. The energy property requires a setter method with more code to transform values lower than 0 to 0 and values higher than 5 to 5. The following code in the constructor function will do the job:

```
function ScottishFold(name, favoriteToy, energy) {
  var _name = name;
  var _favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
  var _energy = energy;

  Object.defineProperty(this, 'name', { get: function() { return _name; } });
```

```
Object.defineProperty(this, 'favoriteToy', { get: function() { return _ favoriteToy; }, set: function(val) { _ favoriteToy = val; } });
Object.defineProperty(
this,
  'energy', {
    get: function() { return _ energy; },
    set: function(val) {
        if (val < 0) {
            _energy = 0;
        } else if (val > 5) {
            _energy = 5;
        } else {
            _energy = val;
        }
    }
}
});
```

After we add the energy property, we can create an instance of the edited class and try to set different values to this property, as shown in the following code:

```
var garfield = new ScottishFold("Garfield", "Pillow", 1);
garfield.energy = -7;
console.log(Garfield.energy);
garfield.energy = 35;
console.log(Garfield.energy);
garfield.energy = 3;
console.log(Garfield.energy);
```

In the preceding code, after we specified -7 as the desired value for the energy property, we printed its actual value to the console. The result was 0. After we specified 35, the actual printed value was 5. Finally, after we specified 3, the actual printed value was 3. The code in the setter method did its job; we could control the values accepted for the underlying local variable.

Using methods to add behaviors to constructor functions

So far, we have added methods to a constructor function that produced instance methods in a generated object. In addition, we used getter and setter methods combined with local variables to define properties. Now, we want to generate a constructor function to represent the mutable version of a 3D vector.

We will use properties with simple getter and setter methods for x, y, and z. The sum public instance method receives the delta values for x, y, and z and mutates an object, that is, the method changes the values of x, y, and z. The following code shows the initial code of the MutableVector3D constructor function:

```
function MutableVector3D(x, y, z) {
 var_x = x;
 var_y = y;
 var z = z;
 Object.defineProperty(this, 'x', {
   get: function() { return x; },
    set: function(val) { x = val; }
  });
 Object.defineProperty(this, 'y', {
   get: function() { return _y; },
   set: function(val) { y = val; }
  });
 Object.defineProperty(this, 'z', {
   get: function() { return _z; },
   set: function(val) { _z = val; }
  });
  this.sum = function(deltaX, deltaY, deltaZ) {
    x += deltaX;
   _y += deltaY;
   _z += deltaZ;
}
```

It's a very common requirement to generate a 3D vector with all the values initialized to 0, that is, x = 0, y = 0, and, z = 0. A 3D vector with these values is known as an origin vector. We can add a function to the MutableVector3D constructor function named originVector to generate a new instance of a class with all the values initialized to 0. The following code defines the originVector function:

```
MutableVector3D.originVector = function() {
  return new MutableVector3D(0, 0, 0);
};
```

The method returns a new instance built in the MutableVector3D constructor function with 0 as the initial value for all the three elements. The following code calls the originVector function to generate a 3D vector, calls the sum method for the generated instance, and prints all the values for all the three elements:

```
var mutableVector3D = MutableVector3D.originVector();
mutableVector3D.sum(5, 10, 15);
console.log(mutableVector3D.x, mutableVector3D.y, mutableVector3D.z);
```

Now, we want to generate a constructor function to represent the immutable version of a 3D vector. In this case, we will use read-only properties for x, y, and z. In this case, we will use the ImmutableVector3D.prototype property to define the sum method. The method receives the values of delta for x, y, and z, and returns a new instance with the values of x, y, and z initialized with the results of the sum. The following code shows the ImmutableVector3D constructor function and the additional code that defines all the other methods:

```
function ImmutableVector3D(x, y, z) {
 var x = x;
 var_y = y;
 var_z = z;
 Object.defineProperty(this, 'x', {
   get: function() { return x; }
  });
 Object.defineProperty(this, 'y', {
   get: function() { return y; }
  });
 Object.defineProperty(this, 'z', {
   get: function() { return z; }
 });
}
ImmutableVector3D.prototype.sum = function(deltaX, deltaY, deltaZ) {
 return new ImmutableVector3D(
 this.x + deltaX,
 this.y + deltaY,
 this.z + deltaZ);
ImmutableVector3D.equalElementsVector = function(initialValue) {
  return new ImmutableVector3D(initialValue, initialValue,
initialValue);
```

```
};

ImmutableVector3D.originVector = function() {
  return ImmutableVector3D.equalElementsVector(0);
};
```

Again, note that the preceding code defines the sum method in the ImmutableVector3D.prototype method. This method will be available to all the instances generated in the ImmutableVector3D constructor function. The sum method generates and returns a new instance of ImmutableVector3D. In this case, the originVector method returns the results of calling the equalElementsVector method with 0 as an argument. The equalElementsVector method receives an initialValue argument for all the elements of the 3D vector, creates an instance of the actual class, and initializes all the elements with the received unique value. The originVector method demonstrates how we can call another function defined in the constructor function.

The following code calls the originVector method to generate a 3D vector, calls the sum method for the generated instance, and prints the values for all the three elements of the new instance returned by the sum method:

```
var vector0 = ImmutableVector3D.originVector();
var vector1 = vector0.sum(5, 10, 15);
console.log(vector1.x, vector1.y, vector1.z);
```



In this case, we took advantage of the prototype property. We will dive deeper into the advantages of how to work with the prototype property through out the course of this book.

Summary

In this chapter, we looked at the different members of a class or a blueprint. We worked with naming conventions in Python to hide attributes, took advantage of access modifiers in C#, and worked with local variables in a constructor function in JavaScript. We declared properties in different programming languages and customized their getter and setter methods.

We worked with dogs and cats and defined the shared properties of their breeds in classes and constructor functions. We also worked with mutable and immutable versions of a 3D vector.

Now that you have learned how to encapsulate data, we are ready to work with inheritance and specialization in Python, JavaScript, and C#, which are the topics of the next chapter.

Inheritance and Specialization

In this chapter, we will create a hierarchy of blueprints that generate objects. We will take advantage of inheritance and many related features to specialize behavior in each of the three covered programming languages. We will:

- Use classes to abstract behavior
- Understand the concept of simple inheritance and design a hierarchy of classes
- Learn the difference between overloading and overriding methods
- Understand the concept of overloading operators
- Understand polymorphism
- Take advantage of the prototype chain to use inheritance in JavaScript

Using classes to abstract behavior

So far, we have been creating classes on Python and C# to generate blueprints for real-life objects. In JavaScript we have been using constructor functions to achieve the same goal. Now it is time to take advantage of more advanced features of object-oriented programming and start designing a hierarchy of classes instead of working with isolated classes. Based on our requirements we will first design all the classes that we need. Then we will use all the features available in each of the covered programming languages to code the design.

We worked with dogs, cats, and some of their breeds. Now let's imagine that we have to work with a more complex solution that requires us to work with hundreds of breeds. In addition, we already know that our application will start working with domestic cats and dogs, but in the future it will be necessary to work with other members of the cat family, other mammals, other domestic mammals, reptiles, and birds. Thus, our object-oriented design needs to be ready for expansion purposes if required. However, wait! The animal kingdom is extremely complex and we don't want to model a complete representation of the animal kingdom and its classification; we just want to create all the necessary classes to have a flexible model that can be easily expanded.

So, this time a few classes won't be enough to represent the breeds of cats and dogs. The following list enumerates the classes that we will create along with their descriptions:

- Animal: This is an abstract class that generalizes all the members of the
 animal kingdom. Dogs, cats, reptiles, and birds have one thing in common:
 they are animals. Thus it makes sense to create an abstract class that will
 be the baseline for all the different classes of animals that we will have to
 represent in our object-oriented design.
- Mammal: This is a class that generalizes mammals. They are different from reptiles, amphibians, birds, and insects. We already know that we will also have to model reptiles and birds; therefore, we will create a Mammal class at this level.
- DomesticMammal: The tiger (*Panthera tigris*) is the largest and heaviest living species of the cat family. A tiger is a cat but it is completely different from a domestic cat. Our initial requirements tell us that we will work with domestic and wild animals; therefore, we will create a class that generalizes domestic mammals. In the future, we will have WildMammal that will generalize wild mammals.
- Dog: We could go on specializing the DomesticMammal class with additional subclasses until we reach a Dog class. For example, we can create a CanidCarnivorianDomesticMammal subclass and then make the Dog class inherit from it. However, the kind of application we have to develop doesn't require any intermediary classes between DomesticMammal and Dog. At this level, we will also have a Cat class. The Dog class generalizes the properties and methods required for a dog in our application. Subclasses of the Dog class will represent the different families of the dog breeds. For example, one of the main differences between a dog and a cat in our application domain is that a dog barks and a cat meows.

- TerrierDog: Each dog breed belongs to a family. We will work with a large number of dog breeds, and some profile values determined by their family are very important for our application. Thus we will create a subclass of the Dog class for each family. In this case, the sample TerrierDog class represents the Terrier family.
- SmoothFoxTerrier: Finally, a subclass of the dog breed family class will represent a specific dog breed that belongs to a family. Its breed determines the dog's look and behavior. A dog that belongs to the Smooth Fox Terrier breed will look and behave completely different than a dog that belongs to the Tibetan Spaniel breed. Thus we will create instances of all the classes at this level to give life to each dog in our application. In this case, the SmoothFoxTerrier class models an animal, a mammal, a domestic mammal, a dog, and a terrier family dog, specifically, a dog that belongs to the Smooth Fox Terrier breed.

Each class listed in the preceding list represents a specialization of the previous class, that is, its superclass, parent class, or superset, as shown in the following table:

| Superclass, parent class, or superset | Subclass, child class, or subset |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Animal | Mammal |
| Mammal | DomesticMammal |
| DomesticMammal | Dog |
| Dog | TerrierDog |
| TerrierDog | SmoothFoxTerrier |

Our application requires many members of the Terrier family; therefore, the SmoothFoxTerrier class isn't going to be the only subclass of TerrierDog. In the future, we will have the following three additional subclasses of TerrierDog:

- AiredaleTerrier: This subclass represents the Airedale Terrier breed
- BullTerrier: This subclass represents the Bull Terrier breed
- CairnTerrier: This subclass represents the Cairn Terrier breed

Understanding inheritance

When a class inherits from another class, it inherits all the elements that compose the parent class, also known as superclass. The class that inherits all the elements of the parent class is known as a subclass. For example, the Mammal subclass inherits all the properties, instance fields or attributes, and class fields or attributes defined in the Animal superclass.



You don't have to forget what you learned in *Chapter 3, Encapsulation of Data,* about access modifiers and naming conventions that restrict access to certain members. We must take them into account to determine the inherited members that we will be able to access in subclasses. Some access modifiers and naming conventions applied to members don't allow subclasses to access these members defined in superclasses.

The Animal abstract class is the baseline for our class hierarchy. We require each animal to specify its age; therefore, we will have to specify the age of the animal when we create an instance of the Animal class. This class will define an age property and display a message whenever an instance of an animal has been created. The Animal class defines two attributes that specify the number of legs and pair of eyes. Both these attributes will be initialized to 0, but its subclasses will have to set a value for these attributes. The Animal class defines two instance methods:

- **Print legs and eyes**: This method prints the number of legs and eyes of an animal
- Print age: This method prints an animal's age

In addition, we want to be able to compare the age of the different Animal instances using the following comparison operators when the programming language allows you to do it. The following are the comparison operators:

- Less than (<)
- Less than or equal to (<=)
- Greater than (>)
- Greater than or equal to (>=)

If your programming language doesn't allow you to use the previously enumerated operators to compare the age of the Animal instances, we can define instance methods with their appropriate names in the Animal class to achieve the same goal.

Wait! We said that we had to print a message whenever we created an Animal instance. However, we want animal to be an abstract class; therefore, we aren't supposed to create instances of this class. Thus, it seems that it is completely impossible to achieve our goal. When we inherit from a class, we also inherit its constructor; therefore, we can call the inherited constructor to run the initialization code for the base class. This way, it is possible to know when an instance of Animal is being created even when it is an abstract class. In fact, all the instances of subclasses of the Animal class are going to be instances of Animal too.

The Mammal abstract class inherits from the Animal superclass and specifies 1 as the value for a pair of eyes. The Animal superclass defines this class attribute with 0 as the initial value, but the Mammal subclass overwrites it with 1. So far, all the mammals discovered on earth have just one pair of eyes. If scientists discover evidence of a mammal with more than one pair of eyes, we don't need this weird animal in our application; therefore, we won't worry about it.

We require each mammal to specify its age and whether it is pregnant when you create an instance of a mammal. The Mammal class inherits the age property from the Animal superclass; therefore, it is only necessary to add a property that allows you to access the is pregnant attribute. Note that we don't specify the gender at any time in order to keep things simple. If we add a gender attribute, we will need a validation to avoid a male gender being pregnant. Right now, our focus is on inheritance. The Mammal class displays a message whenever a mammal is created.



Each class inherits from one class; therefore, each new class that we will define has just one superclass. In this case, we will always work with *single inheritance*.

The DomesticMammal abstract class inherits from the Mammal class. We require each DomesticMammal abstract class to specify its name and favorite toy. Any domestic mammal has a name; it always picks a favorite toy. Sometimes, the favorite toy is not exactly the toy we would like them to pick (our shoes or sneakers), but let's keep the focus on our classes. It is necessary to add a read-only property that allows you to access the name attribute and the read/write property for the favorite toy. You cannot change the name of the domestic mammal, but you can force the mammal to change its favorite toy. The DomesticMammal class displays a message whenever a domestic mammal is created.

The talk instance method will display a message. This message indicates that the domestic mammal name is concatenated with the word talk. Each subclass must make the specific domestic mammal talk in a different way. A parrot can really talk but we will consider a dog's bark and a cat's meow as if they were talking.

The Dog class inherits from DomesticMammal and specifies 4 as the value for the number of legs. The Animal class, that is the Mammal superclass, defined this class attribute with 0 as its value, but Dog overwrites this inherited attribute with 4. The Dog class displays a message whenever a dog instance is created.

We want dogs to be able to bark; therefore, we need a bark method. The bark method has to allow a dog to perform the following things:

- Bark happily just once
- Bark happily a specific number of times
- Bark happily to another domestic mammal with a name just once
- Bark happily to another domestic mammal with a name a specific number of times
- Bark angrily just once
- Bark angrily a specific number of times
- Bark angrily to another domestic mammal with a name just once
- Bark angrily to another domestic mammal with a name a specific number of times

We can have just one bark method or many bark methods. There are different mechanisms to solve the challenges of the different ways in which a dog must be able to bark. Not all the programming languages support the same mechanisms introduced in the classic object-oriented programming approach.

When we call the talk method for any dog, we want it to bark happily once. We don't want to display the message defined in the talk method introduced in the DomesticMammal class.

We want to know the breed and the breed family to which a dog belongs. Thus, we will define the dog's breed and breed family class attributes. Each subclass of the Dog superclass must specify the appropriate value for these class attributes. In addition, the two class methods will allow you to print the dog's breed and the dog's breed family.

The TerrierDog class inherits from Dog and specifies Terrier as the value for the breed family. This class displays a message whenever a TerrierDog class has been created.

Finally, the SmoothFoxTerrier class inherits from TerrierDog and specifies Smooth Fox Terrier as the value for the dog's breed. The SmoothFoxTerrier class displays a message whenever a SmoothFoxTerrier class has been created.

Understanding method overloading and overriding

Some programming languages allow you to define a method with the same name multiple times by passing different arguments. This feature is known as **method overloading**. In some cases, we can overload a constructor. However, it is very important to mention that a similar effect can be achieved with optional parameters or default values for specific arguments.

For example, we can take advantage of method overloading in a programming language that supports it to define multiple instances of the bark method. However, it is very important to avoid code duplication when we overload methods.

Sometimes, we define a method in a class and know that a subclass may need to provide a different instance of this method. When a subclass provides a different implementation of a method defined in a superclass with the same name, same arguments, and same return type, we say that we have overridden a method. When we override a method, the implementation in the subclass overwrites the code given in the superclass.

It is also possible to override properties and other members of a class in subclasses.

Understanding operator overloading

Some programming languages, such as C# and Python, allow you to redefine specific operators to work in a different way based on the classes in which we apply them. For example, we can use comparison operators—such as less than (<) and greater than (>)—to return the results of comparing the age value when they are applied to instances of Dog.



The redefinition of operators to work in a specific way when applied to instances of specific classes is known as operator overloading.

An operator that works in one way when applied to an instance of a class may work differently on instances of another class. We can also override the overloaded operators in subclasses. For example, we can make comparison operators work in a different way in a superclass and its subclasses.

Taking advantage of polymorphism

We can use the same method, the same name, and same arguments to cause different things to happen according to the class in which we invoke a method. In object-oriented programming, this feature is known as *polymorphism*.

For example, consider that we define a talk method in the Animal class. The different subclasses of Animal must override this method to provide its own implementation of talk.

A Dog class will override this method to print the representation of a dog barking, that is, a Woof message. On the other hand, a Cat class will override this method to print the representation of a cat meowing, that is, a Meow message.

Now, let's think about a CartoonDog class that represents a dog that can really talk as part of a cartoon. The CartoonDog class will override the talk method to print a Hello message because the dog can really talk.

Thus, depending on the type of the instance, we will see a different result after invoking the same method along with the same arguments, even if all of them are subclasses of the same base class, that is, the Animal class.

Working with simple inheritance in Python

Firstly, we will create a base class in Python. Then we will use simple inheritance to create subclasses. We will then override methods and overload comparison operators to be able to compare different instances of a specific class and its subclasses. We will take advantage of this polymorphism.

Creating classes that specialize behavior in Python

Now it is time to code all the classes in Python. The following lines show the code for the Animal class in Python. The class header doesn't specify a base class; therefore, this class inherits from an object, that is, the most base type for any class in Python. Remember that we are working with Python 3.x and that the syntax to achieve the same goal in Python 2.x is different. In Python 3.x, a class that doesn't specify a base class implicitly inherits from an object:

```
class Animal:
    _number_of_legs = 0
```

```
__pairs_of_eyes = 0

def __init__(self, age):
    self._age = age
    print("Animal created")

@property
def age(self):
    return self._age

@age.setter
def age(self, age):
    self._age = age

def print_legs_and_eyes(self):
    print("I have " + str(self._number_of_legs) + " legs and " + str(self._pairs_of_eyes * 2) + " eyes.")

def print_age(self):
    print("I am " + str(self._age) + " years old.")
```

The Animal class in the preceding code declares two protected class attributes initialized to 0: _number_of_legs and _pairs_of_eyes. The __init__ method requires an age value to create an instance of the Animal class and prints a message indicating that an animal has been created. This class encapsulates the _age protected instance attribute as an age property. In addition, the Animal class defines the following two instance methods:

- print_legs_and_eyes: This method displays the total number of eyes based on the pairs of eyes value
- print age: This method displays the age based on the age value

We have to add more code to this class to be able to compare the age of all the different Animal instances using operators. We will add the necessary code to this class later.

Using simple inheritance in Python

The following lines show the code for the Mammal class that inherits from Animal. Note the class keyword followed by the class name: Mammal, the superclass from which it inherits enclosed in parenthesis (Animal), and a colon (:) that contains the header of the class definition:

```
class Mammal(Animal):
```

```
_pairs_of_eyes = 1

def __init__(self, age, is_pregnant=False):
    super().__init__(age)
    self._is_pregnant = is_pregnant
    print("Mammal created")

@property
def is_pregnant(self):
    return self._is_pregnant

@is_pregnant.setter
def is_pregnant(self, is_pregnant):
    self. is pregnant = is pregnant
```

The Mammal class overwrites the value of the _pairs_of_eyes protected class attribute with 1. Remember that the protected class attribute was present in the Animal class body, but initialized with 0.

The __init__ method requires an age value to create an instance of a class and specifies an additional optional argument, is_pregnant, whose default value is False. If we don't specify the value for is_pregnant, Python will use the default value indicated in the method declaration. We cannot declare multiple __init__ method versions with a different number of parameters within a class in Python; therefore, we can take advantage of optional parameters.

The first line in the __init__ method invokes the __init__ method defined in the superclass, that is, the Animal class. This superclass defined the __init__ method with just one argument: the age value; therefore, we call it using the age value received as an argument (age) in our __init__ method:

```
super(). init (age)
```



We use super () to reference the superclass of the current class.

The __init__ method defined in the superclass initializes the value for the _age protected instance attribute and prints a message indicating that an Animal instance has been created. When the __init__ method returns a value, the following code initializes the value of the _is_pregnant instance attribute and prints a message indicating that a mammal has been created:

```
self._is_pregnant = is_pregnant
print("Mammal created")
```

Overriding methods in Python

The following lines show the code for the <code>DomesticMammal</code> class that inherits from <code>Mammal</code>. The <code>class</code> keyword followed by the class name <code>DomesticMammal</code>, the superclass from which it inherits enclosed in parenthesis (<code>Mammal</code>), and a colon (:) that composes the header of the class definition is shown in the following code:

```
class DomesticMammal(Mammal):
   def init (self, name, age, favorite toy, is pregnant=False):
       super().__init__(age, is_pregnant)
       self. name = name
       self. favorite toy = favorite toy
       print("DomesticMammal created")
   @property
   def name(self):
        return self. name
   @property
   def favorite toy(self):
       return self. favorite toy
   @favorite toy.setter
   def favorite toy(self, favorite toy):
        self._favorite_toy = favorite_toy
   def talk(self):
       print(self._name + ": talks")
```

The __init__ method requires a name, an age, and a favorite_toy to create an instance of a class. In addition, this method specifies an additional optional argument (is_pregnant) whose default value is False. As in the Mammal class, the first line in the __init__ method invokes the __init__ method defined in the superclass, that is, the Mammal class. The superclass defined the __init__ method with two arguments: age and is_pregnant. Thus, we call the __init__ method using arguments that have the same names in our __init__ method:

```
super().__init__(age, is_pregnant)
```

After it finishes initializing attributes, the __init__ method prints a message indicating that a DomesticMammal class has been created. This class defines a name read-only property and a favorite_toy property that encapsulate the _name and _favorite_toy protected instance attributes. The talk instance method displays a message with the _name value, followed by a colon (:) and talks.

The following lines of code show the code for the Dog class that inherits from DomesticMammal:

```
class Dog(DomesticMammal):
    number of legs = 4
    breed = "Just a dog"
    _breed_family = "Dog"
    def __init__(self, name, age, favorite_toy, is_pregnant=False):
        super().__init__(name, age, favorite_toy, is_pregnant)
        print("Dog created")
    def bark(self, times=1, other_domestic_mammal=None, is_
angry=False):
        message = self.name
        if other_domestic_mammal is not None:
            message += " to " + other_domestic_mammal.name + ": "
        else:
            message += ": "
        if is angry:
            message += "Grr "
        message += "Woof " * times
        print(message)
    def talk(self):
        self.bark()
    @classmethod
    def print breed(cls):
        print(cls. breed)
    @classmethod
    def print_breed_family(cls):
        print(cls. breed family)
```

The Dog class in the preceding code overrides the talk method from <code>DomesticMammal</code> in <code>Dog</code>. As with the <code>__init__</code> method that has been overridden in all the subclasses we have been creating, we just declare this method with the same name. There is no need to add any decorator or keyword in Python to override a method defined in a superclass.

However, in this case the talk method doesn't invoke the __init__ method with the same name for its superclass, that is, we don't use super() to invoke the talk method defined in DomesticMammal. The talk method in the Dog class invokes the bark method without parameters because dogs bark and don't talk.

The bark method declaration includes three optional arguments. This way, we can call it without parameters or with values for different optional arguments. Python doesn't allow us to overload methods; therefore, we can take advantage of optional arguments. The bark method prints a message based on the specified number of times (times), the destination domestic mammal (other_domestic_mammal), and whether the dog is angry or not (is angry).

The Dog class also declares two class attributes: _breed and _breed_family. We will override the values of these attributes in the subclasses of Dog. The print_breed class method displays the value of the _breed class attribute and the print_breed_family class method displays the value of the _breed_family class attribute. We won't override these class methods in our subclasses because we just need to override the values of the class attributes to achieve our goals. If we call these class methods from an instance of a subclass of Dog, these methods will execute the code specified in the Dog class, that is, the last class in the class hierarchy to override the talk method, but this code will use the value of the class attributes overridden in subclasses. Thus we will see a message that displays the values of all the class attributes as defined in our subclasses.

The following lines show the code for the TerrierDog class that inherits from Dog:

```
class TerrierDog(Dog):
    _breed = "Terrier dog"
    _breed_family = "Terrier"

def __init__(self, name, age, favorite_toy, is_pregnant=False):
    super().__init__(name, age, favorite_toy, is_pregnant)
    print("TerrierDog created")
```

As happened in other subclasses that we have been coding, the __init__ method requires a name, an age, and a favorite_toy attribute to create an instance of the TerrierDog class; we also have the optional is_pregnant argument. The __init__ method invokes a method with the same name defined in the superclass, that is, the Dog class. Then the __init__ method prints a message indicating that a TerrierDog instance has been created. The Dog class sets "Terrier dog" and "Terrier" as _ , which is the value for the breed and _breed_family class attributes defined in the superclass.

The following lines show the code for the SmoothFoxTerrier class that inherits from TerrierDog:

```
class SmoothFoxTerrier(TerrierDog):
    _breed = "Smooth Fox Terrier"

def __init__(self, name, age, favorite_toy, is_pregnant=False):
    super().__init__(name, age, favorite_toy, is_pregnant)
    print("SmoothFoxTerrier created")
```

The SmoothFoxTerrier class sets "Smooth Fox Terrier" as the value for the _breed class attribute defined in the Dog class. The __init__ method invokes a method with the same name defined in the superclass, that is the TerrierDog class and then prints a message. This message indicates that a SmoothFoxTerrier class instance has been created.

Overloading operators in Python

We want to be able to compare the age of different Animal instances using the following operators in Python:

- Less than (<)
- Less or equal than (<=)
- Greater than (>)
- Greater or equal than (>=)

We can overload operators in Python to achieve our goals by overriding special instance methods that Python invokes under the hood whenever we use all the operators to compare instances of Animal. We have to override the following methods in the Animal class:

- 1t : This method gets invoked when we use the less than (<) operator
- __le__: This method gets invoked when we use the less than or equals to (<=) operator
- gt : This method gets invoked when we use the greater than (>) operator
- __ge__: This method gets invoked when we use the greater than or equals to
 (>=) operator

All the preceding instance methods have the same declaration. Python passes the instance specified at the right-hand side of the operator as an argument, which is usually named as other. Thus we have self and other as the arguments for the instance method, and we must return a bool value with the result of the application of the operator, in our case with the result of the comparison operator.

Let's consider that we have two instances of Animal or any of its subclasses named animal1 and animal2. If we enter print (animal1 < animal2) on the Python console, Python will invoke the animal1. __lt__ method with self equal to animal1 and other equal to animal2. Thus we must return a Boolean value indicating that self.age < other.age, is equivalent to animal1.age < animal2.age.

We must add the following code to the body of the Animal class:

```
def __lt__(self, other):
    return self.age < other.age

def __le__(self, other):
    return self.age <= other.age

def __gt__(self, other):
    return self.age > other.age

def __ge__(self, other):
    return self.age >= other.age
```

Understanding polymorphism in Python

After we code all the classes, we will enter the following lines on a Python console:

```
SmoothFoxTerrier.print_breed()
SmoothFoxTerrier.print breed family()
```

The following lines show the messages displayed on the Python console after we enter the preceding lines of code:

Smooth Fox Terrier

Terrier

We coded the print_breed and print_breed_family class methods in the Dog class and didn't override these methods in any of the subclasses. However, we have overridden the values of the class attributes whose content these methods display: _breed and _breed_family. The former class attribute is overridden in the SmoothFoxTerrier class and the latter in the TerrierDog class.

We called the class methods from the SmoothFoxTerrier class; therefore, these methods took into account the values of the class attributes overridden in the TerrierDog and the SmoothFoxTerrier classes.

The following code creates an instance of the SmoothFoxTerrier class named tom:

```
tom = SmoothFoxTerrier("Tom", 5, "Sneakers")
```

The Python console will display the following messages as a result of all the __init__ methods that have been called and prints a message indicating that an instance of a class has been created. Remember that we have overridden each __init__ method in all the different classes up to SmoothFoxTerrier and its included code to call the __init__ method of its superclass and display a message:

```
Animal created

Mammal created

DomesticMammal created

Dog created

TerrierDog created

SmoothFoxTerrier created
```

We don't have six different instances; we just have one instance that calls the __init__ method of six different classes to perform all the necessary initialization in order to create an instance of SmoothFoxTerrier. If we execute the following code on the Python console, all of them will display True as the result because tom is an instance of Animal, Mammal, DomesticMammal, Dog, TerrierDog, and SmoothFoxTerrier:

```
print(isinstance(tom, Animal))
print(isinstance(tom, Mammal))
print(isinstance(tom, DomesticMammal))
print(isinstance(tom, Dog))
print(isinstance(tom, TerrierDog))
print(isinstance(tom, SmoothFoxTerrier))
```

The following code creates two additional instances of SmoothFoxTerrier named pluto and goofy:

```
pluto = SmoothFoxTerrier("Pluto", 6, "Tennis ball")
goofy = SmoothFoxTerrier("Goofy", 8, "Soda bottle")
```

The following code uses all the four operators that we overloaded in the Animal class: greater than (>), less than (<), greater than or equal to (>=), and less than or equal to (<=). Remember that we have overridden special instance methods in the Animal class that Python invokes under the hood whenever we use these operators. In this case, we apply these operators on instances of SmoothFoxTerrier, and the Animal class inherits the overridden special instance methods from the Animal base class. These four operators return the results of comparing the age value of all the different instances:

```
print(tom > pluto)
print(tom < pluto)
print(goofy >= tom)
print(tom <= goofy)</pre>
```

The following code calls the bark method for the instance named tom with a different number of arguments. This way, we can take advantage of all the optional arguments in Python. Remember that we coded the bark method in the Dog class, and the SmoothFoxTerrier class inherits the bark method from this superclass:

```
tom.bark()
tom.bark(2)
tom.bark(2, pluto)
tom.bark(3, pluto, True)
```

The following code shows the results of calling the bark method using different arguments:

```
Tom: Woof
Tom: Woof Woof
Tom to Pluto: Woof Woof
Tom to Pluto: Grr Woof Woof
```

Working with simple inheritance in C#

First, we will create a base class in C#. Then we will use simple inheritance to create subclasses and specialize behavior. We will override methods and overload comparison operators to be able to compare different instances of a specific class and its subclasses. We will take advantage of this polymorphism.

Creating classes that specialize behavior in C#

Now it is time to code all the classes in C#. The following lines show the code for the Animal abstract class in C#. The class declaration doesn't specify a base class; therefore, this class inherits from Object, specifically System. Object. System. Object is the base class for all the classes included in .NET Framework. The usage of the abstract keyword before class makes this class an abstract class that we cannot use to create instances:

```
public abstract class Animal
{
  protected virtual int NumberOfLegs { get { return 0; } }
  protected virtual int PairsOfEyes { get { return 0; } }
  public int Age { get; set; }
  public Animal(int age)
```

```
{
  this.Age = age;
  Console.WriteLine("Animal created.");
}

public void PrintLegsAndEyes()
{
  Console.WriteLine(
    String.Format("I have {0} legs and {1} eyes.",
    this.NumberOfLegs,
    this.PairsOfEyes * 2));
}

public void PrintAge()
{
  Console.WriteLine(
    String.Format("I am {0} years old."),
    this.Age);
}
```

The preceding class declares two read-only properties: NumberOfLegs and PairsOfEyes. Both these properties return 0 as its value. The usage of the virtual keyword allows you to override properties in any subclass of Animal.



In C#, we have to specify the properties or methods that we allow our subclasses to override by adding the virtual keyword. If we don't include the virtual keyword, a property or method cannot be overridden and we will see a compiler error if we try to do so.

The constructor requires an age value to create an instance of a class and prints a message indicating that an animal has been created. This class uses auto-implemented properties to generate the Age property. In addition, the Animal class defines the following two instance methods:

- PrintLegsAndEyes: This method displays the total number of eyes based on the PairsOfEyes value
- PrintAge: This method displays the age based on the age value

We have to add more code to this class to be able to compare the age of all the different Animal instances using operators. We will add the necessary code to this class later.

Using simple inheritance in C#

We will create many classes in C# which require the following using statements. We will dive deep into how the using statement works and the organization of object-oriented code in *Chapter 7, Organization of Object-Oriented Code*:

```
using System;
using System.Linq;
using System.Text;
```

The following lines show the code for the Mammal abstract class that inherits from Animal. Note the class keyword followed by the Mammal class name, a colon (:), and Animal: the superclass from which it inherits in the class definition:

```
public abstract class Mammal: Animal
{
    protected override int PairsOfEyes { get { return 1; } }
    public bool IsPregnant { get; set; }

    private void Init(bool isPregnant)
    {
        this.IsPregnant = isPregnant;
        Console.WriteLine("Mammal created.");
    }

    public Mammal(int age) : base(age)
    {
        this.Init(false);
    }

    public Mammal(int age, bool isPregnant) : base(age)
    {
        this.Init(isPregnant);
    }
}
```

The Mammal class name overrides the PairsOfEyes property and defines a new getter method that returns 1. Remember that the protected class attribute was declared using the virtual keyword in the Animal class body, but the getter method returned 0. In this case, the property declaration uses the override keyword to override the property declaration of the superclass.



We will use the virtual keyword to indicate that a property or method can be overridden in subclasses. Also, we will use the override keyword to override a property or method that was declared with the virtual keyword in a superclass.

Note that this Animal class declares two constructors. One of the constructors requires the age value to create an instance of a class. The other constructor requires the age and isPregnant value. If we create an instance of this class with just one int argument, C# will use the first constructor. If we create an instance of this class with two arguments: one int value and one bool value, C# will use the second constructor. Thus, we have overloaded the constructor and provided two different constructors. Of course, we can also take advantage of optional parameters. However, in this case we want to overload constructors.

The lines that declare two constructors are followed by a colon(:). A call to the constructor of the superclass with the age value is received as an argument. The base keyword enables you to call the superclass' constructor. Once the superclass' constructor finishes its execution, both constructors call the Init private method which initializes the IsPregnant property with a value received as an argument or the default false value in case it wasn't specified. The following code shows both constructor declarations:

```
public Mammal(int age) : base(age)
public Mammal(int age, bool isPregnant) : base(age)
```



We use base to reference the superclass' constructor.

The superclass' constructor initializes the value for the Age property and prints a message indicating that an Animal instance has been created. When a method returns, the Init private method defined in the Mammal class initializes the value of the IsPregnant property and prints a message indicating that a Mammal has been created. Don't forget that we cannot access private methods from subclasses; therefore, the Init method is only visible in the Mammal class.

Overloading and overriding methods in C#

The following lines show the code for the DomesticMammal class that inherits from Mammal. Note the class keyword followed by the DomesticMammal class name, a colon (:), and Mammal, the superclass from which it inherits in the class definition:

```
public abstract class DomesticMammal: Mammal
 public string Name { get; private set; }
 public string FavoriteToy { get; set; }
  private void Init(string name, string favoriteToy)
    this.Name = name;
    this.FavoriteToy = favoriteToy;
    Console.WriteLine("DomesticMammal created.");
  public virtual void Talk()
    Console.WriteLine(String.Format("{0}: talks", this.Name));
  public DomesticMammal(string name, int age, string favoriteToy)
    : base(age)
    this.Init(name, favoriteToy);
  public DomesticMammal(string name, int age, string favoriteToy, bool
isPregnant)
    : base(age, isPregnant)
    this.Init(name, favoriteToy);
}
```

The preceding class declares two constructors. The first constructor requires the name, age, and favoriteToy values to create an instance of a class. The other constructor adds the isPregnant argument. As in the Mammal class, the lines that declare both constructors are followed by a colon (:) and a call to the superclass' constructor. In one case, we just need the age value received as an argument, whereas in the other case, it is necessary to add the isPregnant value. Once the superclass' constructor finishes its execution, both constructors call the Init private method that initializes the properties of Name and FavoriteToy. After the Init method finishes initializing its properties, it prints a message indicating that DomesticMammal has been created. The following code shows the declarations of two constructors:

```
public DomesticMammal(string name, int age, string favoriteToy) :
base(age)
public DomesticMammal(string name, int age, string favoriteToy, bool
isPregnant) : base(age, isPregnant)
```

The class defines a Name read-only property and a FavoriteToy property with autoimplemented properties. The Talk instance method displays a message with the Name value. This is followed by a colon (:) and talks. Note that a method uses the virtual keyword in its declaration; therefore, we can override it in any subclass.

The following lines show the code for the Dog class that inherits from DomesticMammal:

```
public class Dog : DomesticMammal
{
   protected override int NumberOfLegs { get { return 4; } }
   public virtual string Breed { get { return "Just a dog"; } }
   public virtual string BreedFamily { get { return "Dog"; } }

   private void Init()
   {
      Console.WriteLine("Dog created.");
   }

   public Dog(string name, int age, string favoriteToy, bool isPregnant): base(name, age, favoriteToy, isPregnant)
   {
      this.Init();
   }

   public Dog(string name, int age, string favoriteToy)
   : base(name, age, favoriteToy)
   {
```

```
this.Init();
  public void PrintBreed()
    Console.WriteLine(this.Breed);
 public void PrintBreedFamily()
    Console.WriteLine(this.BreedFamily);
  private void PrintBark(int times, DomesticMammal
otherDomesticMammal, bool isAngry)
    var sb = new StringBuilder();
    sb.Append(this.Name);
    if (otherDomesticMammal != null)
      sb.Append(String.Format(" to {0}: ", otherDomesticMammal.Name));
    else
      sb.Append(": ");
    if (isAngry)
      sb.Append("Grr ");
    sb.Append(string.Concat(Enumerable.Repeat("Woof ", times)));
    Console.WriteLine(sb.ToString());
 public void Bark()
    this.PrintBark(1, null, false);
  public void Bark(int times)
```

```
{
    this.PrintBark(times, null, false);
}

public void Bark(int times, DomesticMammal otherDomesticMammal)
{
    this.PrintBark(times, otherDomesticMammal, false);
}

public void Bark(int times, DomesticMammal otherDomesticMammal, bool isAngry)
{
    this.PrintBark(times, otherDomesticMammal, isAngry);
}

public override void Talk()
{
    this.Bark();
}
```

The Dog class overrides the Talk method from DomesticMammal in Dog. As in the overridden properties of other subclasses, we just add the override keyword to the method declaration. This method doesn't invoke a method with the same name for its superclass, that is, we don't use the base keyword to invoke the Talk method defined in DomesticMammal. The Talk method in the Dog class invokes the Bark method without parameters because dogs bark and don't talk.

The Bark method is overloaded with four declarations with different arguments. The following lines show all the four different declarations included in the class body:

```
public void Bark()
public void Bark(int times)
public void Bark(int times, DomesticMammal otherDomesticMammal)
public void Bark(int times, DomesticMammal otherDomesticMammal, bool
isAngry)
```

This way, we can call any of the defined Bark methods based on the arguments that are provided. All the four methods end up invoking the PrintBark private method with different default values for all the arguments not provided in the call to Bark. The method uses StringBuilder to build and print a message based on the specified number of times (times), the destination domestic mammal (otherDomesticMammal), and whether the dog is angry or not (isAngry).

The Dog class also declares two read-only properties: Breed and BreedFamily. We will override the values of these properties in the subclasses of Dog so that they include the virtual keyword in their declaration. The PrintBreed instance method displays the value of the Breed property attribute, whereas the PrintBreedFamily instance method displays the value of the BreedFamily property. We won't override these instance methods in our subclasses because we just need to override the values of two read-only properties to achieve our goals. If we call these instance methods from an instance of a subclass of Dog, these methods will execute the code specified in the Dog class but this code will use the value of all the properties overridden in subclasses. Thus, we will see the messages that displays the values of all the properties as defined in subclasses.

The following lines show the code for the TerrierDog class that inherits from Dog:

```
public class TerrierDog : Dog
{
  public override string Breed { get { return "Terrier dog"; } }
  public override string BreedFamily { get { return "Terrier"; } }

  private void Init()
  {
    Console.WriteLine("TerrierDog created.");
  }

  public TerrierDog(string name, int age, string favoriteToy)
    : base(name, age, favoriteToy)
  {
     this.Init();
  }

  public TerrierDog(string name, int age, string favoriteToy, bool isPregnant)
    : base(name, age, favoriteToy, isPregnant)
    {
      this.Init();
    }
}
```

As in the other subclasses that we have been coding, we have more than one constructor defined for a class. In this case, one of the constructors require the name, age, and favoriteToy values to create an instance of the TerrierDog class, and we also have a constructor that adds the isPregnant argument. Both constructors invoke the superclass' constructor and then call the private Init method. This method prints a message. This message indicates that TerrierDog has been created. The class sets "Terrier dog" and "Terrier" as the value for the properties of Breed and BreedFamily that were defined in the superclass and overridden in this TerrierDog class.

The following lines show the code for the SmoothFoxTerrier class that inherits from TerrierDog:

```
public class SmoothFoxTerrier : TerrierDog
{
   public override string Breed { get { return "Smooth Fox Terrier"; }
}

   private void Init()
   {
      Console.WriteLine("Smooth Fox Terrier created.");
}

   public SmoothFoxTerrier(string name, int age, string favoriteToy)
      : base(name, age, favoriteToy)
   {
      this.Init();
   }

   public SmoothFoxTerrier(string name, int age, string favoriteToy, bool isPregnant)
      : base(name, age, favoriteToy, isPregnant)
      {
      this.Init();
    }
}
```

The SmoothFoxTerrier class sets "Smooth Fox Terrier" as the value for the Breed property defined in the Dog class, which is overridden in this class. The SmoothFoxTerrier class defines two constructors with exactly the same parameters that were specified in the two constructors defined in the superclass. Both constructors invoke two constructors defined in the superclass and then call the Init private method. This method prints a message indicating that an instance of the SmoothFoxTerrier class has been created.

Overloading operators in C#

We want to be able to compare the age of different Animal instances using the following operators in C#:

- Less than (<)
- Less than or equal to (<=)
- Greater than (>)
- Greater than or equal to (>=)

We can overload the preceding operators in C# to achieve our goals by declaring operators in the Animal class that work as static methods that receive two arguments. C# will invoke operators under the hood whenever we use these operators to compare instances of Animal. We have to declare the following operators in the Animal class:

- <: This operator is invoked when we use the less than (<) operator
- <=: This operator is invoked when we use the less than or equal to
 (<=) operator
- >: This operator is invoked when we use the greater than (>) operator
- >=: This operator is invoked when we use the greater than or equal to
 (>=) operator

All the preceding operators have the same declaration. C# passes the instance specified at the left-hand side of the operator as the first argument and the instance specified at the right-hand side of the operator as the second argument. We will use names such as self and other for these arguments. Thus we have self and other as the arguments for operators, and we must return a bool value with the result of the application of the operator, in our case, with the result of the comparison operator.

Let's consider that we have two instances of Animal or any of its subclasses named animal1 and animal2. If we enter Console.WriteLine(animal1 < animal2);, C# will invoke the < operator for the Animal class as a static method with self equal to animal1 and other equal to animal2. Thus we must return a bool value indicating that self.age < other.age is equivalent to animal1.age < animal2.age.

We must add the following code to the body of the Animal class:

```
public static bool operator <(Animal self, Animal other)
{
  return self.Age < other.Age;</pre>
```

```
public static bool operator <=(Animal self, Animal other)
{
  return self.Age <= other.Age;
}

public static bool operator >(Animal self, Animal other)
{
  return self.Age > other.Age;
}

public static bool operator >=(Animal self, Animal other)
{
  return self.Age >= other.Age;
}
```

Understanding polymorphism in C#

After we code all the classes, we can write code in the Main method of a console application. The following are the first code of the Main method that create an instance of the SmoothFoxTerrier class named tom. Let's use one of its constructors that doesn't require the isPregnant argument:

```
var tom = new SmoothFoxTerrier("Tom", 5, "Sneakers");
tom.PrintBreed();
tom.PrintBreedFamily();
```

The following code shows the messages that will be displayed on the Windows console after we enter the preceding code:

```
Animal created.

Mammal created.

DomesticMammal created.

Dog created.

TerrierDog created.

Smooth Fox Terrier created.

Smooth Fox Terrier

Terrier
```

First, the Windows console displays the messages by each constructor that has been called. Remember that each constructor called its base class constructor and printed a message indicating that an instance of the class has been created. We don't have six different instances; we just have one instance that has been calling the chained constructors of six different classes to perform all the necessary initialization to create an instance of SmoothFoxTerrier. If we execute the following code in the Immediate window of Visual Studio, all of them will return true as the result because tom is an Animal, a Mammal, a DomesticMammal, a Dog, a TerrierDog, and a breed of SmoothFoxTerrier:

```
tom is Animal
tom is Mammal
tom is DomesticMammal
tom is Dog
tom is TerrierDog
tom is SmoothFoxTerrier
```

We coded the PrintBreed and PrintBreedFamily methods in the Dog class and we didn't override these methods in any of the subclasses. However, we have overridden the properties whose content these methods display: Breed and BreedFamily. The former property is overridden in the SmoothFoxTerrier class and the latter in the TerrierDog class.

The following code creates two additional instances of SmoothFoxTerrier named pluto and goofy. In this case, both code use the constructor that receives the isPregnant argument:

```
var pluto = new SmoothFoxTerrier("Pluto", 6, "Tennis ball", false);
var goofy = new SmoothFoxTerrier("Goofy", 8, "Soda bottle", false);
```

The following code uses the four operators that we have overloaded in the Animal class: greater than (>), less than (<), greater than or equal to (>=), and less than or equal to (<=). In this case, we apply these operators on instances of SmoothFoxTerrier, and the Animal class inherits the operators from the Animal base class. The four operators return the results of comparing the age value of the different instances:

```
Console.WriteLine(tom > pluto);
Console.WriteLine(tom < pluto);
Console.WriteLine(goofy >= tom);
Console.WriteLine(tom <= goofy);</pre>
```

The following code calls the Bark method for the tom instance with a different number of arguments. This way, we can take advantage of the Bark method that we overloaded four times with different arguments in C#. Remember that we coded the four Bark methods in the Dog class and the SmoothFoxTerrier class inherits the overloaded methods from this superclass:

```
tom.Bark();
tom.Bark(2);
tom.Bark(2, pluto);
tom.Bark(3, pluto, true);
```

The following code shows the results of calling the methods with the different arguments:

```
Tom: Woof
Tom: Woof Woof
Tom to Pluto: Woof Woof
Tom to Pluto: Grr Woof Woof
```

Working with the prototype-based inheritance in JavaScript

First, we will create a constructor function in JavaScript and define properties and methods in its prototype. Then, we will take advantage of prototype-based inheritance in order to create objects that specialize the behavior defined in the baseline prototype. We will override methods and properties.

Creating objects that specialize behavior in JavaScript

Now it is time to code objects in JavaScript. The following code defines the Animal empty constructor function in JavaScript, followed by the declaration of properties and functions for the Animal prototype:

```
function Animal() {}
Animal.prototype.numberOfLegs = 0;
Animal.prototype.pairsOfEyes = 0;
Animal.prototype.age = 0;
Animal.prototype.printLegsAndEyes = function() {
```

```
console.log("I have " + this.numberOfLegs + " legs and " + this.
pairsOfEyes * 2 + " eyes.");
}
Animal.prototype.printAge = function() {
  console.log("I am " + this.age + " years old.");
}
```

In this case, we will use an empty constructor function and then declare all the things that we want to share with the objects that will use Animal as its prototype in Animal.prototype. The prototype declares three properties initialized with 0 as its value: age, numberOfLegs, and pairsOfEyes.

In addition, the Animal prototype defines the following two methods:

- printLegsAndEyes: This method displays the total number of eyes based on the pairsOfEyes value
- printAge: This method displays the age based on the age value

We have to add more code to the object's prototype to be able to compare the age of the different Animal instances by calling methods. We will add the necessary code to the object's prototype later.

Using the prototype-based inheritance in JavaScript

The following is the code for the empty Mammal construction function. Now, let's set the Mammal.prototype property to a new instance of the previously defined Animal object. This way, we will be able to access the properties and methods defined in the Animal object in each Mammal instance:

```
function Mammal() {}
Mammal.prototype = new Animal();
Mammal.prototype.constructor = Mammal;
Mammal.prototype.isPregnant = false;
Mammal.prototype.pairsOfEyes = 1;
```

After we change the value of the Mammal.prototype property, we will assign the Mammal constructor function to the Mammal.constructor property in order to clean up the side effects on the constructor property when you change the value of a prototype. We add the isPregnant property initialized to false. Finally, we overwrite the value of the pairsOfEyes property with 1. Remember that this property was declared in Animal.prototype.

Any instance of Mammal will be able to access the properties and methods declared in Animal.prototype.

Overriding methods in JavaScript

Here is the code for the empty <code>DomesticMammal</code> construction function. Here we will set the <code>DomesticMammal.prototype</code> property to a new instance of the previously defined <code>Mammal</code> object. This way, we will be able to access the properties and methods defined in both the <code>Mammal</code> and <code>Animal</code> objects in each <code>DomesticMammal</code> instance. The prototype chain makes it possible to access all the properties and methods defined in each <code>prototype</code> property of the different objects:

```
function DomesticMammal() {}

DomesticMammal.prototype = new Mammal();
DomesticMammal.prototype.constructor = DomesticMammal;
DomesticMammal.prototype.name = "";
DomesticMammal.prototype.favoriteToy = "";

DomesticMammal.prototype.talk = function() {
   console.log(this.name + ": talks");
}
```

We will use an empty constructor function again. Then we will declare all the things that we want to share with the objects that will use <code>DomesticMammal</code> as its prototype in <code>DomesticMammal.prototype</code>. This prototype declares two properties: <code>name</code> and <code>favoriteToy</code> initialized with an empty string as their value.

In addition, the preceding prototype defines the talk method that displays a message with the name value, followed by a colon (:) and talks. Note that this method will be overridden in the Dog object.

The following is the code for the empty Dog construction function. Then we set the Dog.prototype property to a new instance of the previously defined DomesticMammal object. This way, we will be able to access the properties and methods defined in the DomesticMammal, Mammal, and Animal objects in each Dog instance. We continue to grow the prototype chain:

```
function Dog() {}
Dog.prototype = new DomesticMammal();
Dog.prototype.constructor = Dog;
Dog.prototype.numberOfLegs = 4;
Dog.prototype.breed = "Just a dog";
Dog.prototype.breedFamily = "Dog";
Dog.prototype.printBreed = function() {
```

```
console.log(this.breed);
}

Dog.prototype.printBreedFamily = function() {
  console.log(this.breedFamily);
}
```

The preceding code overwrites the value of the numberOfLegs inherited property with 4. In addition, the code adds two new properties for Dog.prototype: breed and breedFamily. We will overwrite the values of these properties in the new objects that will have Dog as a prototype. The printBreed method displays the value of the breed property, and the printBreedFamily method displays the value of the breedFamily property. We won't override these methods in the objects that will have Dog as a prototype because we just need to overwrite the values of the properties to achieve our goals. If we call these methods from an instance of an object that includes Dog in its prototype chain, these methods will execute the function code declared in the Dog prototype, but the code will use the value of the properties overridden in specific objects. Thus, we will see messages that display the values of the properties as defined in the objects that include Dog in their prototype chain.

The following code declares a bark method and overrides the talk method inherited from DomesticMammal in Dog:

```
Dog.prototype.bark = function(times, otherDomesticMammal, isAngry) {
   var message = this.name;
   if (otherDomesticMammal) {
      message += " to " + otherDomesticMammal.name + ": ";
   }
   else {
      message += ": ";
   }
   if (isAngry) {
      message += "Grr ";
   }
   if (!times) {
      times = 1;
   }
   message += new Array(times + 1).join( "Woof " );
   console.log(message);
}

Dog.prototype.talk = function() {
   this.bark(1);
}
```

The talk method overridden in the Dog prototype invokes the bark method without parameters because dogs bark and don't talk. The bark method builds and prints a message according to the specified number of times (times), the destination of the domestic mammal (otherDomesticMammal), and whether the dog is angry or not (isAngry).

The following lines show the code for the TerrierDog constructor function and its prototype that inherits from Dog:

```
function TerrierDog() { }
TerrierDog.prototype = new Dog();
TerrierDog.prototype.constructor = TerrierDog;
TerrierDog.prototype.breed = "Terrier dog";
TerrierDog.prototype.breedFamily = "Terrier";
```

The TerrierDog class sets "Terrier dog" and "Terrier" as the value for the breed and breedFamily properties that were defined in Dog.

The following lines show the code for the SmoothFoxTerrier constructor function and its prototype that inherits from TerrierDog:

```
function SmoothFoxTerrier() { }
SmoothFoxTerrier.prototype = new TerrierDog();
SmoothFoxTerrier.prototype.constructor = TerrierDog;
SmoothFoxTerrier.prototype.breed = "Smooth Fox Terrier";

SmoothFoxTerrier.create = function (name, age, favoriteToy, isPregnant) {
  var dog = new SmoothFoxTerrier();
  dog.name = name;
  dog.age = age;
  dog.favoriteToy = favoriteToy;
  dog.isPregnant = isPregnant;

  return dog;
}
```

The breed object sets "Smooth Fox Terrier" as the value for the breed property defined in the Dog object and overridden in this object. In addition, the preceding code declares a create function for the SmoothFoxTerrier construction function. The create function receives name, age, favoriteToy, and isPregnant as arguments, creates a new instance of SmoothFoxTerrier, and assigns the values received as arguments to the properties with the same name. Finally, the create function returns the created and initialized instance of SmoothFoxTerrier.

Overloading operators in JavaScript

We want to be able to compare the age of all the different Animal instances. JavaScript doesn't allow you to overload operators; therefore, we can create methods to achieve our goal.

We can add the following methods to Animal.prototype, which will be available in the prototype chain:

- lessThan: Less than (<)
- lessOrEqualThan: Less than or equal to (<=)
- greaterThan: Greater than (>)
- greaterOrEqualThan: Greater than or equal to (>=)

All the preceding methods have the same declaration. They will receive the instance that will be located at the right-hand side of the operator. We will use other as the only argument for these methods, and we must return a bool value with the result of the application of the operator, in our case, with the result of the comparison operator.

Let's consider that we have two instances of Animal or objects in the prototype chain named animal1 and animal2. If we enter console.log(animal1. lessThan(animal2));, the method must return a bool value indicating that this. age < other.age is equivalent to animal1.age < animal2.age.

We must add the following code to add all the methods to the Animal prototype:

```
Animal.prototype.lessThan = function(other) {
   return this.age < other.age;
}

Animal.prototype.lessOrEqualThan = function(other) {
   return this.age <= other.age;
}

Animal.prototype.greaterThan = function(other) {
   return this.age > other.age;
}

Animal.prototype.greaterOrEqualThan = function(other) {
   return this.age >= other.age;
}
```

Understanding polymorphism in JavaScript

After we code all the constructor functions and fill up their prototypes with properties and methods, we can enter the following code on a JavaScript console. These lines call the SmoothFoxTerrier.create method to create an instance of SmoothFoxTerrier named tom and then call the printBreed and printBreedFamily methods:

```
var tom = SmoothFoxTerrier.create("Tom", 5, "Sneakers");
tom.printBreed();
tom.printBreedFamily();
```

The following command lines display the messages displayed on the Python console after we enter the previous code:

Smooth Fox Terrier Terrier

We coded the printBreed and printBreedFamily methods in the prototype of the Dog constructor function; we didn't override these methods in any of the objects in the prototype chain. However, we have overridden the values of properties whose content these methods display: breed and breedFamily. The former property is overridden in the SmoothFoxTerrier prototype and the latter in the TerrierDog prototype.

We called the class methods from the tom instance; therefore, these methods took into account the values of the properties overridden in the TerrierDog and SmoothFoxTerrier objects.

If we execute the following code on the JavaScript console, all of them will display true as its result because tom is an instance of Animal, Mammal, DomesticMammal, Dog, TerrierDog, and SmoothFoxTerrier:

```
console.log(tom instanceof Animal);
console.log(tom instanceof Mammal);
console.log(tom instanceof DomesticMammal);
console.log(tom instanceof Dog);
console.log(tom instanceof TerrierDog);
console.log(tom instanceof SmoothFoxTerrier);
```

The following code creates two additional instances of SmoothFoxTerrier: pluto and goofy:

```
var pluto = SmoothFoxTerrier.create("Pluto", 6, "Tennis ball");
var goofy = SmoothFoxTerrier.create("Goofy", 8, "Soda bottle");
```

The following code uses the four methods that we declared in the prototype of the Animal object: greaterThan (>), lessThan (<), greaterOrEqualThan (>=), and lessOrEqualThan (<=). In this case, we invoke the methods on instances of SmoothFoxTerrier and the object inherits these methods from the Animal object. The methods return the results of comparing the age value of the different instances:

```
console.log(tom.greaterThan(pluto));
console.log(tom.lessThan(pluto));
console.log(goofy.greaterOrEqualThan(tom));
console.log(tom.lessOrEqualThan(goofy));
```

The following code calls the bark method for the instance named tom with a different number of arguments. Remember that we coded the bark method in the Dog prototype, whereas the SmoothFoxTerrier object inherits the method in the prototype chain:

```
tom.bark();
tom.bark(2);
tom.bark(2, pluto);
tom.bark(3, pluto, true);
```

The following code shows the results of calling the methods with all the different arguments:

```
Tom: Woof
Tom: Woof Woof
Tom to Pluto: Woof Woof
Tom to Pluto: Grr Woof Woof
```

Summary

In this chapter, you learned how to take advantage of simple inheritance to specialize a base class. We designed many classes from top to bottom using properties and methods. Then, we coded these classes in Python and C#, taking advantage of the different mechanisms provided by each programming language. We coded different objects and prototypes in JavaScript.

We took advantage of operator overloading in C# and Python. We have overridden methods and properties in subclasses or object prototypes. We took advantage of polymorphism in each programming language.

Now that you learned how to take advantage of inheritance and its related concepts, we are ready to work with multiple inheritance, interfaces, and composition in Python, C#, and JavaScript, which is the topic of the next chapter.

Interfaces, Multiple Inheritance, and Composition

In this chapter, we will work with more complex scenarios in which we have to use instances that belong to more than one blueprint. We will use the different features included in each of the three covered programming languages to code an application that requires the combination of multiple blueprints in a single instance. We will:

- Understand how interfaces work in combination with classes
- Work with multiple inheritance of classes in Python
- Take advantage of abstract base classes in Python
- Work with interfaces and multiple inheritance in C#
- Implement interfaces in C#
- Work with composition in JavaScript

Understanding the requirement to work with multiple base classes

We have to work with two different types of characters: comic characters and game characters. A comic character has a nickname and must be able to draw speech balloons and thought balloons. The speech balloon may have another comic character as a destination.

A game character has a full name and must be able to perform the following tasks:

- Draw itself in a specific 2D position indicated by the *x* and *y* coordinates
- Move itself to a specific 2D position indicated by the x and y coordinates
- Check whether it intersects with another game character

We will work with objects that can be both a comic character and a game character. However, we will also work with objects that are just going to be either a comic character or a game character. Neither the game character nor the comic character has a generic way of performing the previously described tasks. Thus, each object that declares itself as a comic character must define all the tasks related to speech and thought balloons. Each object that declares itself as a game character must define how to draw itself, move, and check whether it intersects with another game character.

An angry dog is a comic character that has a specific way of drawing speech and thought balloons. An angry cat is both a comic character and a game character; therefore, it defines all the tasks required by both character types.

The angry cat is a very versatile character. It can use different costumes to participate in games or comics with different names. An angry cat can also be an alien, a wizard, or a knight.

An alien has a specific number of eyes and must be able to appear and disappear.

A wizard has a spell power score and can make an alien disappear.

A knight has sword power and weight values. He can unsheathe his sword. A common task for the knight is to unsheathe his swords and point it to an alien as a target.

We can create abstract classes to represent a comic character and a game character. Then, each subclass can provide its implementation of the methods. In this case, comic characters and game characters are very different. They don't perform similar tasks that might lead to confusion and problems for multiple inheritance. Thus, we can use multiple inheritance when available to create an angry cat class that inherits from both the comic and game character. In some cases, multiple inheritance is not convenient because similar superclasses might have methods with the same name. Also, it can be extremely confusing to use multiple inheritance.

In addition, we can use multiple inheritance to combine the angry cat class with the alien, wizard, and knight. This way, we will have an angry cat alien, an angry cat wizard, and an angry cat knight. We will be able to use any angry cat alien, angry cat wizard, or angry cat knight as either a comic character or a game character.

Our goals are simple, but we may face a little problem: each programming language provides different features that allow you to code your application. C# doesn't support multiple inheritance of classes, but you can use multiple inheritance with interfaces or combine interfaces with classes. Python supports multiple inheritance of classes, but it doesn't support interfaces. JavaScript doesn't work with classes or interfaces; therefore, it doesn't make sense to try to emulate multiple inheritance in this language. Instead, we will use the best features and the most natural way of each programming language to achieve our goals.

We will use multiple inheritance of classes in Python, and we will also analyze the possibility of working with abstract base classes. We will use interfaces in C# and constructor functions and composition in JavaScript.

Working with multiple inheritance in Python

We will take advantage of multiple inheritance of classes in Python. First, we will declare the base classes that we will use to create other classes that inherit from them. Then, we will create subclasses that inherit from a pair of classes. We will work with instances of these subclasses that inherit from more than one class. Finally, we will analyze the usage of abstract base classes as another way of achieving the same goal with a more strict structure.

Declaring base classes for multiple inheritance

The following lines show the code for the ComicCharacter class in Python:

```
class ComicCharacter:
    def __init__(self, nick_name):
        self._nick_name = nick_name

    @property
    def nick_name(self):
        return self._nick_name

def draw_speech_balloon(self, message, destination):
        pass

def draw_thought_balloon(self, message):
        pass
```

The preceding class declares a nick_name read-only property, a draw_speech_ballon method, and a draw_thought_balloon method. The __init__ method receives nick_name as an argument and assigns it to the private _nick_name attribute that is encapsulated in the nick_name property. In fact, the __init__ method and the property setter are the only two methods that include code. Our subclasses will override the draw speech ballon and draw thought balloon methods.

The following lines show the code for the GameCharacter class in Python:

```
class GameCharacter:
    def __init__(self, full_name, initial_score, x, y):
        self._full_name = full_name
        self.score = initial_score
        self.x = x
        self.y = y

        @property
    def full_name(self):
        return self._full_name

    def draw(self, x, y):
        pass

    def move(self, x, y):
        pass

    def is_intersecting_with(self, other_character):
        pass
```

In this case, the class declaration includes the full-name read-only property and three attributes: score, x, and y. In addition, the class declaration also includes three empty methods: draw, move, and is_intersecting_with. The subclasses of GameCharacter will override these methods.

The following lines show the code for the Alien class in Python:

```
class Alien:
    def __init__(self, number_of_eyes):
        self.number_of_eyes = number_of_eyes

def appear(self):
    pass

def disappear(self):
    pass
```

In this case, the __init__ method receives a number_of_eyes argument and initializes an attribute with the same name. In addition, the class declares two empty methods: appear and disappear.

The following lines show the code for the Wizard class in Python:

```
class Wizard:
    def __init__(self, spell_power):
        self.spell_power = spell_power

def disappear_alien(self, alien):
    pass
```

In this case, the __init__ method receives a spell_power argument and initializes an attribute with the same name. In addition, the Wizard class declares an empty disappear alien method.

The following lines show the code for the Knight class in Python:

```
class Knight:
    def __init__(self, sword_power, sword_weight):
        self.sword_power = sword_power
        self.sword_weight = sword_weight

def unsheath_sword(self, target):
        pass
```

In this case, the <u>__init__</u> method receives sword_power and sword_height as arguments and initializes attributes with the same name. In addition, the Knight class declares an empty unsheath sword method.

Declaring classes that override methods

Now, we will declare a class that overrides and implements all the empty methods defined in the ComicCharacter class. The following lines show the code for the AngryDog class, a subclass of ComicCharacter:

```
class AngryDog(ComicCharacter):
    def _speak(self, message):
        print(self.nick_name + ' -> "' + message + '"')

def _think(self, message):
        print(self.nick_name + ' ***' + message + '***')

def draw_speech_balloon(self, message, destination):
    if destination is None:
```

```
composed_message = message
else:
    composed_message = destination.nick_name + ", " + message
self._speak(composed_message)

def draw_thought_balloon(self, message):
    self._think(message)
```

The AngryDog class doesn't override the __init__ method; therefore, it uses the method declared in its superclass. Whenever we create an instance of this class, Python will use the __init__ method defined in the ComicCharacter class.

The AngryDog class overrides the draw_speech_balloon method. This method composes a message based on the value of the destination parameter and passes a message to the _speak method. This method prints this message in a specific format that includes the nick_name value as a prefix. If the destination parameter is not equal to None, the preceding code uses the value of the nick_name property.

In addition, the AngryDog class declares the code for the draw_thought_balloon method that invokes the _think method. This method also prints a message that includes the nick_name value as a prefix. So, the AngryDog class overrides and implements all the empty methods declared in its superclass, that is, the ComicCharacter class.

Now, we will declare another subclass of the ComicCharacter class. The following lines show the code for the AngryCat class:

```
class AngryCat(ComicCharacter):
    def __init__(self, nick_name, age):
        super().__init__(nick_name)
        self.age = age
    def draw speech balloon(self, message, destination):
        if destination is None:
            composed message = self.nick name + ' -> "'
            if self.age > 5:
                meow = 'Meow'
            else:
                meow = 'Meeeooow Meeeooow'
            composed_message = '{} -> "{} {}"'.format(self.nick_name,
meow, message)
            composed_message = '{} === {} ---> {}'.format(
                destination.nick name,
                self.nick name,
```

```
message)
print(composed_message)

def draw_thought_balloon(self, message):
    print('{} thinks: {}'.format(self.nick name, message))
```

The AngryCat class declares the __init__ method that overrides the same method declared in the ComicCharacter superclass. This method uses super().__init__ to invoke the __init__ method of its superclass using nick_name as an argument. Then, the preceding code assigns the value of the age argument to the age attribute.

The AngryCat class overrides the draw_speech_balloon method. This method composes a message based on the value of the destination parameter and the value of the age attribute. The draw_speech_balloon method prints the generated message. If the destination parameter is not equal to None, the preceding code uses the value of the nick_name property. In addition, the AngryCat class declares the code for the draw thought balloon method.

The AngryCat class overrides and implements the empty methods declared in the ComicCharacter class. However, this class also declares an additional attribute named age.

Declaring a class with multiple base classes

Python allows you to declare a class with multiple base classes or superclasses; therefore, we can inherit attributes, properties, and methods from more than one superclass.

We want the previously coded AngryCat class to inherit from the ComicCharacter class and the GameCharacter class. Thus, we want to use any AngryCat instance as a comic character and a game character. In order to do so, we must change the class declaration and add the GameCharacter class to the list of superclasses for this class, change the code for the __init__ method, and override all the empty methods declared in the added superclass.

The following line of code shows the new class declaration. This specifies that the AngryCat class inherits from the ComicCharacter class and the GameCharacter class:

```
class AngryCat(ComicCharacter, GameCharacter):
```

Now, we have to make changes to the __init__ method because it worked with super().__init__ to invoke the __init__ method of its superclass. Now, the AngryCat class has two superclasses. It is necessary to call the __init__ method for both superclasses. In addition, we have to add all the arguments required to call the __init__ method for the added superclass: GameCharacter.

The following code shows the new version of the __init__ method for the GameCharacter class:

```
def __init__(self, nick_name, age, full_name, initial_score, x, y):
    ComicCharacter.__init__(self, nick_name)
    GameCharacter.__init__(self, full_name, initial_score, x, y)
    self.age = age
```

The new __init__ method receives the nick_name argument required to call the __init__ method of the ComicCharacter superclass. Note that we use the ComicCharacter class name to call the __init__ method, and we pass self as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance with the ComicChracter.__ init__ method. Note that we don't use super() to call the __init__ method of the base class because we have two base classes. Also, we need to specify which of them we want to use to call the __init__ method.

The new __init__ method also receives the arguments required to call the __init__ method of the GameCharacter superclass: full_name, initial_score, x, and y. We use the GameCharacter class name to call the __init__ method for the second superclass, and we pass self as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance using the GameChracter.__init__ method.

Finally, the new __init__ method also receives an age argument that we use to initialize an attribute with the same name. This way, we invoked the initializers of both superclasses and added our own initialization code.

Now, it is necessary to add the code that overrides all the empty methods defined in the GameCharacter class. We have to add the following code to the body of the GameCharacter class:

```
str(self.y)))

def is_intersecting_with(self, other_character):
    return self.x == other character.x and self.y == other character.y
```

The AngryCat class declares the preceding code to override the draw, move, and is_intersecting_with methods declared in the GameCharacter class. This class uses multiple inheritance to make AngryCat provide implementations for all the empty methods declared in its two superclasses: ComicCharacter and GameCharacter.

The following lines show the code for a new AngryCatAlien class that inherits from the AngryCat class and the Alien class:

```
class AngryCatAlien(AngryCat, Alien):
```

As a result of the preceding code, we have a new class named AngryCatAlien. This is a subclass of the AngryCat class and the Alien class. The AngryCatAlien class is also a subclass of the ComicCharacter class and the GameCharacter class via the AngryCat superclass.

The __init__ method adds the number_of_eyes argument to the argument list defined in the __init__ method declared in the AngryCat superclass. We use the first superclass name called AngryCat to call the __init__ method, and we pass self as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance with the AngryCat. init method.

Then, we use the second superclass class name called Alien to call the __init__ method, and we pass self as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance with the Alien.__init__ method. Finally, the AngryCat class overrides the empty appear and disappear methods declared in the Alien superclass.

The following lines show the code for a new AngryCatWizard class that inherits from the AngryCat class and the Wizard class:

```
class AngryCatWizard(AngryCat, Wizard):
```

The __init__ method adds the spell_power argument to the argument list defined in the __init__ method declared in the AngryCat superclass. We use the first superclass name called AngryCat to call the __init__ method, and we pass self as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance with the AngryCat. init method.

Then, we use the second superclass class name called Wizard to call the __init__ method, and we pass self as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance with the Wizard.__init__ method. Finally, the AngryCat class overrides the empty disappear alien method declared in the Wizard superclass.

The disappear_alien method receives alien as an argument and uses its number_of_eyes attribute. Thus, any instance of AngryCatAlien would qualify as an argument for this method because it inherits the attribute from the Alien superclass.

The following lines show the code for a new AngryCatKnight class that inherits from the AngryCat class and the Knight class:

```
class AngryCatKnight(AngryCat, Knight):
    def __init__(self, nick_name, age, full_name, initial_score, x, y,
sword_power, sword_weight):
        AngryCat.__init__(self, nick_name, age, full_name, initial_
score, x, y)
        Knight.__init__(self, sword_power, sword_weight)

def _write_lines_about_the_sword(self):
    print('{} unsheaths his sword.'.format(self.full_name))
    print('Sword Power: {} Sword Weight: {}'.format(
```

The __init__ method adds the sword_power and sword_weight arguments to the argument list defined in the __init__ method declared in the AngryCat superclass. We use the first superclass name called AngryCat to call the __init__ method, and we pass self as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance with the AngryCat. init method.

Then, we use the second superclass class name called <code>Knight</code> to call the <code>__init__</code> method, and we pass <code>self</code> as the first argument. This way, we initialize our instance with the <code>Knight.__init__</code> method. Finally, the <code>AngryCatKnight</code> class overrides the empty unsheath <code>sword</code> method declared in the <code>Knight</code> superclass.

The unsheath_sword method receives an optional target argument as an argument and uses its number_of_eyes attribute when it is not equal to None. Thus, any instance of AngryCatAlien would qualify as an argument for this method because it inherits the attribute from the Alien superclass. If the target argument is not equal to None, the unsheath_sword method prints an additional message about the alien that the sword has a target, specifically, the number of eyes.

The following table summarizes all the superclasses for the classes that we have been creating. The superclasses column lists all the superclasses via the inheritance chain:

| Class name | Superclasses |
|----------------|---|
| AngryDog | ComicCharacter |
| AngryCat | ComicCharacter and GameCharacter |
| AngryCatAlien | ComicCharacter, GameCharacter, AngryCat, and Alien |
| AngryCatWizard | ComicCharacter, GameCharacter, AngryCat, and Wizard |
| AngryCatKnight | ComicCharacter, GameCharacter, AngryCat, and Knight |

Working with instances of classes that use multiple inheritance

Now, we will work with instances of the previously declared classes. The first two lines of the following code creates two instances of the AngryDog class named angry_dog_1 and angry_dog_2. Then, this code calls the draw_speech_balloon method for angry_dog_1 twice with a different number of arguments. The second call to this method passes angry_dog_2 as the second argument because angry_dog_2 is an instance of AngryDog, a class that inherits from the ComicCharacter class and includes the nick_name property:

```
angry_dog_1 = AngryDog("Brian")
angry_dog_2 = AngryDog("Merlin")

angry_dog_1.draw_speech_balloon("Hello, my name is " + angry_dog_1.
nick_name, None)
angry_dog_1.draw_speech_balloon("How do you do?", angry_dog_2)
angry_dog_2.draw_thought_balloon("Who are you? I think.")
```

The following code creates an instance of the AngryCat class named angry_cat_1. Its nick_name is Garfield. The next line calls the draw_speech_balloon method for the new instance to introduce Garfield in the comic. Then, angry_dog_1 calls the draw_speech_balloon method and passes angry_cat_1 as the destination argument because angry_cat_1 is an instance of AngryCat, a class that inherits from the ComicCharacter class and includes the nick_name property. Thus, we can also use instances of AngryCat whenever we need an argument that provides either a nick_name property or attribute:

```
angry_cat_1 = AngryCat("Garfield", 10, "Mr. Garfield", 0, 10, 20)
angry_cat_1.draw_speech_balloon("Hello, my name is " + angry_cat_1.
nick_name, None)
angry_dog_1.draw_speech_balloon("Hello " + angry_cat_1.nick_name,
angry_cat_1)
```

The following code creates an instance of the AngryCatAlien class named alien_1. Its nick_name is Alien. The next line checks whether the call to the is_intersecting_with method with the angry_cat_1 parameter returns true. The is_intersecting_with method requires an instance that provides the x and y attributes as the argument. We can use angry_cat_1 as the argument because one of its superclasses is ComicCharacter; therefore, it inherits the attributes of x and y. The is_intersecting_with method will return true because the x and y attributes of both instances have the same value. The line in the if block calls the move method for alien_1. Then, the following code calls the appear method:

```
alien_1 = AngryCatAlien("Alien", 120, "Mr. Alien", 0, 10, 20, 3)
```

```
if alien_1.is_intersecting_with(angry_cat_1):
    alien_1.move(angry_cat_1.x + 20, angry_cat_1.y + 20)
alien 1.appear()
```

The following code creates an instance of the AngryCatWizard class named wizard_1. Its nick_name is Gandalf. The lines thereafter call the draw method and then the disappear_alien method with alien_1 as a parameter. The draw method requires an instance that provides the number_of_eyes attribute as an argument. We can use alien_1 as the argument because one of its superclasses is Alien; therefore, it inherits the number_of_eyes attribute. Then, a call to the appear method for alien1 makes the alien with three eyes appear again:

```
wizard_1 = AngryCatWizard("Gandalf", 75, "Mr. Gandalf", 10000, 30, 40,
100);
wizard_1.draw(wizard_1.x, wizard_1.y)
wizard_1.disappear_alien(alien_1)
alien 1.appear()
```

The following code creates an instance of the AngryCatKnight class named knight_1. Its nick_name is Camelot. The next few lines call the draw method and then the UnsheathSword method with alien_1 as a parameter. The draw method requires an instance that provides the number_of_eyes attribute as the argument. We can use alien_1 as the argument because one of its superclasses is Alien; therefore, it inherits the number_of_eyes attribute:

```
knight_1 = AngryCatKnight("Camelot", 35, "Sir Camelot", 5000, 50, 50,
100, 30)
knight_1.draw(knight_1.x, knight_1.y)
knight 1.unsheath sword(alien 1)
```

Finally, the following code calls the draw_thought_balloon and draw_speech_balloon methods for alien_1. We can do this because alien1 is an instance of AngryCatAlien; this class inherits all the methods from one of its superclasses: the AngryCat class. These methods were declared as empty methods in the ComicCharacter class, that is, one of the superclasses of AngryCat. The call to the draw_speech_balloon method passes knight_1 as the destination argument because knight_1 is an instance of AngryCatKnight. Thus, we can also use instances of AngryCatKnight whenever we need an argument that provides either a nick_name property or attribute:

```
alien_1.draw_thought_balloon("I must be friendly or I'm dead...")
alien 1.draw speech balloon("Pleased to meet you, Sir.", knight 1)
```

After you execute all the preceding code snippets, you will see the following lines on the Python console (see *Figure* 1):

```
Brian -> "Hello, my name is Brian"
Brian -> "Merlin, How do you do?"
Merlin ***Who are you? I think.***
Garfield -> "Meow Hello, my name is Garfield"
Brian -> "Garfield, Hello Garfield"
Moving AngryCat Mr. Alien to x: 30, y: 40
I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.
Drawing AngryCat Mr. Gandalf at x: 30, y: 40
Mr. Gandalf uses his 100 to make the alien with 3 eyes disappear.
I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.
Drawing AngryCat Sir Camelot at x: 50, y: 50
Sir Camelot unsheaths his sword.
Sword Power: 100 Sword Weight: 30
The sword targets an alien with 3 eyes.
Alien thinks: I must be friendly or I'm dead...
Camelot === Alien ---> "Pleased to meet you, Sir."
```

```
Python Console

The symmetry of the symmetry o
```

Figure 1

We can use the isinstance function with alien_1. All the following calls to this function will return True because alien_1 is an instance of the AngryCatAlien class and inherits from all its superclasses: AngryCat, Knight, ComicCharacter, and GameCharacter:

```
isinstance(alien_1, AngryCat)
isinstance(alien_1, ComicCharacter)
isinstance(alien_1, GameCharacter)
isinstance(alien_1, Alien)
```

Working with abstract base classes

If we want to be stricter and make sure that our classes provide specific methods, the abc module (abstract base classes) allows you to declare abstract base classes in Python. For example, we can use all the features included in this module to declare the ComicCharacter class as an abstract base class in which both draw_speech_balloon and draw_thought_balloon are abstract methods.

The following lines show the code for a new version of the ComicCharacter class, which is declared as an abstract base class:

```
import abc
from abc import ABCMeta
from abc import abstractmethod

class ComicCharacter(metaclass=ABCMeta):
    def __init__(self, nick_name):
        self._nick_name = nick_name

@abstractmethod
    def draw_speech_balloon(self, message, destination):
        return NotImplemented

@property
    def nick_name(self):
        return self._nick_name

@abstractmethod
    def draw_thought_balloon(self, message):
        return NotImplemented
```

The class header specifies metaclass=ABCMeta; this is the location in which we specify the superclass. This way, the abc module registers a class as an abstract base class and allows you to use specific decorators. Note the usage of the @absctractmethod decorator in the draw_speech_balloon and draw thought balloon methods to declare them as abstract methods.

As a result of the declaration of the ComicCharacter class with two abstract methods, Python will raise an error whenever we try to create an instance of ComicCharacter. For example, we enter the following line in the Python console:

```
scooby = ComicCharacter("Scooby")
```

Python will display the TypeError: Can't instantiate abstract class ComicCharacter with abstract methods draw_speech_balloon, draw_thought_balloon error message. This way, we can make sure that we just enable the creation of instances of all the classes that should be instantiated. Without any additional changes to the subclasses of ComicCharacter, we can make sure that nobody can create instances of the ComicCharacter abstract base class.

Interfaces and multiple inheritance in C#

You can think of an *interface* as a special case of an abstract class. An interface defines properties and methods that a class must implement in order to be considered a member of a group identified with the interface name.

For example, in C#, the language that supports interfaces, we can create the IAlien interface that specifies the following elements:

- The NumberOfEyes property
- The parameterless method named Appear
- The parameterless method named Disappear

Once we define an interface, we can use them to specify the required type for an argument. This way, instead of using classes as types, we can use interfaces as types and an instance of any class that implements the specific interface as the argument. For example, if we use IAlien as the required type for an argument, we can pass an instance of any class that implements IAlien as the argument.

However, you must take into account some limitations of all the interfaces compared with classes. Interfaces cannot declare constructors, destructors, constants, or fields. You cannot specify accessibility modifiers in any members of interfaces. You can declare properties, methods, events, and indexers as members of any interface.

Declaring interfaces

Now, it is time to code all the interfaces in C#. The following lines show the code for the IComicCharacter interface in C#. The public modifier, followed by the interface keyword and the IComicCharacter interface name composes the interface declaration. As happens with class declarations, the interface body is enclosed in curly brackets ({}). By convention, interface names start with an uppercase I letter:

```
public interface IComicCharacter
{
   string NickName { get; set; }
   void DrawSpeechBalloon(string message);
   void DrawSpeechBalloon(IComicCharacter destination, string message);
   void DrawThoughtBalloon(string message);
}
```

The preceding interface declares the NickName string property, the DrawSpeechBaloon method overloaded twice, and the DrawThoughtBalloon method. The interface includes only the method declaration because all the classes that implement the IComicCharacter interface will be responsible for providing the implementation of the two overloads of the DrawSpeechBalloon method and the DrawThoughtBalloon method. Note that there is no declaration for any constructor.

The following lines show the code for the IGameCharacter interface in C#:

```
public interface IGameCharacter
{
   string FullName { get; set; }
   uint Score { get; set; }
   uint X { get; set; }
   uint Y { get; set; }
   void Draw(uint x, uint y);
   void Move(uint x, uint y);
   bool IsIntersectingWith(IGameCharacter otherCharacter);
}
```

In this case, the interface declaration includes four properties: FullName, Score, X, and Y. In addition, it also includes three methods: Draw, Move, and IsIntersectingWith. Note that we don't include access modifiers in either the four properties or the three methods.



We cannot add access modifiers to different members of an interface.

The following lines show the code for the IAlien interface in C#:

```
public interface IAlien
{
  int NumberOfEyes { get; set; }
  void Appear();
  void Disappear();
}
```

In this case, the interface declaration includes the NumberOfEyes property and the Appear method and the Disappear method. Note that we don't include the code for either the getter or setter methods of the NumberOfEyes property. As happens with these methods, all the classes that implement the IAlien interface will be responsible for providing the implementation of the getter and setter methods for the NumberOfEyes property.

The following lines show the code for the IWizard interface in C#:

```
public interface IWizard
{
   int SpellPower { get; set; }
   void DisappearAlien(IAlien alien);
}
```

In this case, the interface declaration includes the SpellPower property and the DisappearAlien method. As happened in other method declarations included in previously declared interfaces, we will use an interface name as the type of an argument in a method declaration. In this case, the alien argument for the DisappearAlien method is IAlien. Thus, we will be able to call the DisappearAlien method with any class that implements the IAlien interface.

The following lines show the code for the IKnight interface in C#:

```
public interface IKnight
{
  int SwordPower { get; set; }
  int SwordWeight { get; set; }
  void UnsheathSword();
  void UnsheathSword(IAlien target);
}
```

In this case, the interface declaration includes two properties: SwordPower and SwordWeight and the UnsheathSword method, which is overloaded twice.

Declaring classes that implement interfaces

Now, we will declare a class that implements the IComicCharacter interface. The following lines show the code for the AngryDog class. Instead of specifying a superclass, the class declaration includes the name of the previously declared IComicCharacter interface after the AngryDog class name and the colon (:). We can read the class declaration as, "the AngryDog class implements the IComicCharacter interface":

```
public class AngryDog : IComicCharacter
  public string NickName { get; set; }
  public AngryDog(string nickName)
    this.NickName = nickName;
  protected void Speak(string message)
    Console.WriteLine("{0} -> \"{1}\"", this.NickName, message);
  protected void Think(string message)
    Console.WriteLine("\{0\} \rightarrow ***\{1\}***", this.NickName, message);
  public void DrawSpeechBalloon(string message)
    Speak (message);
  public void DrawSpeechBalloon(IComicCharacter destination, string
message)
    Speak(String.Format("{0}, {1}", destination.NickName, message));
  public void DrawThoughtBalloon(string message)
    Think(message);
```

The AngryDog class declares a constructor that assigns the value of the required nickName argument to the NickName property. This class uses auto-implemented properties to declare the NickName property and define both the getter and setter methods.

The AngryDog class declares the code for the two versions of the DrawSpeechBalloon method. Both methods call the protected Speak method. This method prints a message on a console in a specific format that includes the NickName value as the prefix. In addition, the class declares the code for the DrawThoughtBalloon method that invokes the protected Think method. This method also prints a message on the console, which includes the NickName value as the prefix.

The AngryDog class implements the property and all the methods declared in the IComicCharacter interface. However, this class also declares two protected members, specifically two protected methods. As long as we implement all the members declared in the interface or interfaces listed in the class declaration, we can add any desired additional member to this class.

Now, we will declare another class that implements the same interface that the AngryDog class implemented, that is, the IComicCharacter interface. The following lines show the code for the AngryCat class:

```
public class AngryCat : IComicCharacter
{
   public string NickName { get; set; }
   public int Age { get; set; }

   public AngryCat(string nickName, int age)
   {
     this.NickName = nickName;
     this.Age = age;
   }

   public void DrawSpeechBalloon(string message)
   {
     if (this.Age > 5)
     {
        Console.WriteLine("{0} -> \"Meow {1}\"", this.NickName,
        message);
     }
     else
     {
        Console.WriteLine("{0} -> \"Meeeooow Meeeooow {1}\"", this.NickName,
        message);
   }
}
```

```
public void DrawSpeechBalloon(IComicCharacter destination, string
message)
{
    Console.WriteLine("{0} === {1} ---> \"{2}\"", destination.
NickName, this.NickName, message);
}

public void DrawThoughtBalloon(string message)
{
    Console.WriteLine("{0} thinks: {1}", this.NickName, message);
}
```

The AngryCat class declares a constructor that assigns the value of the required nickName and age arguments to the properties of NickName and Age. This class uses auto-implemented properties to declare the properties of NickName and Age and their getter and setter methods.

The AngryCat class declares the code for the two versions of the DrawSpeechBalloon method. The version that requires only a message argument uses the value of the Age property to generate a different message when the Age value is greater than 5. In addition, this class declares the code for the DrawThoughtBalloon method.

The AngryCat class implements the property and all the methods declared in the IComicCharacter interface. However, this class also declares an additional property: Age, which isn't required by the IComicCharacter interface.

If we comment the line that declares the NickName property in the AngryCat class, the class won't be implementing all the required members of the IComicCharacter interface:

```
//public string NickName { get; set; }
```

If we try to compile the code after commenting the previous line, the IDE will display the Error 1 ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IComicCharacter.NickName' error. Thus, the compiler enforces you to implement all the members of an interface. If we uncomment the line that declares the NickName property, we will be able to compile the project again, as shown in the following code:

```
public string NickName { get; set; }
```



Interfaces allow you to make sure that all the classes that implement them define all the members specified in the interface. If they don't, the code won't compile.

Working with multiple inheritance

C# doesn't allow you to declare a class with multiple base classes or superclasses; therefore, there is no support for multiple inheritance of classes. A subclass can inherit from just one class. However, a class can implement one or more interfaces. In addition, we can declare classes that inherit from a superclass and implement one or more interfaces.

We want the AngryCat class to implement the IComicCharacter and IGameCharacter interfaces. Thus, we want to use any AngryCat instance as the comic character and the game character. In order to do so, we must change the class declaration, add the IGameCharacter interface to the list of interfaces implemented by the AngryCat class, and declare all the members included in this interface in the AngryCat class.

The following lines show the new class declaration that specifies that the AngryCat class implements the IComicCharacter interface and the IGameCharacter interface:

```
public class AngryCat : IComicCharacter, IGameCharacter
```

If we try to compile a project after changing the class declaration, it won't compile because we didn't implement all the members required by the IGameCharacter interface. The IDE will display the following seven errors:

- Error 1: 'ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter.IsIntersec tingWith(ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter)'
- Error 2: 'ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter.Move(uint, uint)'
- Error 3: 'ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter.Draw(uint, uint)'
- Error 4: 'ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter.Y'
- Error 5: 'ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter.X'

- Error 6: 'ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter.Score'
- Error 7: 'ConsoleApplication1.AngryCat' does not implement interface member 'ConsoleApplication1.IGameCharacter.FullName'

We have to add the following code to the body of the AngryCat class in order to implement all the properties specified in the IGameCharacter interface with auto-implemented properties:

```
public uint Score { get; set; }
public string FullName { get; set; }
public uint X { get; set; }
public uint Y { get; set; }
```

We have to add the following code to the body of the AngryCat class to implement all the methods specified in the IGameCharacter interface:

```
public void Draw(uint x, uint y)
{
    X = x;
    Y = y;
    Console.WriteLine("Drawing AngryCat {0} at x: {1}, y: {2}", this.
FullName, x, y);
}

public void Move(uint x, uint y)
{
    X = x;
    Y = y;
    Console.WriteLine("Moving AngryCat {0} to x: {1}, y: {2}", this.
FullName, x, y);
}

public bool IsIntersectingWith(IGameCharacter otherCharacter)
{
    return (this.X == otherCharacter.X) && (this.Y == otherCharacter.Y);
}
```

Now, the AngryCat class declares the code for all the three methods: Draw, Move, and IsIntersectingWith. These are required to comply with the IGameCharacter interface. Finally, it is necessary to replace the previous constructor with a new one that requires additional arguments and sets the initial values of the recently added properties. The following lines show the code for the new constructor:

```
public AngryCat(string nickName, int age, string fullName, uint initialScore, uint x, uint y)
```

```
{
    this.NickName = nickName;
    this.Age = age;
    this.FullName = fullName;
    this.Score = initialScore;
    this.X = x;
    this.Y = y;
}
```

The new constructor assigns the value of all the additionally required arguments: fullName, score, x, and y to the FullName, InitialScore, X, and Y properties. Thus, we will need to specify more arguments whenever we want to create an instance of the AngryCat class.

The following lines show the code for a new AngryCatAlien class that inherits from the AngryCat class and implements the IAlien interface. Note that the class declaration includes the AngryCat superclass and the implemented IAlien interface separated by a comma after the colon (:):

```
public class AngryCatAlien : AngryCat, IAlien
{
   public int NumberOfEyes { get; set; }

   public AngryCatAlien(string nickName, int age, string fullName, uint initialScore, uint x, uint y, int numberOfEyes)
        : base(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x, y)
        {
        this.NumberOfEyes = numberOfEyes;
        }

        public void Appear()
        {
            Console.WriteLine("I'm {0} and you can see my {1} eyes.", this.
        FullName, this.NumberOfEyes);
        }

        public void Disappear()
        {
            Console.WriteLine("{0} disappears.", this.FullName);
        }
    }
}
```

As a result of the previous code, we have a new class named AngryCatAlien that implements the following interfaces:

- IComicCharacter: This interface is implemented by the AngryCat superclass and inherited by AngryCatAlien
- IGameCharacter: This interface is implemented by the AngryCat superclass and inherited by AngryCatAlien
- IAlien: This interface is implemented by AngryCatAlien

The new constructor adds the numberOfEyes argument to the argument list defined in the base constructor, that is, the constructor defined in the AngryCat superclass. In this case, the constructor calls the base constructor. Then, it initializes the NumberOfEyes property with the value received in the numberOfEyes argument. The AngryCat class implements the Appear and Disappear methods required by the IAlien interface.

The following lines show the code for the new AngryCatWizard class that inherits from the AngryCat class and implements the IWizard interface. Note that the class declaration includes the AngryCat superclass and the implemented IWizard interface separated by a comma after the colon (:):

```
public class AngryCatWizard : AngryCat, IWizard
{
   public int SpellPower { get; set; }

   public AngryCatWizard(string nickName, int age, string fullName, uint initialScore, uint x, uint y, int spellPower)
   : base(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x, y)
   {
      this.SpellPower = spellPower;
   }

   public void DisappearAlien(IAlien alien)
   {
      Console.WriteLine(
      "{0} uses his {1} spell power to make the alien with {2} eyes disappear.",
      this.FullName,
      this.SpellPower,
      alien.NumberOfEyes);
   }
}
```

As happened with the AngryCatAlien class, the new AngryCatWizard class implements three interfaces. Two of these interfaces are implemented by the AngryCat superclass and inherited by AngryCatWizard: IComicCharacter and IGameCharacter. The AngryCatWizard class adds the implementation of the IWizard interface.

The constructor adds a spellPower argument to the argument list defined in the base constructor, that is, the constructor defined in the AngryCat superclass. The constructor calls the base constructor and then initializes the SpellPower property with the value received in the spellPower argument. The AngryCatWizard class implements the DisappearAlien method required by the IWizard interface.

The DisappearAlien method receives the IAlien interface as the argument. Thus, any instance of AngryCatAlien would qualify as the argument for this method, that is, any instance of any class that implements the IAlien interface.

The following lines show the code for the new AngryCatKnight class that inherits from the AngryCat class and implements the IKnight interface. Note that the class declaration includes the AngryCat superclass and the implemented IKnight interface separated by a comma after the colon (:):

```
public class AngryCatKnight : AngryCat, IKnight
 public int SwordPower { get; set; }
 public int SwordWeight { get; set; }
  public AngryCatKnight(
  string nickName, int age, string fullName,
  uint initialScore, uint x, uint y,
  int swordPower, int swordWeight)
  : base(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x, y)
    this.SwordPower = swordPower;
    this.SwordWeight = swordWeight;
  private void WriteLinesAboutTheSword()
    Console.WriteLine(
    "{0} unsheaths his sword.",
    this.FullName);
    Console.WriteLine(
    "Sword power: {0}. Sword Weight: {1}.",
    this.SwordPower,
    this.SwordWeight);
```

```
public void UnsheathSword()
{
   this.WriteLinesAboutTheSword();
}

public void UnsheathSword(IAlien target)
{
   this.WriteLinesAboutTheSword();
   Console.WriteLine(
   "The sword targets an alien with {0} eyes.",
   target.NumberOfEyes);
}
```

As happened with the two previously coded classes that inherited from the AngryCat class and implemented an interface, the new AngryCatKnight class implements three interfaces. Two of these interfaces are implemented by the AngryCat superclass and inherited by AngryCatKnight: IComicCharacter and IGameCharacter. The AngryCatKnight class adds the implementation of the IKnight interface.

The constructor adds the swordPower and swordWeight arguments to the argument list defined in the base constructor, that is, the constructor defined in the AngryCat superclass. This constructor calls the base constructor and then initializes the SwordPower and SwordWeight properties with the values received in the swordPower and swordHeight arguments.

The AngryCat class implements the two versions of the UnsheathSword method required by the IKnight interface. Both methods call the private WriteLinesAboutTheSword method and the overloaded version that receives the IAlien interface as the argument. It prints an additional message about the alien that the sword has a target: the number of eyes.

The following table summarizes all the interfaces implemented by each of the classes that we have been creating:

| Class name | Implemented interfaces |
|----------------|--|
| AngryDog | IComicCharacter |
| AngryCat | IComicCharacter and IGameCharacter |
| AngryCatAlien | IComicCharacter, IGameCharacter, and IAlien |
| AngryCatWizard | IComicCharacter, IGameCharacter, and IWizard |
| AngryCatKnight | IComicCharacter, IGameCharacter, and IKnight |

Working with methods that receive interfaces as arguments

The following lines show the code for the Main method of a console application that uses all the previously declared classes:

```
public static void Main(string[] args)
  var angryDog1 = new AngryDog("Brian");
  var angryDog2 = new AngryDog("Merlin");
  angryDog1.DrawSpeechBalloon(String.Format("Hello, my name is {0}",
angryDog1.NickName));
  angryDog1.DrawSpeechBalloon(angryDog2, "How do you do?");
  angryDog2.DrawThoughtBalloon("Who are you? I think.");
 var angryCat1 = new AngryCat("Garfield", 10, "Mr. Garfield", 0, 10,
20);
  angryCat1.DrawSpeechBalloon(String.Format("Hello, my name is {0}",
angryCat1.NickName));
  angryDog1.DrawSpeechBalloon(angryCat1, String.Format("Hello {0}",
angryCat1.NickName));
  var alien1 = new AngryCatAlien("Alien", 120, "Mr. Alien", 0, 10, 20,
3);
  if (alien1.IsIntersectingWith(angryCat1))
    alien1.Move(angryCat1.X + 20, angryCat1.Y + 20);
  alien1.Appear();
  var wizard1 = new AngryCatWizard("Gandalf", 75, "Mr. Gandalf",
10000, 30, 40, 100);
  wizard1.Draw(wizard1.X, wizard1.Y);
  wizard1.DisappearAlien(alien1);
 alien1.Appear();
 var knight1 = new AngryCatKnight("Camelot", 35, "Sir Camelot", 5000,
50, 50, 100, 30);
 knight1.Draw(knight1.X, knight1.Y);
  knight1.UnsheathSword(alien1);
  alien1.DrawThoughtBalloon("I must be friendly or I'm dead...");
  alien1.DrawSpeechBalloon(knight1, "Pleased to meet you, Sir.");
  Console.ReadLine();
}
```

After you execute the previous console application, you will see the following output on the console output:

```
Brian -> "Hello, my name is Brian"
Brian -> "Merlin, How do you do?"
Merlin -> ***Who are you? I think.***
Garfield -> "Meow Hello, my name is Garfield"
Brian -> "Garfield, Hello Garfield"
Moving AngryCat Mr. Alien to x: 30, y: 40
I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.
Drawing AngryCat Mr. Gandalf at x: 30, y: 40
Mr. Gandalf uses his 100 spell power to make the alien with 3 eyes
disappear.
I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.
Drawing AngryCat Sir Camelot at x: 50, y: 50
Sir Camelot unsheaths his sword.
Sword power: 100. Sword Weight: 30.
The sword targets an alien with 3 eyes.
Alien thinks: I must be friendly or I'm dead...
Camelot === Alien ---> "Pleased to meet you, Sir."
```

The first two lines create two instances of the AngryDog class: angryDog1 and angryDog2. Then, the code calls the two versions of the DrawSpeechBalloon method for angryDog1. The second call to this method passes angryDog2 as the IComicCharacter argument because angryDog2 is an instance of AngryDog, a class that implements the IComicCharacter interface:

```
var angryDog1 = new AngryDog("Brian");
var angryDog2 = new AngryDog("Merlin");
angryDog1.DrawSpeechBalloon(String.Format("Hello, my name is {0}",
angryDog1.NickName));
angryDog1.DrawSpeechBalloon(angryDog2, "How do you do?");
angryDog2.DrawThoughtBalloon("Who are you? I think.");
```



Bear in mind that when we work with interfaces, we use them to specify the argument types instead of using class names. Multiple classes can implement a single interface; therefore, instances of different classes can qualify as an argument of a specific interface.

The first line in the following code creates an instance of the AngryCat class called angryCat1. Its NickName is Garfield. The next line calls the DrawSpeechBalloon method for the new instance to introduce Garfield as a comic character. Then, angryDog1 calls the DrawSpeechBalloon method and passes angryCat1 as the IComicCharacter argument because angryCat1 is an instance of AngryCat, a class that implements the IComicCharacter interface. Thus, we can also use instances of AngryCat whenever we need the IComicCharacter argument:

```
var angryCat1 = new AngryCat("Garfield", 10, "Mr. Garfield", 0, 10,
20);
angryCat1.DrawSpeechBalloon(String.Format("Hello, my name is {0}",
angryCat1.NickName));
angryDog1.DrawSpeechBalloon(angryCat1, String.Format("Hello {0}",
angryCat1.NickName));
```

The first line in the following code creates an instance of the AngryCatAlien class named alien1. Its NickName is Alien. The next line checks whether the call to the IsIntersectingWith method with angryCat1 as a parameter returns true. The IsIntersectingWith method requires the IComicCharacter argument; therefore, we can use angryCat1. This method will return true because the X and Y properties of both instances have the same value. The line in the if block calls the Move method for alien1. Then, the code calls the Appear method:

```
var alien1 = new AngryCatAlien("Alien", 120, "Mr. Alien", 0, 10, 20,
3);
if (alien1.IsIntersectingWith(angryCat1))
{
    alien1.Move(angryCat1.X + 20, angryCat1.Y + 20);
}
alien1.Appear();
```

The first line in the following code creates an instance of the AngryCatWizard class named wizard1. Its NickName is Gandalf. The next line calls the Draw method and then the DisappearAlien method with alien1 as the parameter. The DisappearAlien method requires the IAlien argument; therefore, we can use alien1, the previously created instance of AngryCatAlien that implements the IAlien interface. Then, a call to the Appear method for alien1 makes the alien with three eyes appear again:

```
var wizard1 = new AngryCatWizard("Gandalf", 75, "Mr. Gandalf", 10000,
30, 40, 100);
wizard1.Draw(wizard1.X, wizard1.Y);
wizard1.DisappearAlien(alien1);
alien1.Appear();
```

The first line in the following code creates an instance of the AngryCatKnight class named knight1. Its NickName is Camelot. The next few lines call the Draw method and then the UnsheathSword method with alien1 as the parameter. The method requires the IAlien argument; therefore, we can use alien1, the previously created instance of AngryCatAlien that implements the IAlien interface:

```
var knight1 = new AngryCatKnight("Camelot", 35, "Sir Camelot", 5000,
50, 50, 100, 30);
knight1.Draw(knight1.X, knight1.Y);
knight1.UnsheathSword(alien1);
```

Finally, the code calls the DrawThoughtBalloon and DrawSpeechBalloon methods for alien1. We can do this because alien1 is an instance of AngryCatAlien; this class inherits the implementation of the IComicCharacter interface from its AngryCat superclass. The call to the DrawSpeechBalloon method passes knight1 as the IComicCharacter argument because knight1 is an instance of AngryCatKnight, a class that also inherits the implementation of the IComicCharacter interface from its AngryCat superclass. Thus, we can also use instances of AngryCatKnight whenever we need the IComicCharacter argument.

Working with composition in JavaScript

As previously explained, JavaScript doesn't provide support for interfaces or multiple inheritance. JavaScript allows you to add properties and methods on the fly; therefore, we might create a function that takes advantage of this possibility to emulate multiple inheritance and generate an object that combines two existing objects, a technique known as mix-in.

However, instead of creating functions to create a mix-in, we will create constructor functions and use compositions to access objects within objects. We want to create an application by taking advantage of the feature provided by JavaScript.

Declaring base constructor functions for composition

The following lines show the code for the ComicCharacter constructor function in JavaScript:

```
function ComicCharacter(nickName) {
  this.nickName = nickName;
}
```

The constructor function receives the nickName argument and uses this value to initialize the nickName field.

The following lines show the code for the GameCharacter constructor function in JavaScript:

```
function GameCharacter(fullName, initialScore, x, y) {
  this.fullName = fullName;
  this.initialScore = initialScore;
  this.x = x;
  this.y = y;
}
```

The constructor function receives four arguments: fullName, score, x, and y and uses these values to initialize fields with the same name.

The following lines show the code for the Alien constructor function in JavaScript:

```
function Alien(numberOfEyes) {
  this.numberOfEyes = numberOfEyes;
}
```

The constructor function receives the numberOfEyes argument and uses this value to initialize the numberOfEyes field.

The following lines show the code for the Wizard constructor function in JavaScript:

```
function Wizard(spellPower) {
  this.spellPower = spellPower;
}
```

The constructor function receives the spellPower argument and uses this value to initialize the spellPower field.

The following lines show the code for the Knight constructor function in JavaScript:

```
function Knight(swordPower, swordHeight) {
  this.swordPower = swordPower;
  this.swordHeight = swordHeight;
}
```

The constructor function receives two arguments: swordPower and swordHeight. The function uses these values to initialize fields with the same name.

We declared five constructor functions that receive arguments and initialize fields with the same name used for all the arguments. We will use these constructor functions to create instances that we will save within fields of other objects.

Declaring constructor functions that use composition

Now, we will declare a constructor function that saves the ComicCharacter instance in the comicCharacter field. The following lines show the code for the AngryDog constructor function:

```
function AngryDog(nickName) {
   this.comicCharacter = new ComicCharacter(nickName);

Object.defineProperty(this, "nickName", {
    get: function() {
       return this.comicCharacter.nickName;
    }
});

this.drawSpeechBalloon = function(message, destination) {
   var composedMessage = "";
   if (destination) {
       composedMessage = destination.nickName + ", " + message;
    } else {
       composedMessage = message;
    }
    console.log(this.nickName + ' -> "' + composedMessage + '"');
}

this.drawThoughtBalloon = function(message) {
       console.log(this.nickName + ' ***' + message + '***')
}
```

The AngryDog constructor function receives nickName as its argument. The function uses this argument to call the ComicCharacter constructor function in order to create an instance and save it in the comicCharacter field.

The preceding code defines a nickName read-only property whose getter function returns the value of the nickName field of the previously created ComicCharacter object, which is accessed through this.comicCharacter.nickName. This way, whenever we create the AngryDog object and retrieve the value of its nickname property, the instance will use the saved ComicCharacter object to return the value of its nickName field.

The AngryDog constructor function declares the drawSpeechBalloon method. This method composes a message based on the value of the message and destination parameters and prints a message in a specific format that includes the nickName value as its prefix. If the destination parameter is specified, the preceding code uses the value of the nickName field or property.

In addition, the constructor function declares the code for the drawThoughtBalloon method. This method also prints a message with the nickName value as its prefix. So, the AngryDog constructor function defines two methods that use the ComicCharacter object to access its nickName field through the nickName property.

Now, we will declare another constructor function that saves the ComicCharacter instance in the comicCharacter field. The following lines show the code for the AngryCat constructor function:

```
function AngryCat(nickName, age) {
 this.comicCharacter = new ComicCharacter(nickName);
 this.age = age;
 Object.defineProperty(this, "nickName", {
   get: function() {
     return this.comicCharacter.nickName;
 });
 this.drawSpeechBalloon = function(message, destination) {
   var composedMessage = "";
   if (destination) {
     composedMessage = destination.nickName + ' === ' +
     this.nickName + ' ---> "' + message + '"';
   } else {
     composedMessage = this.nickName + ' -> "';
     if (this.age > 5) {
       composedMessage += "Meow";
      } else {
       composedMessage += "Meeeooow Meeeooow";
     composedMessage += ' ' + message + '"';
   console.log(composedMessage);
 this.drawThoughtBalloon = function(message) {
   console.log(this.comicCharacter.nickName + ' ***' + message +
'***');
 }
```

The AngryCat constructor function receives two arguments: nickName and age. This function uses the nickname argument to call the ComicCharacter constructor function in order to create an instance and save it in the comicCharacter field. The code initializes the age field with the value received in the age argument.

As happened in the AngryCat constructor function, the preceding code also defines the nickName read-only property whose getter function returns the value of the nickName field of the previously created ComicCharacter object, which is accessed through this.comicCharacter.nickName. This way, whenever we create an AngryCat object and retrieve the value of its nickname property, the instance will use the saved ComicCharacter object to return the value of its nickName field.

The AngryDog constructor function declares the drawSpeechBalloon method that composes a message based on the value of the age attribute and the values of the message and destination parameters. The drawSpeechBalloon method prints a message in a specific format that includes the nickName value as its prefix. If the destination parameter is specified, the code uses the value of the nickName field or property.

In addition, the constructor function declares the code for the drawThoughtBalloon method. This method also prints a message including the nickName value as its prefix. So, as happened with AngryDog, the AngryCat constructor function defines two methods that use the ComicCharacter object to access its nickName field through the nickName property.

Working with an object composed of many objects

We want the previously coded AngryCat constructor function to be able to work as both the comic and game character. In order to do so, we will add some arguments to the constructor function and save the GameCharacter instance in the gameCharacter field (among other changes). Here is the code for the new AngryCat constructor function:

```
function AngryCat(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x, y) {
  this.comicCharacter = new ComicCharacter(nickName);
  this.gameCharacter = new GameCharacter(fullName, initialScore, x,
y);
  this.age = age;
```

We added the necessary arguments: fullName, initialScore, x, and y to create the GameCharacter object. This way, we have access to the GameCharacter object through this.gameCharacter. The following code adds the same read-only nickName property that we defined in the previous version of the constructor function and four additional properties:

```
Object.defineProperty(this, "nickName", {
  get: function() {
    return this.comicCharacter.nickName;
});
Object.defineProperty(this, "fullName", {
  get: function() {
    return this.gameCharacter.fullName;
});
Object.defineProperty(this, "score", {
  get: function() {
    return this.gameCharacter.score;
  },
  set: function(val) {
    this.gameCharacter.score = val;
});
Object.defineProperty(this, "x", {
  get: function() {
    return this.gameCharacter.x;
  },
  set: function(val) {
    this.gameCharacter.x = val;
});
Object.defineProperty(this, "y", {
  get: function() {
    return this.gameCharacter.y;
  set: function(val) {
    this.gameCharacter.y = val;
});
```

The preceding code defines the fullName read-only property whose getter function returns the value of the fullName field of the previously created GameCharacter object, which is accessed through this.gameCharacter.fullName. This way, whenever we create the AngryCat object and retrieve the value of its fullName property, the instance will use the saved GameCharacter object to return the value of its fullName field. The other three new properties (score, x, and y) use the same technique with the difference that they also define setter methods that assign a new value to the field with the same name defined in the GameCharacter object.

In this case, the GameCharacter object uses fields and doesn't define properties with a specific code—such as validations—in the setter method. However, imagine a more complex scenario in which the GameCharacter object requires many validations and defines properties instead of fields. We would be reusing these validations by delegating the getter and setter methods to the GameCharacter object just by reading and writing to its properties.

The following code defines the methods that we defined in the previous version of the constructor function:

```
this.drawSpeechBalloon = function(message, destination) {
 var composedMessage = "";
 if (destination) {
    composedMessage = destination.nickName + ' === ' +
    this.nickName + ' ---> "' + message + '"';
  } else {
    composedMessage = this.nickName + ' -> "';
    if (this.age > 5) {
      composedMessage += "Meow";
    } else {
      composedMessage += "Meeeooow Meeeooow";
    composedMessage += ' ' + message + '"';
  console.log(composedMessage);
}
this.drawThoughtBalloon = function(message) {
  console.log(this.nickName + ' ***' + message + '***');
```

The following code declares three methods: draw, move, and isIntersectingWith. These methods access the previously defined properties of fullName, x, and y:

```
this.draw = function(x, y) \{
  this.x = x;
  this.y = y;
  console.log("Drawing AngryCat " + this.fullName +
  " at x: " + this.x +
  ", y: " + this.y);
this.move = function(x, y) \{
  this.x = x;
  this.y = y;
  console.log("Drawing AngryCat " + this.fullName +
  " at x: " + this.x +
  ", y: " + this.y);
}
this.isIntersectingWith = function(otherCharacter) {
  return ((this.x == otherCharacter.x) &&
  (this.y == otherCharacter.y));
```



JavaScript allows you to add attributes, properties, and methods to any object at any time. We take advantage of this feature to extend the object created with the AngryCat constructor function to AngryCat + Alien, AngryCat + Wizard, and AngryCat + Knight. We will create and save an instance of the Alien, Wizard, or Knight objects and add the necessary methods and properties to extend our AngryCat object on the fly.

The following code declares the createAlien method that receives the numberOfEyes argument. The method calls the Alien constructor function with the numberOfEyes value received in the argument and saves the Alien instance in the alien field. The next few lines add the numberOfEyes property. This works as a bridge to the this.alien.numberOfEyes attribute. The following code also adds two methods: appear and disappear:

```
this.createAlien = function(numberOfEyes) {
  this.alien = new Alien(numberOfEyes);

Object.defineProperty(this, "numberOfEyes", {
    get: function() {
      return this.alien.numberOfEyes;
    }
}
```

```
},
    set: function(val) {
        this.alien.numberOfEyes = val;
    }
});

this.appear = function() {
    console.log("I'm " + this.fullName +
        " and you can see my " + this.numberOfEyes +
        " eyes.");
}

this.disappear = function() {
    console.log(this.fullName + " disappears.");
}
```

The following code declares the createWizard method that receives the spellPower argument. The method calls the Wizard constructor function with the spellPower value received in the argument and saves the Wizard instance in the wizard field. The next few lines add the spellPower property. This works as a bridge to the this.wizard.spellPower attribute. The following code also adds the disappearAlien method that receives the alien argument and uses its numberOfEyes field:

```
this.createWizard = function(spellPower) {
  this.wizard = new Wizard(spellPower);

Object.defineProperty(this, "spellPower", {
    get: function() {
      return this.wizard.spellPower;
    },
    set: function(val) {
      this.wizard.spellPower = val;
    }
});

this.disappearAlien = function(alien) {
    console.log(this.fullName + " uses his " +
      this.spellPower + " to make the alien with " +
    alien.numberOfEyes + " eyes disappear.");
}
```

Finally, the following code declares the createKnight method. This method receives two arguments: swordPower and swordHeight and calls the Knight constructor function with the swordPower and swordHeight values received in all the arguments and saves the Knight instance in the knight field. The next few lines add the swordPower and swordHeight properties that work as a bridge to the this.wizard.swordPower and this.wizard.swordHeight attributes. The following code also adds the unsheathSword method. This method receives the target argument and uses its numberOfEyes field and calls another new method: writeLinesAboutTheSword. Note that with the following lines, we finish the code for the AngryCat constructor function:

```
this.createKnight = function(swordPower, swordHeight) {
 this.knight = new Knight(swordPower, swordHeight);
 Object.defineProperty(this, "swordPower", {
   get: function() {
     return this.knight.swordPower;
   set: function(val) {
      this.knight.swordPower = val;
 });
 Object.defineProperty(this, "swordHeight", {
   get: function() {
     return this.knight.swordHeight;
   set: function(val) {
      this.knight.swordHeight = val;
 });
 this.writeLinesAboutTheSword = function() {
   console.log(this.fullName + " unsheaths his sword.");
   console.log("Sword Power: " + this.swordPower +
    ". Sword Weight: " + this.swordWeight);
 };
 this.unsheathSword = function(target) {
   this.writeLinesAboutTheSword();
   if (target) {
```

```
console.log("The sword targets an alien with " +
    target.numberOfEyes + " eyes.");
}
}
}
```

Now, we will code three new constructor functions: AngryCatAlien, AngryCatWizard, and AngryCatKnight. These constructor functions allows you to easily create instances of AngryCat + Alien, AngryCat + Wizard, and AngryCat + Knight.

The following lines show the code for the AngryCatAlien constructor function, which receives all the necessary arguments to call the AngryCat constructor function. Then, it calls the createAlien method for the created object. Finally, the following code returns the object after the call to createAlien that added properties and methods:

```
var AngryCatAlien = function(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x,
y, numberOfEyes) {
  var alien = new AngryCat(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x,
y);
  alien.createAlien(numberOfEyes);
  return alien;
}
```

The following lines show the code for the AngryCatWizard constructor function, which receives all the necessary arguments to call the AngryCat constructor function. Then, it calls the createWizard method for the created object. Finally, the following code returns the object after the call to createWizard that added properties and methods:

```
var AngryCatWizard = function(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore,
x, y, spellPower) {
  var wizard = new AngryCat(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x,
y);
  wizard.createWizard(spellPower);
  return wizard;
}
```

The following lines show the code for the AngryCatKnight constructor function. This function receives all the necessary arguments to call the AngryCat constructor function. Then, it calls the createKnight method for the created object. Finally, the following code returns the object after the call to createKnight that added properties and methods:

```
var AngryCatKnight = function(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore,
x, y, swordPower, swordHeight) {
  var knight = new AngryCat(nickName, age, fullName, initialScore, x,
y);
  knight.createKnight(swordPower, swordHeight);
  return knight;
}
```

The following table summarizes the objects that are included in other objects after we create instances with all the different constructor functions:

| Constructor function | Includes instances of |
|----------------------|---|
| AngryDog | ComicCharacter |
| AngryCat | ComicCharacter and GameCharacter |
| AngryCatAlien | AngryCat, ComicCharacter, GameCharacter, and Alien |
| AngryCatWizard | AngryCat, ComicCharacter, GameCharacter, and Wizard |
| AngryCatKnight | AngryCat, ComicCharacter, GameCharacter, and Knight |

Working with instances composed of many objects

Now, we will work with instances created using all the previously declared constructor functions. In the following code, the first two lines create two AngryDog objects named angryDog1 and angryDog2. Then, the code calls the drawSpeechBalloon method for angryDog1 twice with a different number of arguments. The second call to this method passes angryDog2 as the second argument because angryDog2 is an AngryDog object and includes the nickName property:

```
var angryDog1 = new AngryDog("Brian");
var angryDog2 = new AngryDog("Merlin");
angryDog1.drawSpeechBalloon("Hello, my name is " + angryDog1.
nickName);
angryDog1.drawSpeechBalloon("How do you do?", angryDog2);
angryDog2.drawThoughtBalloon("Who are you? I think.");
```

The following code creates the AngryCat object named angryCat1. Its nickName is Garfield. The next line calls the drawSpeechBalloon method for the new instance to introduce Garfield in the comic character. Then, angryDog1 calls the drawSpeechBalloon method and passes angryCat1 as the destination argument because angryCat1 is the AngryCat object and includes the nickName property. Thus, we can also use AngryCat objects whenever we need the argument that provides the nickName property or field:

```
var angryCat1 = new AngryCat("Garfield", 10, "Mr. Garfield", 0, 10,
20);
angryCat1.drawSpeechBalloon("Hello, my name is " + angryCat1.
nickName);
angryDog1.drawSpeechBalloon("Hello " + angryCat1.NickName, angryCat1);
```

The following code creates the AngryCatAlien object named alien1. Its nickName is Alien. The next few lines check whether the call to the isIntersectingWith method with angryCat1 as its parameter returns true. The method requires an instance that provides the x and y fields or properties as the argument. We can use angryCat1 as the argument because one of its included objects is ComicCharacter; therefore, it provides the x and y attributes. This method will return true because the x and y properties of both instances have the same value. The line within the if block calls the move method for alien1. Then, the following code also calls the appear method:

```
var alien1 = AngryCatAlien("Alien", 120, "Mr. Alien", 0, 10, 20, 3);
if (alien1.isIntersectingWith(angryCat1)) {
   alien1.move(angryCat1.x + 20, angryCat1.y + 20);
}
alien1.appear();
```

The first line in the following code creates the AngryCatWizard object named wizard1. Its nickName is Gandalf. The next lines call the draw method and then the disappearAlien method with alien1 as the parameter. The method requires an instance that provides the numberOfEyes field or property as the argument. We can use alien1 as the argument because one of its included objects is Alien; therefore, it includes the numberOfEyes field or property. Then, a call to the appear method for alien1 makes the alien with three eyes appear again:

```
var wizard1 = new AngryCatWizard("Gandalf", 75, "Mr. Gandalf", 10000,
30, 40, 100);
wizard1.draw(wizard1.x, wizard1.y);
wizard1.disappearAlien(alien1);
alien1.appear();
```

The first line in the following code creates the AngryCatKnight object named knight1. Its nickName is Camelot. The next lines call the draw method and then the unsheathSword method with alien1 as the parameter. The method requires an instance that provides the numberOfEyes field or property as the argument. We can use alien1 as the argument because one of its included objects is Alien; therefore, it includes the numberOfEyes attribute:

```
var knight1 = new AngryCatKnight("Camelot", 35, "Sir Camelot", 5000,
50, 50, 100, 30);
knight1.draw(knight1.x, knight1.y);
knight1.unsheathSword(alien1);
```

Finally, the following code calls the drawThoughtBalloon and drawSpeechBalloon methods for alien1. We can do this because alien1 is the AngryCatAlien object and includes the methods defined in the AngryCat constructor function. The call to the drawSpeechBalloon method passes knight1 as the destination argument because knight1 is the AngryCatKnight object. Thus, we can also use instances of AngryCatKnight whenever we need an argument that provides the nickName property or field:

```
alien1.drawThoughtBalloon("I must be friendly or I'm dead...");
alien1.drawSpeechBalloon("Pleased to meet you, Sir.", knight1);
```

After you execute all the preceding code snippets, you will see the following output on the JavaScript console (see *Figure* 2):

```
Brian -> "Hello, my name is Brian"

Brian -> "Merlin, How do you do?"

Merlin ***Who are you? I think.***

Garfield -> "Meow Hello, my name is Garfield"

Brian -> "Garfield, Hello undefined"

Drawing AngryCat Mr. Alien at x: 30, y: 40

I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.

Drawing AngryCat Mr. Gandalf at x: 30, y: 40

Mr. Gandalf uses his 100 to make the alien with 3 eyes disappear.

I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.

Drawing AngryCat Sir Camelot at x: 50, y: 50

Sir Camelot unsheaths his sword.

Sword Power: 100. Sword Weight: undefined
```

The sword targets an alien with 3 eyes.

Alien ***I must be friendly or I'm dead...***

Camelot === Alien ---> "Pleased to meet you, Sir."

```
> var angryDog1 = new AngryDog("Brian");
  var angryDog2 = new AngryDog("Merlin");

    undefined

> angryDog1.drawSpeechBalloon("Hello, my name is " + angryDog1.nickName);
angryDog1.drawSpeechBalloon("How do you do?", angryDog2);
angryDog2.drawThoughtBalloon("Who are you? I think.");
  Brian -> "Hello, my name is Brian"
                                                                                                                                              VM173:42
  Brian -> "Merlin, How do you do?"
Merlin ***Who are you? I think.***
                                                                                                                                              VM173:42
                                                                                                                                              VM173:46
< undefined
> var angryCat1 = new AngryCat("Garfield", 10, "Mr. Garfield", 0, 10, 20);
angryCat1.drawSpeechBalloon("Hello, my name is " + angryCat1.nickName);
angryDog1.drawSpeechBalloon("Hello " + angryCat1.NickName, angryCat1);
  Garfield -> "Meow Hello, my name is Garfield"
                                                                                                                                            VM173:147
  Brian -> "Garfield, Hello undefined"
                                                                                                                                             VM173:42
<- undefined
> var alien1 = AngryCatAlien("Alien", 120, "Mr. Alien", 0, 10, 20, 3);
if (alien1.isIntersectingWith(angryCat1)) {
       alien1.move(angryCat1.x + 20, angryCat1.y + 20);
  alien1.appear():
  Drawing AngryCat Mr. Alien at x: 30, y: 40
                                                                                                                                            VM173:165
  I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.
                                                                                                                                            VM173:188
<- undefined
> var wizard1 = new AngryCatWizard("Gandalf", 75, "Mr. Gandalf", 10000, 30, 40, 100);
wizard1.draw(wizard1.x, wizard1.y);
wizard1.disappearAlien(alien1);
   alien1.appear();
  Drawing AngryCat Mr. Gandalf at x: 30, y: 40
                                                                                                                                            VM173:157
  Mr. Gandalf uses his 100 to make the alien with 3 eyes disappear.
                                                                                                                                            VM173:211
  I'm Mr. Alien and you can see my 3 eyes.
                                                                                                                                            VM173:188
< undefined
> var knight1 = new AngryCatKnight("Camelot", 35, "Sir Camelot", 5000, 50, 50, 100, 30);
   knight1.draw(knight1.x, knight1.y);
   knight1.unsheathSword(alien1);
  Drawing AngryCat Sir Camelot at x: 50, y: 50
                                                                                                                                            VM173:157
  Sir Camelot unsheaths his sword.
                                                                                                                                            VM173:239
  Sword Power: 100. Sword Weight: undefined
                                                                                                                                            VM173:240
  The sword targets an alien with 3 eyes.
                                                                                                                                            VM173:247
<- undefined
> alien1.drawThoughtBalloon("I must be friendly or I'm dead...");
alien1.drawSpeechBalloon("Pleased to meet you, Sir.", knight1);
   Alien ***I must be friendly or I'm dead...***
                                                                                                                                            VM173:151
   Camelot === Alien ---> "Pleased to meet you, Sir."
                                                                                                                                            VM173:147
  undefined
```

Figure 2

Summary

In this chapter, you learned how to declare and combine multiple blueprints to generate a single instance. We worked with multiple inheritance of classes in Python. You also learned how to transform a base class to an abstract base class. We declared interfaces in C#. Then, we implemented them with different classes. We also combined interfaces with classes to take advantage of multiple inheritance in C#.

We took advantage of the flexibility of JavaScript that allowed us to add properties and methods to an existing object. We combined constructor functions with composition to generate all the necessary blueprints for our application without creating complex functions that emulate multiple inheritance in a language that wasn't designed with this feature in mind.

Now that we have learned about interfaces, multiple inheritance and composition, we are ready to work with duck typing and generics, which is the topic of the next chapter.

6

Duck Typing and Generics

In this chapter, we will write code that we will maximize code reuse by writing code capable of working with objects of different types. We will take advantage of the different mechanisms to maximize code reuse in each of the three covered programming languages: Python, JavaScript, and C#. We will cover the following topics:

- Understanding parametric polymorphism and generics
- Understanding duck typing
- Working with duck typing in Python
- Working with generics in C#
- Declaring classes that work with one and two constrained generic types in C#
- Working with duck typing in JavaScript

Understanding parametric polymorphism and duck typing

Let's imagine that we want to organize a party of specific animals. We don't want to mix cats with dogs because the party would end up with dogs chasing cats. We want a party, and we don't want intruders. However, at the same time, we want to take advantage of all the procedures we create to organize the party and replicate them with frogs in another party, a party of frogs. We want to reuse these procedures and use them for either dogs or frogs. However, in the future, we will probably want to use them with parrots, lions, tigers, and horses.

In C#, we can declare an interface to specify all the requirements for an animal and write generic code that works with any class that implements the interface. Parametric polymorphism allows you to write generic and reusable code that can work with values without depending on the type while keeping the full static type safety. We can take advantage of parametric polymorphism through generics, also known as generic programming. Once we declare an interface that specifies the requirements for an animal, we can create a class that can work with any instance that implements this interface. This way, we can reuse the code that can generate a party of dogs and create a party of frogs, a party of parrots, or a party of any other animal.

Python's default philosophy is a bit different. Python uses duck typing. Here, the presence of certain attributes or properties and methods make an object suitable to its usage as a specific animal. If we require animals to have a name property and provide sing and dance methods, we can consider any object as an animal as long as it provides the required name property, the sing method, and the dance method. Any instance that provides the required property and methods can be used as an animal.

Let's think about a situation where we see a bird. The bird quacks, swims, and walks like a duck; we can call this bird a duck. Very similar examples related to a bird and a duck generated the duck typing name. We don't need additional information to work with this bird as a duck.

We can add code to constrain types in Python. However, we don't want to write code against Python's most common practices; therefore, we will take advantage of duck typing in Python. We will also take advantage of duck typing in JavaScript. In fact, you might notice that we have been working with duck typing in the examples used in the previous chapters. It is important to note that you can also work with duck typing in C#. However, it requires some workarounds.

Working with duck typing in Python

We will use the Animal base class to generalize the requirements for animals. First, we will specialize the base class in two subclasses: Dog and Frog. Then, we will create a Party class that will be able to work with instances of any Animal subclass through duck typing. We will work with a party of dogs and a party of frogs.

Then, we will create a HorseDeeJay class and generate a subclass of the Party class named PartyWithDeeJay. The new subclass will work with instances of any Animal subclass and any instance that provides the properties and methods declared in the HorseDeeJay class through duck typing. We will work with the party of dogs with a DJ.

Declaring a base class that defines the generic behavior

We will create many classes that require the following import statement:

```
import random
```

Now, we will declare a base class named Animal:

class Animal:

```
dance characters = ""
    spelled sound 1 = ""
    spelled sound 2 = ""
    spelled sound 3 = ""
    def __init__(self, name):
        self. name = name
    @property
   def name(self):
       return self. name
    def dance(self):
        print('{} dances {}'.format(self._name, type(self).dance_
characters))
   def say(self, message):
       print('{} says: {}'.format(self._name, message))
    def say goodbye(self, destination):
        print('{} says goodbye to {}: {} {} {} '.format(
            self._name,
            destination.name,
            type(self).spelled_sound_1,
            type(self).spelled_sound_2,
            type(self).spelled_sound_1))
    def say welcome(self, destination):
        print('{} welcomes {}: {}'.format(
            self._name,
            destination.name,
```

The Animal class declares the following four class attributes, all of them initialized with an empty string. The subclasses of Animal will override these class attributes with the appropriate strings according to the animal:

- dance characters
- spelled sound 1
- spelled sound 2
- spelled sound 3

Then, the Animal class declares an __init__ method that assigns the value of the required name argument to the _name protected attribute. This class declares the name read-only property that encapsulates the _name protected attribute.

The dance method uses the value retrieved from the dance_characters class attribute to print a message. This message indicates that the animal is dancing. Note the usage of type (self) to access the class attribute in a generic way instead of using the actual class name. The say method prints the message received as an argument.

Both the say_welcome and say_goodbye methods receive a destination argument that they will use to print the name of the destination of the message. Therefore, whenever we call a method, the destination argument must be an object that has either a name attribute or property in order to be considered as an animal. Any instance of any subclass of Animal qualifies as the destination argument for both methods.

The say_welcome method uses a combination of strings retrieved from the spelled_sound_1 and spelled_sound_3 class attributes to say welcome to another animal. The say_goodbye method uses the string retrieved from the spelled_sound_2 class attribute to say goodbye to another animal.

Declaring subclasses for duck typing

Now, we will create a subclass of Animal, a Dog class that overrides the string class attributes defined in the Animal class to provide all the values that are appropriate for a dog:

```
class Dog(Animal):
    dance_characters = "/-\ \-\ /-/"
    spelled_sound_1 = "Woof"
    spelled_sound_2 = "Wooooof"
    spelled_sound_3 = "Grr"
```

With just a few additional lines of code, we will create another subclass of Animal, a Frog class that also overrides the string class attributes defined in the Animal class to provide all the values that are appropriate for a frog:

```
class Frog(Animal):
    dance_characters = "/|\ \|/ ^ ^ "
    spelled_sound_1 = "Ribbit"
    spelled_sound_2 = "Croak"
    spelled_sound_3 = "Croooaaak"
```

Declaring a class that works with duck typing

The following code declares the Party class that takes advantage of duck typing to work with instances of any class that provides either a name attribute or property. It implements the dance, say, say_goodbye, say_welcome, and sing methods. The __init__ method receives leader that the code assigns to the _leader protected attribute. In addition, the following code creates a list with leader as one of its members and saves it in the _members protected attribute. This way, the leader argument specifies the first party leader and also the first member of the party, that is, the first element added to the _members list:

```
class Party:
    def __init__(self, leader):
        self._leader = leader
        self._members = [leader]
```

The following code declares the add_member method that receives the member argument. The code adds the member received as an argument to the _members list and calls the _leader.say_welcome method with member as the argument to make the party leader welcome the new member:

```
def add_member(self, member):
    self._members.append(member)
    self. leader.say welcome(member)
```

The following code declares the remove_member method that receives the member argument. It checks whether the member to be removed is the party leader. The remove_member method raises a ValueError exception if the member is the party leader. If the member isn't the party leader, the code removes this member from the _members list and calls the say_goodbye method for the removed member. This way, the member who leaves the party says goodbye to the party leader:

```
def remove_member(self, member):
    if member == self._leader:
        raise ValueError(
          "You cannot remove the leader from the party")
    self._members.remove(member)
    member.say goodbye(self. leader)
```

The following code declares the dance method that calls the method with the same name for each member of the _members list:

```
def dance(self):
    for member in self._members:
        member.dance()
```

The following code declares the sing method that calls the method with the same name for each member of the _members list:

```
def sing(self):
    for member in self._members:
        member.sing()
```

Finally, the following code declares the <code>vote_leader</code> method. This code makes sure that there are at least two members in the <code>_members</code> list when we call this method; if we have just one member, the method raises the <code>ValueError</code> exception. If we have at least two members, the code generates a new random leader (who is different from the existing leader) for the party. The code calls the <code>say</code> method for the actual leader to explain to other party members that another leader has been voted for. Finally, the code calls the <code>dance</code> method for the new leader and sets the new value for the <code>leader</code> protected attribute:

```
def vote_leader(self):
    if len(self._members) == 1:
        raise ValueError("You need at least two members to vote a
new Leader.")
    new_leader = self._leader
    while new_leader == self._leader:
        random_leader = random.randrange(len(self._members))
        new leader = self. members[random leader]
```

```
self._leader.say('{} has been voted as our new party
leader.'.format(new_leader.name))
    new_leader.dance()
    self. leader = new leader
```

Using a generic class for multiple types

We have two classes that inherit from the Animal class: Dog and Frog. Both classes have all the required attributes and methods that allow you to work with their instances as arguments of the methods of the previously coded Party class. We can start working with instances of the Dog class to create a party of dogs.

The following code creates four instances of the Dog class: jake, duke, lady, and dakota:

```
jake = Dog("Jake")
duke = Dog("Duke")
lady = Dog("Lady")
dakota = Dog("Dakota")
```

The following line of code creates a Party instance named dogsParty and passes jake as the argument. This way, we create the party of frogs in which Jake is the party leader:

```
dogs party = Party(jake)
```

The following code adds the previously created three instances of Dog to the dogs' party by calling the add_member method:

```
dogs_party.add_member(duke)
dogs_party.add_member(lady)
dogs_party.add_member(dakota)
```

The following code calls the dance method to make all the dogs dance, removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the sing method to make all the dogs sing:

```
dogs_party.dance()
dogs_party.remove_member(duke)
dogs_party.vote_leader()
dogs_party.sing()
```

The following lines display the output generated on the Python console after running the preceding code:

```
Jake welcomes Duke: Wooooof
Jake welcomes Lady: Wooooof
```

```
Jake welcomes Dakota: Woooooof

Jake dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Duke dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Duke says goodbye to Jake: Woof Wooooof Grr

Jake says: Dakota has been voted as our new party leader.

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Jake sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Lady sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Dakota sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .
```

What about the party of frogs? The following code creates four instances of the Frog class: frog1, frog2, frog3, and frog4:

```
frog1 = Frog("Frog #1")
frog2 = Frog("Frog #2")
frog3 = Frog("Frog #3")
frog4 = Frog("Frog #4")
```

The following code creates a Party instance named frogsParty and passes frog1 as the argument. This way, we create the party of dogs in which Frog #1 is the party leader:

```
frogs_party = Party(frog1)
```

The following code adds the previously created three instances of Frog to the frogs' party by calling the add_member method:

```
frogs_party.add_member(frog2)
frogs_party.add_member(frog3)
frogs_party.add_member(frog4)
```

The following code calls the dance method to make all the frogs dance, removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the sing method to make all the frogs sing:

```
frogs_party.dance()
frogs_party.remove_member(frog3)
frogs_party.vote_leader()
frogs_party.sing()
```

The following lines display the output generated in the Python console after running the preceding code:

```
Frog #1 welcomes Frog #2: Croak

Frog #1 welcomes Frog #3: Croak

Frog #1 welcomes Frog #4: Croak

Frog #1 dances / | \ | / ^ ^

Frog #2 dances / | \ | / ^ ^

Frog #3 dances / | \ | / ^ ^

Frog #4 dances / | \ | / ^ ^

Frog #3 says goodbye to Frog #1: Ribbit Croak Croooaaak

Frog #1 says: Frog #2 has been voted as our new party leader.

Frog #2 dances / | \ | / ^ ^

Frog #1 sings: Ribbit Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit .

Frog #2 sings: Ribbit Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit .
```

Working with duck typing in mind

Now, we will create a new class that declares properties and methods that we will call from the subclass of the previously created Party class. As long as we use instances that provide the required properties and methods, we can use the instances of any class with the new subclass of Party. Here is the code for the HorseDeeJay class:

```
class HorseDeeJay:
    def __init__(self, name):
        self._name = name

    @property
    def name(self):
        return self._name

    def play_music_to_dance(self):
        print("My name is {}. Let's Dance.".format(self.name))

    def play_music_to_sing(self):
        print("Time to sing!")
```

The <code>HorseDeeJay</code> class declares the <code>__init__</code> method that assigns the value of the required <code>name</code> argument to the <code>_name</code> protected field. The class declares the <code>Name</code> read-only property that encapsulates the related field.

The play_music_to_dance method prints a message that displays the horse DJ name and invites all its party members to dance. The play_music_to_sing method prints a message that invites all its party members to sing.

The following code declares the subclass of the previously created Party class. This class can work with the instance of the HorseDeeJay class for the dee_jay argument required by the __init__ method. Note that the __init__ method receives two arguments: leader and deejay. Both these arguments specify the first party leader, the first member of the party, and the DJ who will make all party members dance and sing. Note that the method calls the __init__ method defined in the Party superclass with leader as an argument:

```
class PartyWithDeeJay(Party):
    def __init__(self, leader, dee_jay):
        super().__init__(leader)
        self._dee_jay = dee_jay
```

The following code declares the dee_jay read-only property that encapsulates the previously created _dee_jay attribute:

```
@property
def dee_jay(self):
    return self. dee jay
```

The following code declares the dance method that overrides the method with the same declaration included in the superclass. The code calls the _dee_jay.play_music_to_dance method. Then, it calls the super().dance method, that is, the dance method defined in the Party superclass:

```
def dance(self):
    self._dee_jay.play_music_to_dance()
    super().dance()
```

Finally, the following code declares the sing method that overrides the method with the same declaration included in the superclass. The code calls the <code>_dee_jay.play_music_to_sing</code> method and then calls the <code>super().sing</code> method, that is, the <code>sing</code> method defined in the <code>Party</code> superclass:

```
def sing(self):
    self._dee_jay.play_music_to_sing()
    super().sing()
```

Here is the code that we can run on a Python console to create a HorseDeeJay instance named silver. Then, the code creates a PartyWithDeeJay instance named silverParty and passes jake and silver as arguments. This way, we can create a party with a dog leader and a horse DJ, where Jake is the party leader and Silver is the DJ:

```
silver = HorseDeeJay("Silver")
silverParty = PartyWithDeeJay(jake, silver)
```

The following code adds the previously created three instances of Dog to the party by calling the add_member method:

```
silverParty.add_member(duke)
silverParty.add_member(lady)
silverParty.add member(dakota)
```

The following code calls the dance method to make the DJ invite all the dogs to dance and then make them dance. Then, the code removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the sing method to make the DJ invite all the dogs to sing and then make them sing:

```
silverParty.dance()
silverParty.remove_member(duke)
silverParty.vote_leader()
silverParty.sing()
```

The following lines display the console output after we run the added code:

```
My name is Silver. Let's Dance.

Jake dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Duke dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Duke says goodbye to Jake: Woof Wooooof Grr

Jake says: Dakota has been voted as our new party leader.

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Time to sing!

Jake sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Lady sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Dakota sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .
```

Working with generics in C#

We will create an IAnimal interface to specify the requirements that a type must meet in order to be considered an animal. We will create the Animal abstract base class that implements this interface. Then, we will specialize this class in two subclasses: Dog and Frog. Later, we will create the Party class that will be able to work with instances of any class that implements the IAnimal interface through generics. We will work with the party of dogs and frogs.

Now, we will create an **IDeeJay** interface and implement it in a HorseDeeJay class. We will also create a subclass of the Party class named PartyWithDeeJay that will use generics to work with instances of any type that implement the IAnimal interface and instances of any type that implements the IDeeJay interface. Then, we will work with the party of dogs with a DJ.

Declaring an interface to be used as a constraint

Now, it is time to code one of the interfaces that will be used as a constraint later when we define the class that takes advantage of generics. The following lines show the code for the IAnimal interface in C#. The public modifier, followed by the interface keyword and the IAnimal interface name composes the interface declaration. Don't forget that we cannot declare constructors within interfaces:

```
public interface IAnimal
{
   string Name { get; set; }

   void Dance();
   void Say(string message);
   void SayGoodbye(IAnimal destination);
   void SayWelcome(IAnimal destination);
   void Sing();
}
```

The IAnimal interface declares a Name string property and five methods: Dance, Say, SayGoodbye, SayWelcome, and Sing. The interface includes only the method declaration because the classes that implement the IAnimal interface will be responsible for providing the implementation of the getter method and the setter method for the Name property and the other five methods.

Declaring an abstract base class that implements two interfaces

Now, we will declare an abstract class named Animal that implements both the previously defined IAnimal interface and the IEquatable<IAnimal> interface. The IEquatable<T> interface defines a generalized Equals method that we must implement in our class to determine equality of instances. As we are implementing the IAnimal interface, we have to replace T with IAnimal and implement IEquatable<IAnimal>. This way, we will be able to determine equality of instances of classes that implement the IAnimal interface. We can read the class declaration as "the Animal class implements both the IAnimal and IEquatable<Animal> interfaces":

```
public abstract class Animal: IAnimal, IEquatable<IAnimal>
 protected string _name;
  public string Name
    get { return this. name; }
    set { throw new InvalidOperationException("Name is a read-only
property."); }
  public virtual string DanceCharacters { get { return string.Empty; }
  public virtual string SpelledSound1 { get { return string.Empty; } }
  public virtual string SpelledSound2 { get { return string.Empty; } }
  public virtual string SpelledSound3 { get { return string.Empty; } }
  public Animal(string name)
    this. name = name;
  public void Dance()
    Console.WriteLine(
    String.Format(
    "{0} dances {1}",
    this.Name,
    DanceCharacters));
  public bool Equals(IAnimal otherAnimal)
```

```
return (this == otherAnimal);
public void Say(string message)
  Console.WriteLine(
  String.Format(
  "{0} says: {1}",
  this.Name, message));
public void SayGoodbye(IAnimal destination)
  Console.WriteLine(
  String.Format(
  \{0\} says goodbye to \{1\}: \{2\} \{3\} \{4\},
  this.Name,
  destination.Name,
  SpelledSound1,
  SpelledSound3,
  SpelledSound1));
public void SayWelcome (IAnimal destination)
{
  Console.WriteLine(
  String.Format(
  "{0} welcomes {1}: {2}",
  this.Name,
  destination.Name,
  SpelledSound2));
public void Sing()
  var spelledSingSound = SpelledSound1 + " ";
  var sb = new StringBuilder();
  sb.Append(String.Format("{0} sings: ", this.Name));
  sb.Append(String.Concat(Enumerable.Repeat(spelledSingSound, 3)));
  sb.Append(". ");
  sb.Append(String.Concat(Enumerable.Repeat(spelledSingSound, 2)));
  sb.Append(". ");
  sb.Append(spelledSingSound);
```

```
sb.Append(". ");
Console.WriteLine(sb.ToString());
}
```

The Animal class declares a constructor that assigns the value of the required name argument to the _name protected field. This class declares the Name read-only property that encapsulates the _name private field. The interface requires a Name property; therefore, it is necessary to create both setter and getter public methods. We cannot use auto-implemented properties with a private setter because the setter method must be public. Thus, we defined the public setter method that throws an InvalidOperationException to avoid users of subclasses of this abstract class to change the value of the Name property.

Then, the abstract class declared the following four virtual string properties. All of them define a getter method that returns an empty string that the subclasses will override with the appropriate strings according to the animal:

- DanceCharacters
- SpelledSound1
- SpelledSound2
- SpelledSound2

The Dance method uses the value retrieved from the DanceCharacters property to print a message. This message indicates that the animal is dancing. The Say method prints the message received as the argument. Both the SayWelcome and SayGoodbye methods receive IAnimal as the argument that they use to print the name of the destination of the message. SayWelcome uses a combination of strings retrieved from SpelledSound1 and SpelledSound3 to say welcome to another animal. SayGoodbye uses the string retrieved from SpelledSound2 to say goodbye to another animal.

The Equals method receives another IAnimal as the argument and uses the == operator between the current instance and the received instance to check whether the instances are the same or not. In a more complex scenario, you might want to code this method to compare the values of certain properties to determine equality. In our case, we want to keep the code as simple as possible to focus on generics. We needed to implement the Equals method to conform to the IEquatable<IAnimal> interface.

Declaring subclasses of an abstract base class

We have the abstract Animal class that implements IAnimal and IEquatable<IAnimal>. Now, we will create a subclass of Animal, a Dog class that overrides the virtual string properties defined in the Animal class to provide the appropriate values for a dog, and declare a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
public class Dog: Animal
{
   public override string SpelledSound1
   {
      get { return "Woof"; }
   }
   public override string SpelledSound2
   {
      get { return "Wooooof"; }
   }
   public override string SpelledSound3
   {
      get { return "Grr"; }
   }
   public override string DanceCharacters
   {
      get { return @"/-\ \-\ /-/"; }
   }
   public Dog(string name): base(name)
   {
    }
}
```

With just a few additional lines of code, we will create another subclass of Animal, a Frog class that also overrides all the virtual string properties defined in the Animal class to provide the appropriate values for a frog, and declare a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
public class Frog: Animal
{
  public override string SpelledSound1
  {
```

```
get { return "Ribbit"; }
}

public override string SpelledSound2
{
  get { return "Croak"; }
}

public override string SpelledSound3
{
  get { return "Croooaaak"; }
}

public override string DanceCharacters
{
  get { return @"/|\ \|/ ^ ^ "; }
}

public Frog(string name)
  : base(name)
{
  }
}
```

Declaring a class that works with a constrained generic type

The following line declares a Party class that takes advantage of generics to work with many types. The class name is followed by a less than sign (<), T that identifies the generic type parameter, and a greater than sign (>). The where keyword, followed by T that identifies the type and a colon (:) indicates that the T generic type parameter has to be a type that implements the specified interface, that is, the IAnimal interface:

```
public class Party<T> where T: IAnimal
```

The following line starts the class body and declares a private List (System. Generics.Collection.List) of the type specified by T. List, which uses generics to specify the type of all the elements that will be added to the list:

```
{
   private List<T> _members;
```

The following line declares a public Leader property whose type is T:

```
public T Leader { get; private set; }
```

The following code declares the constructor that receives the leader argument whose type is T. This argument specifies the first party leader and the first member of the party as well, that is, the first element added to the _members list:

```
public Party(T leader)
{
  this.Leader = leader;
  this._members = new List<T>();
  this._members.Add(leader);
}
```

The following code declares the AddMember method that receives the member argument whose type is T. The code adds the member received as an argument to the _members List<T> and calls the Leader.SayWelcome method with member as the argument to make the party leader welcome the new member:

```
public void AddMember(T member)
{
  this._members.Add(member);
  Leader.SayWelcome(member);
}
```

The following code declares the RemoveMember method that receives the member argument whose type is T. The code checks whether the member to be removed is the party leader. The method throws an exception if the member is the party leader. The code returns the bool result, calls the remove method of the _members List<T> with the member received as an argument, and calls the SayGoodbye method for the successfully removed member. This way, the member that leaves the party says goodbye to the party leader:

```
public bool RemoveMember(T member)
{
   if (member.Equals(this.Leader))
   {
     throw new InvalidOperationException("You cannot remove the leader
from the party.");
   }
   var result = this._members.Remove(member);
   if (result)
```

```
{
    member.SayGoodbye(this.Leader);
}
return result;
}
```

The following code declares the Dance method that calls the method with the same name for each member of the _members list. We will use the virtual keyword because we will override this method in a future subclass:

```
public virtual void Dance()
{
   foreach (var member in _members)
   {
      member.Dance();
   }
}
```

The following code declares the Sing method that calls the method with the same name for each member of the _members list. We will use the virtual keyword because we will override this method in a future subclass:

```
public virtual void Sing()
{
  foreach (var member in _members)
  {
    member.Sing();
  }
}
```

Finally, the following code declares the VoteLeader method. This code makes sure that there are at least two members in the _members list when we call this method; if we have just one member, the method throws an InvalidOperationException. If we have at least two members, the code generates a new random leader (who is different from the existing leader) for the party. The code calls the Say method for the actual leader to explain it to all the other party members that another leader has been voted for. Finally, the code calls the Dance method for the new leader and sets the new value for the Leader property:

```
public void VoteLeader()
{
   if (this._members.Count == 1)
   {
      throw new InvalidOperationException("You need at least two members
to vote a new Leader.");
```

```
var newLeader = this.Leader;
while (newLeader.Equals(this.Leader))
{
  var randomLeader =
  new Random().Next(this._members.Count);
  newLeader = this._members[randomLeader];
}

this.Leader.Say(
String.Format(
  "{0} has been voted as our new party leader.",
  newLeader.Name));
  newLeader.Dance();
  this.Leader = newLeader;
}
```

Using a generic class for multiple types

We can create instances of the Party<T> class by replacing the T generic type parameter with any type name that conforms to all the constraints specified in the declaration of the Party<T> class. So far, we have two concrete classes: Dog and Frog that implement the IAnimal interface. Thus, we can use Dog to create an instance of Party<Dog>.

The following code shows the first few lines of the console application that creates four instances of the Dog class: jake, duke, lady, and dakota. Then, the Main method creates the Party<Dog> instance named dogsParty and passes jake as the argument. This way, we create the party of dogs in which Jake is the party leader:

```
class Program
{
   static void Main(string[] args)
   {
     var jake = new Dog("Jake");
     var duke = new Dog("Duke");
     var lady = new Dog("Lady");
     var dakota = new Dog("Dakota");
     var dogsParty = new Party<Dog>(jake);
```

The dogsParty instance will only accept the Dog instance for all the arguments in which the class definition used the generic type parameter named T. The following code adds the previously created three instances of Dog to the dogs' party by calling the AddMember method:

```
dogsParty.AddMember(duke);
dogsParty.AddMember(lady);
dogsParty.AddMember(dakota);
```

The following code calls the Dance method to make all the dogs dance, removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the Sing method to make all the dogs sing:

```
dogsParty.Dance();
dogsParty.RemoveMember(duke);
dogsParty.VoteLeader();
dogsParty.Sing();
```

We can use Frog to create an instance of Party<Frog>. The following code creates four instances of the Frog class: frog1, frog2, frog3, and frog4. Then, the code creates a Party<Frog> instance named frogsParty and passes frog1 as the argument. This way, we create the party of frogs in which Frog #1 is the party leader:

```
var frog1 = new Frog("Frog #1");
var frog2 = new Frog("Frog #2");
var frog3 = new Frog("Frog #3");
var frog4 = new Frog("Frog #4");
var frogsParty = new Party<Frog>(frog1);
```

The frogsParty instance will only accept the Frog instance for all the arguments in which the class definition used the generic type parameter named T. The following code adds the previously created three instances of Frog to the frogs' party by calling the AddMember method:

```
frogsParty.AddMember(frog2);
frogsParty.AddMember(frog3);
frogsParty.AddMember(frog4);
```

The following code calls the Dance method to make all the frogs dance, removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the Sing method to make all the frogs sing:

```
frogsParty.Dance();
frogsParty.RemoveMember(frog3);
frogsParty.VoteLeader();
```

```
frogsParty.Sing();
  Console.ReadLine();
}
```

The following lines show the console output after we run the preceding code snippets:

```
Jake welcomes Dakota: Wooooof
Jake dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Duke dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Duke says goodbye to Jake: Woof Grr Woof
Jake says: Lady has been voted as our new party leader.
Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Jake sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof Woof . Woof .
Lady sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof Woof . Woof .
Dakota sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof Woof . Woof .
Frog #1 welcomes Frog #2: Croak
Frog #1 welcomes Frog #3: Croak
Frog #1 welcomes Frog #4: Croak
Frog #1 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #2 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #3 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #4 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #3 says goodbye to Frog #1: Ribbit Croooaaak Ribbit
Frog #1 says: Frog #2 has been voted as our new party leader.
Frog #2 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #1 sings: Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit . Ribbit . Ribbit .
Frog #2 sings: Ribbit Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit . Ribbit .
Frog #4 sings: Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit . Ribbit . Ribbit .
```

Declaring a class that works with two constrained generic types

Now, it is time to code another interface that will be used as a constraint later when we define another class that takes advantage of generics with two constrained generic types. The following lines show the code for the <code>IDeeJay</code> interface in C#. The <code>public</code> modifier, followed by the <code>interface</code> keyword and the <code>IDeeJay</code> interface name composes the interface declaration:

```
public interface IDeeJay
{
   string Name { get; set; }
   void PlayMusicToDance();
   void PlayMusicToSing();
}
```

The IDeeJay interface declares the Name string property and two methods: PlayMusicToDance and PlayMusicToSing. This interface includes only the method declaration because the classes that implement the IDeeJay interface will be responsible for providing the implementation of the getter and setter methods for the Name property and the other two methods.

Now, we will declare a class named <code>HorseDeeJay</code> that implements the previously defined <code>IDeeJay</code> interface. We can read the class declaration as, "the <code>HorseDeeJay</code> class implements the <code>IDeeJay</code> interface":

```
public class HorseDeeJay: IDeeJay
{
  protected string _name;

  public string Name
  {
    get { return this._name; }
    set { throw new InvalidOperationException("Name is a read-only property."); }
  }

  public HorseDeeJay(string name)
  {
    this._name = name;
  }

  public void PlayMusicToDance()
```

```
{
   Console.WriteLine(
   String.Format(
   "My name is {0}. Let's Dance.",
   this.Name));
}

public void PlayMusicToSing()
{
   Console.WriteLine("Time to sing!");
}
```

The HorseDeeJay class declares a constructor that assigns the value of the required name argument to the _name protected field. The class declares the Name read-only property that encapsulates a related field. As happened with the IAnimal interface, the HorseDeeJay interface requires the Name property; therefore, it is necessary to create both setter and getter public methods. We cannot use auto-implemented properties with a private setter method because the setter method must be public. Thus, we defined the public setter method that throws an InvalidOperationException to avoid users of subclasses of this abstract class to change the value of the Name property.

The PlayMusicToDance method prints a message that displays the horse DJ name and invites all the party members to dance. The PlayMusicToSing method prints a message that invites all the party members to sing.

The following code declares the subclass of the previously created Party<T> class that takes advantage of generics to work with two constrained types. The class name is followed by a less than sign (<), T that identifies the generic type parameter, a comma (,), K that identifies the second generic type parameter, and a greater than sign (>). The first where keyword, followed by T that identifies the first type and a colon (:) indicates that the T generic type parameter has to be a type that implements the specified interface, that is, the IAnimal interface. The second where keyword, followed by K that identifies the second type and a colon (:) indicates that the K generic type parameter has to be a type that implements the specified interface, that is, the IDeeJay interface. This way, the Party<T> class specifies constraints for the T and K generic type parameters. Don't forget that we are talking about a subclass of Party<T>:

```
public class PartyWithDeeJay<T, K>: Party<T> where T: IAnimal where K: IDeeJay
```

The following line starts the class body and declares the public DeeJay auto-implemented property of the type specified by K:

```
{
  public K DeeJay { get; private set; }
```

The following code declares a constructor that receives two arguments: leader and deejay, whose types are T and K. These arguments specify the first party leader, the first member of the party, and the DJ that will make all the party members dance and sing. Note that the constructor calls the base constructor, that is, the Party<T> constructor with leader as the argument:

```
public PartyWithDeeJay(T leader, K deeJay): base(leader)
{
  this.DeeJay = deeJay;
}
```

The following code declares the Dance method that overrides the method with the same declaration included in the superclass. The code calls the DeeJay. PlayMusicToDance method and then calls the base. Dance method, that is, the Dance method defined in the Party<T> superclass:

```
public override void Dance()
{
  this.DeeJay.PlayMusicToDance();
  base.Dance();
}
```

Finally, the following code declares the Sing method that overrides the method with the same declaration included in the superclass. The code calls the DeeJay. PlayMusicToSing method and then calls the base.Sing method, that is, the Sing method defined in the Party<T> superclass:

```
public override void Sing()
{
   this.DeeJay.PlayMusicToSing();
   base.Sing();
}
```

Using a generic class with two generic type parameters

We can create instances of the PartyWithDeeJay<T, K> class by replacing both the T and K generic type parameters with any type names that conform to the constraints specified in the declaration of the PartyWithDeeJay<T, K> class. We have two concrete classes that implement the IAnimal interface: Dog and Frog and one class that implements the IDeeJay interface: HorseDeeJay. Thus, we can use Dog and HorseDeeJay to create an instance of PartyWithDeeJay<Dog, HorseDeeJay>.

The following is the code that we can add to our previously created console application to create the HorseDeeJay instance named silver. Then, the code creates the PartyWithDeeJay<Dog, HorseDeeJay> instance named silverParty and passes jake and silver as arguments. This way, we can create a party with a dog leader and a horse DJ, where Jake is the party leader and Silver is the DJ:

```
var silver = new HorseDeeJay("Silver");
var silverParty = new PartyWithDeeJay<Dog, HorseDeeJay>(jake, silver);
```

The silverParty instance will only accept the Dog instance for all the arguments in which the class definition uses the generic type parameter named T. The following code adds the previously created three instances of Dog to the party by calling the AddMember method:

```
silverParty.AddMember(duke);
silverParty.AddMember(lady);
silverParty.AddMember(dakota);
```

The following code calls the Dance method to make the DJ invite all the dogs to dance and then make them dance. Then, the code removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the Sing method to make the DJ invite all the dogs to sing and then make them sing:

```
silverParty.Dance();
silverParty.RemoveMember(duke);
silverParty.VoteLeader();
silverParty.Sing();
```

The following lines display the console output after we run the added code:

```
My name is Silver. Let's Dance.

Jake dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Duke dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/
```

```
Duke says goodbye to Jake: Woof Grr Woof

Jake says: Lady has been voted as our new party leader.

Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Time to sing!

Jake sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Lady sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Dakota sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof .
```

Working with duck typing in JavaScript

We will create an Animal constructor function and customize its prototype to generalize all the requirements for animals. We will create two constructor functions: Dog and Frog that will use Animal as its prototype. Then, we will create a Party constructor function that will be able to work with instances of any object that includes Animal in its prototype chain through duck typing. We will work with the party of dogs and the party of frogs.

Then, we will create a HorseDeeJay constructor function and generate a new version of the Party constructor function that will work with any object that includes Animal in its prototype and any object that provides the properties and methods declared in the HorseDeeJay prototype through duck typing. We will work with the party of dogs with a DJ.

Declaring a constructor function that defines the generic behavior

Now, we will declare the Animal constructor function. Then, we will add properties and methods to its prototype:

```
Animal = function() { };
Animal.prototype.name = "";
Animal.prototype.danceCharacters = "";
Animal.prototype.spelledSound1 = "";
Animal.prototype.spelledSound2 = "";
Animal.prototype.spelledSound3 = "";
Animal.prototype.dance = function() {
   console.log(this.name + " dances " + this.danceCharacters);
}
Animal.prototype.say = function(message) {
```

```
console.log(this.name + " says: " + message);
Animal.prototype.sayGoodbye = function(destination) {
  console.log(this.name + " says goodbye to "
  + destination.name + ": "
  + this.spelledSound1 + " "
  + this.spelledSound2 + " "
  + this.spelledSound3 + " ");
Animal.prototype.sayWelcome = function(destination) {
  console.log(this.name + " welcomes "
  + destination.name + ": "
  + this.spelledSound2);
Animal.prototype.sing = function() {
  var spelledSingSound = this.spelledSound1 + " ";
  var message = this.name + " sings: " + Array(4).
join(spelledSingSound) + ". " + Array(3).join(spelledSingSound) + ". "
+ spelledSingSound + ". ";
  console.log(message);
}
```

The preceding code declared the following five properties for the prototype (all of them initialized with an empty string). The constructor functions that will use Animal as its prototype will override these properties with the appropriate strings according to the animal. These constructor functions will receive the value to be set to name as the argument:

- name
- danceCharacters
- spelledSound1
- spelledSound2
- spelledSound3

The dance method uses the value retrieved from the danceCharacters property to print a message. This message indicates that the animal is dancing. The say method prints the message received as an argument.

Both the sayWelcome and sayGoodbye methods receive the destination argument that they use to print the name of the destination of the message. Thus, whenever we call this method, the destination argument must be the object that has the name property to be considered an animal. Any instance of any constructor function that has Animal as its prototype qualifies as the destination argument for both methods.

The sayWelcome method uses a combination of strings retrieved from the spelledSound1 and spelledSound3 properties to say welcome to another animal. The sayGoodbye method uses the string retrieved from the spelledSound2 property to say goodbye to another animal.

Working with the prototype chain and duck typing

Now, we will create a constructor function that will use Animal as its prototype. The Dog constructor function overrides the string properties defined in the Animal prototype to provide all the appropriate values for a dog. The constructor function receives name as the argument and assigns its value to the property with the same name:

```
Dog = function(name) {
    this.name = name;
};

Dog.prototype = new Animal();

Dog.prototype.constructor = Dog;

Dog.prototype.danceCharacters = "/-\\ \/-\";

Dog.prototype.spelledSound1 = "Wooof";

Dog.prototype.spelledSound2 = "Wooooof";

Dog.prototype.spelledSound3 = "Grr";
```

With just a few additional lines of code, we will create another constructor function that uses Animal as its prototype. The Frog constructor function also overrides the string class attributes defined in the Animal constructor function to provide all the appropriate values for a frog:

```
Frog = function(name) {
   this.name = name;
};
Frog.prototype = new Animal();
Frog.prototype.constructor = Frog;
Frog.prototype.danceCharacters = "/|\\ \\/ ^ ^ ";
Frog.prototype.spelledSound1 = "Ribbit";
Frog.prototype.spelledSound2 = "Croak";
Frog.prototype.spelledSound3 = "Croooaaak";
```

Declaring methods that work with duck typing

The following code declares the Party constructor function that takes advantage of duck typing to work with instances of any class that provides the name property and implements the dance, say, sayGoodbye, sayWelcome, and sing methods. This constructor function receives a leader argument that the code assigns to the leader property. In addition, the code creates a leader array as one of its members and saves it in the members property. This way, the leader argument specifies the first party leader and also the first member of the party, that is, the first element added to the members array:

```
Party = function(leader) {
  this.leader = leader;
  this.members = [leader];
}
```

The following code declares the addMember method that receives the member argument. The code adds the member received as an argument to the members array and calls the leader.sayWelcome method with member as the argument to make the party leader welcome the new member:

```
Party.prototype.addMember = function(member) {
  this.members.push(member);
  this.leader.sayWelcome(member);
}
```

The following code declares the removeMember method that receives the member argument. The code checks whether the member to be removed is the party leader. The method throws an exception if the member is the party leader. If the member isn't the party leader, the code removes the member from the members array and calls the sayGoodbye method for the removed member. This way, the member who leaves the party says goodbye to the party leader:

```
Party.prototype.removeMember = function(member) {
   if (member == this.leader) {
      throw "You cannot remove the leader from the party";
   }
   var index = this.members.indexOf(member);
   if (index > -1) {
      this.members.splice(index, 1);
      member.sayGoodbye(this.leader);
      return true;
   }
   else {
      return false;
   }
}
```

The following code declares the dance method that calls the method with the same name for each member of the members array:

```
Party.prototype.dance = function() {
  this.members.forEach(function (member) { member.dance(); });
}
```

The following code declares the sing method that calls the method with the same name for each member of the members array:

```
Party.prototype.sing = function() {
  this.members.forEach(function (member) { member.sing(); });
}
```

Finally, the following code declares the voteLeader method. The code makes sure that there are at least two members in the members array when we call this method; if we have just one member, the method throws an exception. If we have at least two members, the code generates a new pseudo-random leader (who is different from the existing leader) for the party. The code calls the say method for the actual leader to make it explain to the other party members that another leader has been voted for. Finally, the code calls the dance method for the new leader and sets the new value for the leader property:

```
Party.prototype.voteLeader = function() {
   if (this.members.length == 1) {
      throw "You need at least two members to vote a new Leader.";
   }
   var newLeader = this.leader;
   while (newLeader == this.leader) {
      var randomLeader = Math.floor(Math.random() * (this.members.length - 1)) + 1;
      newLeader = this.members[randomLeader];
   }
   this.leader.say(newLeader.name + " has been voted as our new party leader.");
   newLeader.dance();
   this.leader = newLeader;
}
```

Using generic methods for multiple objects

We have two constructor functions: Dog and Frog that use the Animal constructor function as their prototype. Both these constructor functions define all the properties and methods required that allows you to work with their instances as arguments of the methods of the previously coded Party prototype methods. We can start working with Dog objects to create the party of dogs.

The following code creates four Dog objects: jake, duke, lady and dakota:

```
var jake = new Dog("Jake");
var duke = new Dog("Duke");
var lady = new Dog("Lady");
var dakota = new Dog("Dakota");
```

The following line creates a Party object named dogsParty and passes jake as the argument. This way, we create the party of dogs in which Jake is the party leader:

```
var dogsParty = new Party(jake);
```

The following code adds the previously created three Dog objects to the dogs' party by calling the addMember method:

```
dogsParty.addMember(duke);
dogsParty.addMember(lady);
dogsParty.addMember(dakota);
```

The following code calls the dance method to make all the dogs dance, removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the sing method to make all the dogs sing:

```
dogsParty.dance();
dogsParty.removeMember(duke);
dogsParty.voteLeader();
dogsParty.sing();
```

The following lines display the output generated on the JavaScript console after running the preceding code snippets:

```
Jake welcomes Duke: Wooooof
Jake welcomes Lady: Wooooof
Jake welcomes Dakota: Wooooof
Jake dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Duke dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/
Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/
```

```
Duke says goodbye to Jake: Woof Wooooof Grr

Jake says: Dakota has been voted as our new party leader.

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Jake sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof Woof . Woof .

Lady sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Dakota sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .
```

Now, what about the party of frogs? The following code creates four Frog objects: frog1, frog2, frog3, and frog4:

```
var frog1 = new Frog("Frog #1");
var frog2 = new Frog("Frog #2");
var frog3 = new Frog("Frog #3");
var frog4 = new Frog("Frog #4");
```

The following line creates a Party object named frogsParty and passes frog1 as the argument. This way, we create the party of dogs in which Frog #1 is the party leader:

```
var frogsParty = new Party(frog1);
```

The following code adds the previously created three Frog objects to the frogs' party by calling the addMember method:

```
frogsParty.addMember(frog2);
frogsParty.addMember(frog3);
frogsParty.addMember(frog4);
```

The following code calls the dance method to make all the frogs dance, removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the sing method to make all the frogs sing:

```
frogsParty.dance();
frogsParty.removeMember(frog3);
frogsParty.voteLeader();
frogsParty.sing();
```

The following lines display the output generated on the JavaScript console after running the previous code:

```
Frog #1 welcomes Frog #2: Croak
Frog #1 welcomes Frog #3: Croak
Frog #1 welcomes Frog #4: Croak
Frog #1 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #2 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
```

```
Frog #3 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #4 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #3 says goodbye to Frog #1: Ribbit Croak Croooaaak
Frog #1 says: Frog #2 has been voted as our new party leader.
Frog #2 dances / | \ \ | / ^ ^
Frog #1 sings: Ribbit Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit .
Frog #2 sings: Ribbit Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit .
Frog #4 sings: Ribbit Ribbit Ribbit . Ribbit . Ribbit . Ribbit .
```

Working with duck typing in mind

Now, we will create a new constructor function that declares properties and methods that we will call from an object that includes Party in its prototype chain. As long as we use objects that provide all the required properties and methods, we can use all the objects created by using any constructor function with the new object. The following lines show the code for the HorseDeeJay constructor function:

```
HorseDeeJay = function(name) {
   this.name = name;
};
HorseDeeJay.prototype.playMusicToDance = function() {
   console.log("My name is " + this.name + ". Let's Dance.");
}
HorseDeeJay.prototype.playMusicToSing = function() {
   console.log("Time to sing!");
}
```

The HorseDeeJay constructor function class assigns the value of the name argument to the name property. The playMusicToDance method prints a message that displays the horse DJ name and invites all the party members to dance. The playMusicToSing method prints a message that invites all the party members to sing.

Now, we will make a few changes to the previously created Party constructor function and its prototype to allow it to work with a HorseDeeJay object. The following code shows the new version of the constructor function that receives two arguments: leader and deejay. These arguments specify the first party leader, the first member of the party, and the DJ that will make all the party members dance and sing:

```
Party = function(leader, deeJay) {
  this.leader = leader;
  this.deeJay = deeJay;
  this.members = [leader];
}
```

The following code declares the new version of the dance method. The code calls the deeJay.playMusicToDance method and then calls the dance method for each member of the party:

```
Party.prototype.dance = function() {
  this.deeJay.playMusicToDance();
  this.members.forEach(function (member) { member.dance(); });
}
```

Finally, the following code declares the new version of the sing method. The code calls the deeJay.playMusicToSing method and then calls the sing method for each member of the party:

```
Party.prototype.sing = function() {
  this.deeJay.playMusicToSing();
  this.members.forEach(function (member) { member.sing(); });
}
```

The other methods defined for the Party prototype are the same that we defined in the previous version. The following code shows the lines that we can run on the JavaScript console to create a HorseDeeJay object named silver. Then, the code creates a PartyWithDeeJay object named silverParty and passes jake and silver as arguments. This way, we create a party with a dog leader and a horse DJ in which Jake is the party leader and Silver is the DJ:

```
var silver = new HorseDeeJay("Silver");
var silverParty = new Party(jake, silver);
```

The following code adds the previously created three Dog objects to the party by calling the addMember method:

```
silverParty.addMember(duke);
silverParty.addMember(lady);
silverParty.addMember(dakota);
```

The following code calls the dance method to make the DJ invite all the dogs to dance and then make them dance. Then, the code removes a member who isn't the party leader, votes for a new leader, and finally calls the sing method to make the DJ invite all the dogs to sing and then make them sing:

```
silverParty.dance();
silverParty.removeMember(duke);
silverParty.voteLeader();
silverParty.sing();
```

The following lines display the JavaScript console output after we run the added code:

```
My name is Silver. Let's Dance.

Jake dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Duke dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Lady dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Duke says goodbye to Jake: Woof Wooooof Grr

Jake says: Dakota has been voted as our new party leader.

Dakota dances /-\ \-\ /-/

Time to sing!

Jake sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .

Lady sings: Woof Woof Woof . Woof . Woof .
```

Summary

In this chapter, you learned how to maximize code reuse by writing code capable of working with objects of different types. We took advantage of duck typing in Python and JavaScript. We worked with interfaces and generics in C#. We created classes capable of working with one and two constrained generic types.

Now that you learned how to work with duck typing and generics, we are ready to organize complex object-oriented code in Python, JavaScript, and C#, which is the topic of the next chapter.

7 Organization of Object-Oriented Code

In this chapter, we will write code for a complex application that requires dozens of classes, interfaces, and constructor functions according to the programing language that we use. We will take advantage of the different available features to organize a large number of pieces of code in each of the three covered programming languages: Python, JavaScript, and C#. We will:

- Understand the importance of organizing object-oriented code
- Think about the best ways to organize object-oriented code
- Work with source files organized in folders and module hierarchies in Python
- Work with folders, namespaces, and namespace hierarchies in C#
- Combine objects, nested objects, and constructor functions in JavaScript

Thinking about the best ways to organize code

When you have just a few classes or constructor functions and their prototypes, hundreds of lines of object-oriented code are easy to organize and maintain. However, as the number of object-oriented blueprints start to increase, it is necessary to follow some rules to organize the code and make it easy to maintain.

A very well written object-oriented code can generate a maintenance headache if it isn't organized in an effective way. We don't have to forget that a well written object-oriented code promotes code reuse.

As you learned in the previous six chapters, each programming language provides different elements and resources to generate object-oriented code. In addition, each programming language provides its own mechanisms that allow you to organize and group different object-oriented elements. Thus, it is necessary to define rules for each of the three programming languages: Python, C# and, JavaScript.

Imagine that we have to create and furnish house floor plans with a drawing software that allows you to load objects from files. We have a huge amount of objects to compose our floor plan, such as entry doors, interior doors, square rooms, interior walls, windows, spiral stairs, straight stairs, and kitchen islands. If we use a single folder in our file system to save all the object files, it will take us a huge amount of time to select the desired object each time we have to add an object to our floor plan.

We can organize our objects in the following five folders:

- Build
- Furnish
- Decorate
- Landscape
- Outdoor

Now, whenever we need bathroom furniture, we will explore the Furnish folder. Whenever we need outdoor structures, we will explore the Outdoor folder. However, there are still too many objects in each of these folders. For example, the Build folder includes the following types of objects:

- Rooms
- Walls
- Areas
- Doors
- Windows
- Stairs
- Fireplaces

We can create subfolders within each main category folder to provide a better organization of our object files. The Build category will have one subfolder for each of the types of objects indicated in the previous list.

The Furnish category will have the following subfolders:

- Living room
- Dining room
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Bedroom
- Office
- Laundry and utility
- Other rooms

The Decorate category will have the following subfolders:

- Paint and walls
- Flooring
- Countertops
- Art and decor
- Electronics
- Lighting and fans

The Landscape category will have the following subfolders:

- Areas definition
- Materials
- Trees and plants

Finally, the Outdoor category will have the following subfolders:

- Living
- Accessories
- Structures

This way, the Build/Rooms subfolder will include the following four objects:

- Square room
- L-shaped room
- Small room
- Closet

However, the Furnish/Bedroom subfolder includes too many objects that we can organize in seven types. So, we will create the following six subfolders:

- Beds
- Kids' beds
- Night tables
- Dressers
- Mirrors
- Nursery

Whenever we need bedroom mirrors, we will go to the Furnish/Bedroom/Mirrors subfolder. Whenever we need beds, we will go to the Furnish/Bedroom/Beds subfolder. Our objects are organized in a hierarchical directory tree.

Now, let's go back to object-oriented code. Instead of objects, we will have to organize classes, interfaces, constructor functions, and prototypes according to the programming language used. For example, if we have a class that defines the blueprint for a square room, we can organize it in such a way that we can find it in a build.rooms container. This way, we will find all the classes related to Build/Rooms in the build.rooms container. If we need to add another class related to Build/Rooms, we would add it in the build.rooms container.

Organizing object-oriented code in Python

Python makes it easy to logically organize object-oriented code with modules. We will work with a hierarchy of folders to organize the code of an application that allows you to create and furnish house floor plans. Then, we will use code from different folders and the source files of Python.

Working with source files organized in folders

We will create the following six folders to organize the code in our house floor plan layout application. Then, we will add subfolders and the source files of Python to each of the previously created folders:

- Build
- Decorate
- Furnish
- General

- Landscape
- Outdoor

We will include all the base classes in the general folder. The following lines show the code for the general/floor_plan_element.py Python source file that declares a FloorPlanElement base class. We will use this class as the superclass for all the classes that specialize the floor plan element:

```
class FloorPlanElement:
   category = "Undefined"
   description = "Undefined"
   def init (self, x, y, width, height, parent):
       self.x = x
       self.y = y
       self.width = width
        self.height = height
        self.parent = parent
   def move_to(self, x, y):
       self.x = x
       self.y = y
   def print category(self):
       print(type(self).category)
   def print description(self):
        print(type(self).description)
   def draw(self):
        self.print category()
       self.print description()
       print("X: " + str(self.x) +
              ", Y: " + str(self.y) +
              ". Width: " + str(self.width) +
              ", Height: " + str(self.height) + ".")
```

The FloorPlanElement class declares two class attributes that the subclasses will override: category and description. The class declares an __init__ method that receives five arguments: x, y, width, height, and parent. The __init__ method initializes attributes with the same name using all the values received as arguments. This way, each FloorPlanElement instance will have a 2D location specified by x and y, width and height, and a parent element.

In addition, the FloorPlanElement class declares the following instance methods:

- move_to: This method moves the floor plan element to the new location specified by the x and y arguments
- print category: This method prints the value of the category class attribute
- print_description: This method prints the value of the description class attribute
- draw: This method prints the category, description, 2D location, and width and height of the floor plan element

The FloorPlanElement class is located in the general/floor_plan_element. py file. All the classes that specialize floor plan elements will inherit from the FloorPlanElement class. These classes will be located in other Python source files that will have to let Python know that they want to use the FloorPlanElement class that is located in another module, that is, in another Python source file.

Importing modules

We will create the following Python source files in the previously created Build folder. We won't add code to all the files in order to keep our example simple. However, we will imagine that we have a more complex project:

- areas.py
- doors.py
- fireplaces.py
- rooms.py
- stairs.py
- walls.py
- windows.py

Here is the code for the build/rooms.py Python source file that declares five classes: Room, SquareRoom, LShapedRoom, SmallRoom, and Closet:

from general.floor_plan_element import FloorPlanElement

```
class Room(FloorPlanElement):
    category = "Room"

class SquareRoom(Room):
```

```
description = "Square room"

def __init__(self, x, y, width, parent):
        super().__init__(x, y, width, width, parent)

class LShapedRoom(Room):
    description = "L-Shaped room"

class SmallRoom(Room):
    description = "Small room"

class Closet(Room):
    description = "Closet"
```

The first line in the preceding code uses the from statement to import a specific class from a module into the current namespace. To be specific, the code imports the FloorPlanElement class from the general.floor_plan_element module, that is, from the general/floor_plan_element.py file, as shown in the following line:

```
from general.floor plan element import FloorPlanElement
```

This way, the next few lines declare the Room class as a subclass of the FloorPlanElement class as if the class were defined in the same Python source file. This class overrides the value of the category class attribute with the "Room" value. The SquareRoom class represents a square room; therefore, it isn't necessary to specify the width and height to create an instance of this type of room. The __init__ method uses the width value to specify the values for both width and height in the call to the __init__ method defined in the superclass, that is, the FloorPlanElement class. Each subclass of the Room class overrides the description class attribute with an appropriate value.

In this case, the from statement combined with the import statement imported just one class definition into the current namespace. We can use the following import statement to import all the items from the general.floor_plan_element module, that is, from the general/floor_plan_element.py file. However, we must be careful when we specify * after the import statement because we should import only the elements that we need from the other module:

```
from general.floor_plan_element import *
```

Another option is to execute an import statement in order to import the required module. However, we would need to make changes to the Room class declaration and add the modules path as a prefix to FloorPlanElement, that is, we have to replace FloorPlanElement with general.floor_plan_element.FloorPlanElement, as shown in the following code:

```
import general.floor_plan_element

class Room(general.floor_plan_element.FloorPlanElement):
    category = "Room"
```

Here is the code for the build/doors.py Python source file that declares two classes: Door and EntryDoor:

from general.floor plan element import FloorPlanElement

```
class Door(FloorPlanElement):
    category = "Door"

class EntryDoor(Door):
    description = "Entry Door"
```

The first line in the preceding code uses the from statement to import the FloorPlanElement class from the general.floor_plan_element module, that is, from the general/floor_plan_element.py file. The next few lines declare the Door class as a subclass of the FloorPlanElement class as if the class were defined in the same Python source file. The FloorPlanElement class overrides the value of the category class attribute with the "Door" value. The EntryDoor class represents an entry door and just overrides the description class attribute with an appropriate value.

We will create the following Python source files in the previously created Decorate folder:

- art and decor.py
- countertops.py
- electronics.py
- flooring.py
- lighting and fans.py
- paint and walls.py

We will create the following Python source files in the previously created Furnish folder:

- bathroom.py
- dining room.py
- kitchen.py
- laundry_and_utility.py
- living room.py
- office.py
- other_rooms.py

We will create a Bedroom subfolder within the Furnish folder. Then, we will create the following Python source files within the Furnish/Bedroom subfolder:

- beds.py
- dressers.py
- kids_beds.py
- mirrors.py
- night tables.py
- nursery.py

The following lines show the code for the Furnish/Bedroom/beds.py Python source file that declares two classes: Bed and FabricBed:

from general.floor_plan_element import FloorPlanElement

```
class Bed(FloorPlanElement):
    category = "Bed"
    description = "Generic bed"

class FabricBed(Bed):
    description = "Fabric bed"
```

The first line in the preceding code uses the from statement to import the FloorPlanElement class from the general.floor_plan_element module, that is, from the general/floor_plan_element.py file. The next few lines declare the Bed class as a subclass of the FloorPlanElement class as if the class were defined in the same Python source file. The FloorPlanElement class overrides the value of the category class attribute with the "Bed" value and description with "Generic Bed". The FabricBed class represents a fabric bed and just overrides the description class attribute with an appropriate value.

We will create the following Python source files in the previously created Landscape folder:

```
    areas definition.py
```

- materials.py
- trees_and_plants.py

Finally, we will create the following Python source files in the previously created Outdoor folder:

- accessories.py
- living.py
- structures.py

Working with module hierarchies

Now, we will create the __main__.py Python source file in the project's root folder, that is, the same folder that includes the following subfolders: Build, Decorate, Furnish, General, Landscape, and Outdoor. The following is the code that imports many of the previously defined modules and works with instances of all the imported classes:

```
from build.rooms import *
from build.doors import *
from furnish.bedroom.beds import *

if __name__ == "__main__":
    room1 = SquareRoom(0, 0, 200, None)
    door1 = EntryDoor(100, 1, 50, 5, room1)
    bedroom1 = SquareRoom(100, 200, 180, None)
    bed1 = FabricBed(130, 230, 120, 110, bedroom1)
    room1.draw()
    door1.draw()
    bedroom1.draw()
    bed1.draw()
```

The first line in the preceding code uses the from statement to import all the classes from the following modules into the current namespace:

- build.rooms:build/rooms.py
- build.doors:build/doors.py
- furnish.bedroom.beds:furnish/bedrooms/beds.py

This way, we can access the SquareRoom, EntryDoor and FabricBed classes as if they were defined in the __main__.py Python source file. The following is the output generated with the preceding code:

```
Room
```

```
Square room

X: 0, Y: 0. Width: 200, Height: 200.

Door

Entry Door

X: 100, Y: 1. Width: 50, Height: 5.

Room

Square room

X: 100, Y: 200. Width: 180, Height: 180.

Bed

Fabric bed

X: 130, Y: 230. Width: 120, Height: 110.
```

In this case, we just need these three classes; therefore, we can use the following from statements to import just the classes we need:

```
from build.rooms import SquareRoom
from build.doors import EntryDoor
from furnish.bedroom.beds import FabricBed
```

Another option is to use the import keyword and add the necessary modules hierarchy separated by dots (.) to each class defined in modules. The following lines show the version of the code that uses the import keyword and adds the necessary prefixes to each class:

```
import build.doors
import build.rooms
import furnish.bedroom.beds

if __name__ == "__main__":
    room1 = build.SquareRoom(0, 0, 200, None)
    door1 = build.EntryDoor(100, 1, 50, 5, room1)
```

```
bedroom1 = build.SquareRoom(100, 200, 180, None)
bed1 = furnish.bedroom.beds.FabricBed(130, 230, 120, 110,
bedroom1)
room1.draw()
door1.draw()
bedroom1.draw()
bed1.draw()
```

Now, let's imagine that we have to code an application that has to draw the floor plans for 30 extremely complex houses that will be displayed in a 4K display. We will have to work with most of the elements defined in all the different modules. We would like to have all the classes defined in the Python source files included in the Build folder with just one line. It is possible to do so by adding the __init__.py Python source file to the Build folder and including the following code to import all the classes defined in each of the Python source files included in this folder:

```
from .areas import *
from .doors import *
from .fireplaces import *
from .rooms import SquareRoom, LShapedRoom, SmallRoom, Closet
from .stairs import *
from .walls import *
from .windows import *
```

This way, if we use the import keyword with the build module, we will be able to access all the classes defined in each of the Python source files included in the build module by adding the build. prefix to each class name. In fact, we won't be able to access all the classes because we excluded the Room class in the from .rooms import statement and specified only four classes to import from this module. After we add the __init__.py Python source file to the Build folder, we can change the __main__.py Python source code with the following code:

import build

```
from furnish.bedroom.beds import FabricBed

if __name__ == "__main__":
    room1 = build.SquareRoom(0, 0, 200, None)
    door1 = build.EntryDoor(100, 1, 50, 5, room1)
    bedroom1 = build.SquareRoom(100, 200, 180, None)
    bed1 = FabricBed(130, 230, 120, 110, bedroom1)
    room1.draw()
    door1.draw()
    bedroom1.draw()
    bed1.draw()
```

If we don't want to use prefixes and just want to import all the classes defined in the build module, we can use the following from ... import statement:

```
from build import *
```

We can add the appropriate code in the <u>__init__.py</u> Python source file for each folder and then use the appropriate **import** or **from** ... **import** statements based on our needs.

Organizing object-oriented code in C#

C# allows you to use namespaces to declare a scope that contains a set of related elements. Thus, we can use namespaces to organize interfaces and classes. We will work with nested namespaces to organize the code of an application. This allows you to create and furnish house floor plans. Then, we will use interfaces and classes from different namespaces in diverse pieces of code.

Working with folders

We will create a Windows console application named Chapter7. Visual Studio will automatically add a Program.cs C# source file in the solution's root folder. We will create the following six folders to organize the code in our house floor plan layout application. Then, we will add subfolders and C# source files in each of the previously created folders. Visual Studio will use these folders and subfolders to automatically generate the namespaces for each new C# source file:

- Build
- Decorate
- Furnish
- General
- Landscape
- Outdoor

We will use the C# source file for each interface or class. We will add the IFloorPlanElement interface to a file named IFloorPlanElement.cs in the General folder. The following is the code for the General\IFloorPlanElement.cs C# source file that declares the IFloorPlanElement interface:

```
namespace Chapter7.General
{
   public interface IFloorPlanElement
   {
```

```
string Category { get; set; }
string Description { get; set; }
double X { get; set; }
double Y { get; set; }
double Width { get; set; }
double Height { get; set; }
IFloorPlanElement Parent { get; set; }
void MoveTo(double x, double y);
void PrintCategory();
void PrintDescription();
void Draw();
}
```

If we use Visual Studio to create a new interface in the General folder, the IDE will automatically include a line with the namespace keyword, followed by the Chapter?. General name. The declaration of the interface will be enclosed in brackets after the line that declares the namespace. The IDE uses the folder name in which we will add the interface to automatically generate a default namespace name. In this case, the generated name is the initial namespace, that is, the Chapter? solution name, followed by a dot (.) and the folder that contains the new C# source file, that is, General.

The IFloorPlanElement interface declares the following required members:

- Two string properties: Category and Description
- Four double properties: X, Y, Width, and Height
- The IFloorPlanElement property: Parent
- The MoveTo method that receives two arguments: x and y
- The PrintCategory method
- The PrintDescription method
- The Draw method

Now, we will add the FloorPlanElement abstract class that implements the previously created IFloorPlanElement interface to a file named FloorPlanElement.cs in the General folder. The following is the code for the General\FloorPlanElement.cs C# source file that declares the FloorPlanElement class:

```
namespace Chapter7.General
  using System;
  public abstract class FloorPlanElement: IFloorPlanElement
   public virtual string Category
      get { return "Undefined"; }
      set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    public virtual string Description
      get { return "Undefined"; }
      set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    public double X { get; set; }
    public double Y { get; set; }
    public double Width { get; set; }
    public double Height { get; set; }
    private IFloorPlanElement parent;
    public IFloorPlanElement Parent
      get { return _parent; }
      set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    public FloorPlanElement(double x, double y, double width, double
height, IFloorPlanElement parent)
      this.X = x;
      this.Y = y;
      this.Width = width;
      this.Height = height;
      this._parent = parent;
```

```
public void MoveTo(double x, double y)
     this.X = x_i
     this.Y = y;
    }
    public void PrintCategory()
      Console.WriteLine(this.Category);
    public void PrintDescription()
      Console.WriteLine(this.Description);
    public void Draw()
     this.PrintCategory();
     this.PrintDescription();
     Console.WriteLine(
      "X: {0}, Y: {1}. Width: {2}, Height: {3}.",
     this.X,
     this.Y,
      this.Width,
     this.Height);
    }
}
```

Note that the abstract class is declared in the same namespace that we used for the IFloorPlanElement interface; therefore, both the class and the interface are in the same scope. We can reference the interface name in the class declaration without any namespace prefix because both the class and the interface are declared in the same namespace.

The abstract class declares a constructor that receives five arguments: x, y, width, height, and parent. The preceding code initializes all the properties with the values received as arguments. This way, each FloorPlanElement instance will have a 2D location specified by the x and Y properties, a Width and a Height value, and a Parent element that will be of any class that implements the IFloorPlanElement interface.

The FloorPlanElement abstract class declares two virtual read-only properties that the subclasses will override: Category and Description. In addition, the abstract class declares all the other properties required by the IFloorPlanElement interface: X, Y, Width, Height, and Parent. Note that Parent is a read-only property that encapsulates the private parent field.

The abstract class declares the following instance methods:

- MoveTo: This method moves the floor plan element to the new location specified by the x and y arguments
- PrintCategory: This method prints the value of the Category class attribute to the console output
- PrintDescription: This method prints the value of the Description class attribute to the console output
- Draw: This method prints the category, description, 2D location, width, and height of the floor plan element to the console output

The FloorPlanElement abstract class is located in the General\FloorPlanElement.cs file. All the classes that specialize floor plan elements will inherit from the FloorPlanElement class; therefore they will implement the IFloorPlanElement interface. These classes will be located in other C# source files that will have to use the using statement to let C# know that they want to use the FloorPlanElement class that is located in another namespace, that is, in the Chapter 7. General namespace.

Using namespaces

We will create the following folders in the previously created Build folder. We won't add C# source files to all the folders in order to keep our example simple. However, we will imagine that we have a more complex project:

- Areas
- Doors
- Fireplaces
- Rooms
- Stairs
- Walls
- Windows

Now, we will add the Room abstract class, which inherits from the previously created FloorPlanElement abstract class, to a file named Room.cs within the Build\Rooms subfolder. The following lines show the code for the Build\Rooms\Room.cs C# source file that declares the Room class. The class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Category property. The getter method returns the "Room" value. In addition, the class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Build.Rooms
{
   using System;
   using General;

public abstract class Room : FloorPlanElement
   {
   public override string Category
      {
       get { return "Room"; }
       set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
   }

   public Room(double x, double y, double width, double height,
IFloorPlanElement parent) : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
      {
       }
   }
}
```

If we use Visual Studio to create a new interface in the Build\Rooms folder, the IDE will automatically include a line with the namespace keyword, followed by the Chapter7.Build.Rooms name. The declaration of the interface will be enclosed in brackets after the line that declares the namespace. The IDE uses the folder names in which we will add the interface to automatically generate a default namespace name. In this case, the generated name is the initial namespace, that is, the solution name, the folder, and the subfolder, all of them separated by a dot (.), that is, Chapter7.Build.Rooms.

The new class inherits from the FloorPlanElement class that was declared in another namespace, that is, in the Chapter 7. General namespace. We had to specify the class name from which the new abstract class inherits; therefore, we added the using statement, followed by General. This way, we don't need to specify the full qualifier for the FloorPlanElement class; we can reference it by just using its class name.

Bear in mind that the real namespace name is Chapter?.General. However, we are under the scope of the Chapter? namespace because we include the using line in the namespace declaration so that we don't need to include Chapter?. as a prefix. This way, we can just specify General. If we don't include the using statement, followed by the General namespace, we should use a full qualifier to reference the FloorPlanElement class, as shown in the following line that declares the Room abstract class:

```
public abstract class Room : General.FloorPlanElement
```

In addition, it will be necessary to add a full qualifier to reference the IFloorPlanElement interface in the constructor declaration:

```
public Room(double x, double y, double width, double height, General.
IFloorPlanElement parent) : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
```

If we decide to include the using statement before and outside the namespace declaration, we should use the following line:

```
using Chapter7.General;
```

Now, we will add a SquareRoom class, which inherits from the previously created Room abstract class, to a file named SquareRoom.cs within the Build\Rooms subfolder. The following is the code for the Build\Rooms\SquareRoom.cs C# source file that declares the SquareRoom class. The class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Description property. The getter method returns the "Square room" value. The SquareRoom class represents a square room; therefore, it isn't necessary to specify both the width and height to create an instance of this type of room. The constructor uses the width value to specify the values for both width and height in the call to the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Build.Rooms
{
  using System;
  using General;

  class SquareRoom : Room
  {
    public override string Description
      {
        get { return "Square room"; }
        set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    }

    public SquareRoom(double x, double y, double width,
IFloorPlanElement parent) : base(x, y, width, width, parent)
```

```
{
    }
}
```

As occurred in the Room abstract class file, we added the using statement, followed by General. This way, we don't need to specify the full qualifier for the IFloorPlanElement interface. The Room class is declared in the same namespace in which we declare this new class; therefore, the Room class is under scope.

Now, we will add the LShapedRoom class, which also inherits from the Room abstract class, to a file named LShapedRoom.cs within the Build\Rooms subfolder. The following code shows the Build\Rooms\LShapedRoom.cs C# source file that declares the SquareRoom class. The class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Description property. The getter method returns the "L-Shaped room" value. In addition, the class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Build.Rooms
{
   using System;
   using General;

public class LShapedRoom: Room
   {
    public override string Description
        {
        get { return "L-Shaped room"; }
        set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    }

   public LShapedRoom(double x, double y, double width, double height, IFloorPlanElement parent) : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
        {
        }
    }
}
```

Now, we will add the SmallRoom class that also inherits from the Room abstract class to a file named SmallRoom.cs within the Build\Rooms subfolder. The following code shows the Build\Rooms\SmallRoom.cs C# source file that declares the SmallRoom class. The class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Description property. The getter method returns the "Small room" value. In addition, the class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
\label{eq:chapter7.Build.Rooms} \textbf{And a Chapter 7.Build.Rooms} \ \big\{
```

```
using System;
using General;

public class SmallRoom : Room
{
   public override string Description
   {
      get { return "Small room"; }
      set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
   }

   public SmallRoom(double x, double y, double width, double height,
IFloorPlanElement parent)
      : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
      {
      }
   }
}
```

Now, we will add the Closet class (which also inherits from the Room abstract class) to a file named Closet.cs within the Build\Rooms subfolder. The following is the code for the Build\Rooms\Closet.cs C# source file that declares the Closet class. The class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Description property. The getter method returns the "Closet" value. In addition, the class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Build.Rooms
{
   using System;
   using General;

public class Closet : Room
   {
    public override string Description
        {
        get { return "Closet"; }
        set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    }

   public Closet(double x, double y, double width, double height,
IFloorPlanElement parent)
        : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
        {
        }
    }
}
```

We will add the Door abstract class, which inherits from the previously created FloorPlanElement abstract class, to a file named Door.cs within the Build\Doors subfolder. The following is the code for the Build\Doors\Door.cs C# source file that declares a Door class. This class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Category property. The getter method returns the "Door" value. In addition, the Door class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Build.Doors
{
   using System;
   using General;

public abstract class Door : FloorPlanElement
   {
    public override string Category
      {
        get { return "Door"; }
        set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    }

    public Door(double x, double y, double width, double height,
IFloorPlanElement parent)
        : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
        {
        }
    }
}
```

The Door class is included in the Chapter?.Build.Doors namespace. The new class inherits from the FloorPlanElement class that was declared in another namespace, that is, in the Chapter?.General namespace.

Now, we will add the EntryDoor class, which inherits from the Door abstract class, to a file named EntryDoor.cs within the Build\Doors subfolder. The following is the code for the Build\Doors\EntryDoor.cs C# source file that declares the EntryDoor class. This class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Description property. The getter method returns the "Entry Door" value. In addition, the class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Build.Doors
{
  using System;
  using General;

  public class EntryDoor : Door
```

```
{
   public override string Description
   {
      get { return "Entry Door"; }
      set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
   }
   public EntryDoor(double x, double y, double width, double height,
IFloorPlanElement parent)
      : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
      {
      }
   }
}
```

We will create the following subfolders in the previously created Decorate folder. Each of these subfolders will generate a namespace in the Chapter 7. Decorate namespace and will include the following classes:

- ArtAndDecor
- Countertops
- Electronics
- Flooring
- LightingAndFans
- PaintAndWalls

We will create the following subfolders in the previously created Furnish folder. Each of these subfolders will generate a namespace in the Chapter7.Furnish namespace and will include classes. The Bedroom subfolder will include the additional subfolders:

- Bathroom
- Bedroom
- DiningRoom
- Kitchen
- LaundryAndUtility
- LivingRoom
- Office
- OtherRooms

We will create the following subfolders within the previously created Furnish\Bedroom subfolder:

- Beds
- Dressers
- KidsBeds
- Mirrors
- NightTables
- Nursery

We will add the Bed class, which inherits from the previously created FloorPlanElement abstract class, to a file named Bed.cs within the Furnish\Bedroom\Beds subfolder. The following is the code for the Furnish\Bedroom\Beds\Bed.cs C# source file that declares the Bed class. The class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the properties of Category and Description. The getter method for the Category property returns the "Bed" value and the getter method for Description returns "Generic Bed". In addition, the class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds
{
   using System;
   using General;

public class Bed : FloorPlanElement
   {
   public override string Category
      {
       get { return "Bed"; }
       set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
   }

   public override string Description
   {
       get { return "Generic Bed"; }
       set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
   }

   public Bed(double x, double y, double width, double height, IFloorPlanElement parent)
```

```
: base(x, y, width, height, parent)
{
    }
}
```

The Bed class is included in the Chapter?.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds namespace. The new class inherits from the FloorPlanElement class. This class was declared in another namespace, that is, in the Chapter?.General namespace.

Now, we will add the FabricBed class to a file named FabricBed.cs within the Furnish\Bedroom\Beds subfolder. The FabricBed class inherits from the Bed class. The following is the code for the Furnish\Bedroom\Beds\FabricBed.cs C# source file that declares the FabricBed class. The class just overrides the getter and setter methods for the Description property. The getter method returns the "Fabric Bed" value. In addition, the class declares a constructor that just calls the base constructor:

```
namespace Chapter7.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds
{
   using System;
   using General;

public class FabricBed : Bed
   {
    public override string Description
        {
        get { return "Fabric Bed"; }
        set { throw new InvalidOperationException(); }
    }

    public FabricBed(double x, double y, double width, double height,
IFloorPlanElement parent)
        : base(x, y, width, height, parent)
        {
        }
    }
}
```

We will create the following subfolders in the previously created Landscape folder. Each of these subfolders will generate a namespace in the Chapter 7. Landscape namespace and will include the following classes:

- AreasDefinition
- Materials
- TreesAndPlants

Finally, we will create the following subfolders in the previously created Outdoor folder. Each of these subfolders will generate a namespace in the Chapter 7. Outdoor namespace and will include the following classes:

- Accessories
- Living
- Structures

Working with namespace hierarchies in C#

Now, we will change the code for the Program.cs C# source file in the project's root folder, that is, the same folder that includes the Build, Decorate, Furnish, General, Landscape, and Outdoor subfolders. The following code uses many using directives to list all the namespaces to be used frequently. Then, the Main method works with instances of the classes defined in many different namespaces:

```
namespace Chapter7
{
   using System;
   using Build.Rooms;
   using Build.Doors;
   using Furnish.Bedroom.Beds;

   class Program
   {
     static void Main(string[] args)
        {
        var room1 = new SquareRoom(0, 0, 200, null);
        var door1 = new EntryDoor(100, 1, 50, 5, room1);
        var bedroom1 = new SquareRoom(100, 200, 180, null);
        var bed1 = new FabricBed(130, 230, 120, 110, bedroom1);
        room1.Draw();
        door1.Draw();
        bedroom1.Draw();
        bedroom1.Draw();
        bedroom1.Draw();
        bed1.Draw();
```

```
Console.ReadLine();
}
}
```

Room

Bed

Fabric Bed

The first line in the preceding code declares that we are working in the Chapter7 namespace and using many using directives to make it simpler to access the classes declared in the specified namespaces:

- Build.Rooms: Chapter7.Build.Rooms
- Build.Doors: Chapter7.Build.Doors
- Furnish.Bedroom.Beds: Chapter7.Bedroom.Beds

This way, we can access the SquareRoom, EntryDoor, and FabricBed classes without any prefixes as if they were defined in the Chapter7 namespace. The following lines show the output generated with the preceding code:

```
Square room

X: 0, Y: 0. Width: 200, Height: 200.

Door

Entry Door

X: 100, Y: 1. Width: 50, Height: 5.

Room

Square room

X: 100, Y: 200. Width: 180, Height: 180.
```

X: 130, Y: 230. Width: 120, Height: 110.

In this case, we just need these three classes. Remember that we have included the using directives in the Chapter7 namespace declaration. If we want to move the using directives before and outside the namespace declaration, we should use the following code that adds Chapter7. as a prefix to each namespace:

```
using Chapter7.Build.Rooms;
using Chapter7.Build.Doors;
using Chapter7.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds;
```

Another option is to remove the using directives and use full qualifiers for each of the required classes, that is, include the complete namespace name and a dot (.) as a prefix for each class. The following is the version of the code that removes the using directives and works with full qualifiers for each class:

```
namespace Chapter7
  using System;
  class Program
    static void Main(string[] args)
      var room1 = new Build.Rooms.SquareRoom(0, 0, 200, null);
      var door1 = new Build.Doors.EntryDoor(100, 1, 50, 5, room1);
      var bedroom1 = new Build.Rooms.SquareRoom(100, 200, 180, null);
      var bed1 = new Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed(130, 230, 120,
110, bedroom1);
      room1.Draw();
      door1.Draw();
      bedroom1.Draw();
      bed1.Draw();
      Console.ReadLine();
    }
}
```

Now, let's imagine that we have to code an application that has to draw the floor plans for 30 extremely complex houses that will be displayed in a 4K display. We will have to work with most of the elements defined in the different namespaces. We would like to have all the classes defined in the diverse namespaces accessed without prefixes. We would require the following using directives in the Chapter7 namespace declaration:

```
using Build.Areas;
using Build.Doors;
using Build.Fireplaces;
using Build.Rooms;
using Build.Stairs;
using Build.Walls;
using Build.Windows;
using Decorate.ArtAndDecor;
using Decorate.Countertops;
using Decorate.Electronics;
```

```
using Decorate.Flooring;
using Decorate.LightingAndFans;
using Decorate.PaintAndWalls;
using Furnish.Bathroom;
using Furnish.Bedroom.Beds;
using Furnish.Bedroom.Dressers;
using Furnish.Bedroom.KidsBeds;
using Furnish.Bedroom.Mirrors;
using Furnish.Bedroom.NightTables;
using Furnish.Bedroom.Nursery;
using Furnish.DiningRoom;
using Furnish.Kitchen;
using Furnish.LaundryAndUtility;
using Furnish.LivingRoom;
using Furnish.Office;
using Furnish.OtherRooms;
using Landscape. Areas Definition;
using Landscape. Materials;
using Landscape. Trees And Plants;
using Outdoor.Accesories;
using Outdoor.Living;
using Outdoor.Structures;
```

Organizing object-oriented code in JavaScript

JavaScript was born as a scripting language that has grown up to become a language that creates entire apps. The usage of plain JavaScript without additional libraries doesn't provide a standardized mechanism to organize code in namespaces or modules.

We can easily organize our constructor functions with plain JavaScript, but in some cases, we can benefit from the usage of specialized libraries, such as Require.js (http://www.requirejs.org/), that provide a better mechanism to organize complex code in modules and solve the problem of dependencies and different ways of loading modules as well. In this case, we will organize our code using plain JavaScript without additional libraries.

Working with objects to organize code

We will create a base global object named APP to use it to define all the elements of our house floor plan layout application. Then, we will add the following properties to the base object to create a hierarchy of objects linked to this base object:

- Build
- Decorate
- Furnish
- General
- Landscape
- Outdoor

We will add the base constructor function in the APP. General object. The following code creates the APP object if it doesn't exist. It also defines the General property if it doesn't exist. Then, the code defines the FloorPlanElement constructor function and its prototype. We will use this constructor functions as the base of the prototype chain for other objects that will specialize the floor plan element:

```
var APP = APP || {};
APP.General = APP.General || {};
APP.General.FloorPlanElement = function() { };
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.category = "Undefined";
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.description = "Undefined";
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.x = 0;
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.y = 0;
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.width = 0;
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.height = 0;
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.parent = null;
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.initialize = function(x, y,
width, height, parent) {
  this.x = x;
  this.y = y;
  this.width = width;
  this.height = height;
  this.parent = parent;
}
APP.General.FloorPlanElement.prototype.moveTo = function(x, y) {
  this.x = x;
```

The FloorPlanElement prototype declares two properties that the subclasses will override: category and description. The prototype declares an initialize method that receives five arguments: x, y, width, height, and parent. The initialize method initializes the current instance properties with the same name with all the values received as arguments. This way, each constructor function in the prototype chain that ends up in the FloorPlanElement prototype will have a 2D location specified by x and y, width and height values, and a parent element. Each constructor function in the prototype chain will call the initialize method to initialize the instance.

In addition, the FloorPlanElement prototype declares the following methods:

- moveTo: This method moves the floor plan element to the new location specified by the x and y arguments
- printCategory: This method prints the value of the category property
- printDescription: This method prints the value of the description property
- draw: This method prints the category, description, 2D location, and width and height of the floor plan element

In this case, we will include all the constructor functions in the same JavaScript file. However, the same code can be moved to different JavaScript source files because whenever we declare a new group of related constructor functions, we will include the first few lines of the preceding code that creates the APP object if it doesn't exist and defines the property we use to generate the hierarchy of related constructor functions if it doesn't exist. However, if we separate code in different JavaScript source files, we have to make sure that we load them in the necessary order to avoid dependency problems. We won't add code to check for the existence of specific constructor functions, but we can easily define flags for this goal.

Declaring constructor functions within objects

The following code declares five constructor functions: Room, SquareRoom, LShapedRoom, SmallRoom, and Closet. The code defines these constructor functions as properties of the APP.Build.Rooms object:

```
var APP = APP | | {};
APP.Build = APP.Build | | {};
APP.Build.Rooms = APP.Build.Rooms | | {};
APP.Build.Rooms.Room = function() { };
APP.Build.Rooms.Room.prototype = new APP.General.FloorPlanElement();
APP.Build.Rooms.Room.prototype.constructor = APP.Build.Rooms.Room;
APP.Build.Rooms.Room.prototype.category = "Room";
APP.Build.Rooms.SquareRoom = function(x, y, width, parent) {
  this.initialize(x, y, width, width, parent);
APP.Build.Rooms.SquareRoom.prototype = new APP.Build.Rooms.Room();
APP.Build.Rooms.SquareRoom.prototype.constructor = APP.Build.Rooms.
SquareRoom;
APP.Build.Rooms.SquareRoom.prototype.description = "Square room";
APP.Build.Rooms.LShapedRoom = function(x, y, width, height, parent) {
  this.initialize(x, y, width, height, parent);
};
APP.Build.Rooms.LShapedRoom.prototype = new APP.Build.Rooms.Room();
APP.Build.Rooms.LShapedRoom.prototype.constructor = APP.Build.Rooms.
LShapedRoom;
APP.Build.Rooms.LShapedRoom.prototype.description = "L-Shaped room";
APP.Build.Rooms.SmallRoom = function(x, y, width, height, parent) {
```

```
this.initialize(x, y, width, height, parent);
};
APP.Build.Rooms.SmallRoom.prototype = new APP.Build.Rooms.Room();
APP.Build.Rooms.SmallRoom.prototype.constructor = APP.Build.Rooms.
SmallRoom;
APP.Build.Rooms.SmallRoom.prototype.description = "Small room";

APP.Build.Rooms.Closet = function(x, y, width, height, parent) {
    this.initialize(x, y, width, height, parent);
};
APP.Build.Rooms.Closet.prototype = new APP.Build.Rooms.Room();
APP.Build.Rooms.Closet.prototype.constructor = APP.Build.Rooms.Closet;
APP.Build.Rooms.Closet.prototype.description = "Closet";
```

The APP.Build.Rooms.Room constructor function specifies the previously defined APP.General.FloorPlanElement object as its prototype. The APP.Build.Rooms. Room prototype overrides the value of the category property with the "Room" value. The App.Build.Rooms.SquareRoom constructor function generates an object that represents the square room; therefore, it isn't necessary to specify both the width and height to create an instance of this type of room. The constructor function uses the width value to specify the values for both width and height in the call to the initialize method defined in the APP.General.FloorPlanElement prototype. Each constructor function that defines APP.Build.Rooms.Room as its prototype overrides the description property with an appropriate value.

The following code declares two constructor functions: Door and EntryDoor. The following code defines these constructor functions as properties of the APP.Build. Doors object:

```
var APP = APP | | {};
APP.Build = APP.Build | | {};
APP.Build.Doors = APP.Build.Doors | | {};
APP.Build.Doors.Door = function() { };
APP.Build.Doors.Door.prototype = new APP.General.FloorPlanElement();
APP.Build.Doors.Door.prototype.constructor = APP.Build.Doors.Door;
APP.Build.Doors.Door.prototype.category = "Door";

APP.Build.Doors.EntryDoor = function(x, y, width, height, parent) {
    this.initialize(x, y, width, height, parent);
};
APP.Build.Doors.EntryDoor.prototype = new APP.Build.Doors.Door();
APP.Build.Doors.EntryDoor.prototype.constructor = APP.Build.Doors.
EntryDoor;
APP.Build.Doors.EntryDoor.prototype.description = "Entry Door";
```

The APP.Build.Doors.Door constructor function specifies the previously defined APP.General.FloorPlanElement object as its prototype. The APP.Build.Doors. Door prototype overrides the value of the category property with the "Door" value. The App.Build.Doors.Door constructor function generates an object that represents an entry door; its prototype overrides the description property with the "Entry Door" value.

The following code declares two constructor functions: Bed and FabricBed. The code defines these constructor functions as properties of the APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds object:

```
var APP = APP | | {};
APP.Furnish = APP.Furnish || {};
APP.Furnish.Bedroom = APP.Furnish.Bedroom | | {};
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds = APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds | | {};
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.Bed = function() { };
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.Bed.prototype = new APP.General.
FloorPlanElement();
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.Bed.prototype.constructor = APP.Furnish.
Bedroom.Beds.Bed;
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.Bed.prototype.category = "Bed";
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.Bed.prototype.description = "Generic Bed";
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed = function(x, y, width, height,
parent) {
  this.initialize(x, y, width, height, parent);
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed.prototype = new APP.Furnish.
Bedroom.Beds.Bed();
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed.prototype.constructor = APP.
Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed;
APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed.prototype.description = "Fabric
Bed";
```

The APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.Bed constructor function specifies the previously defined APP.General.FloorPlanElement object as its prototype. The APP. Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.Bed prototype overrides the value of both the category and description properties with the "Bed" and "Generic Bed" values. The APP. Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed constructor function generates an object that represents a fabric bed; its prototype overrides the description property with the "Fabric Bed" value.

Working with nested objects that organize code

Now, we will write code that checks whether the previously defined objects that organized the code are defined. If they are defined, the following code creates objects with the previously defined constructor functions and calls the draw methods for all of the created objects:

```
if (!APP.Build.Rooms) {
  throw "Rooms objects not available.";
}
if (!APP.Build.Doors) {
  throw "Doors objects not available.";
if (!APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds) {
  throw "Beds objects not available.";
var room1 = new APP.Build.Rooms.SquareRoom(0, 0, 200, null);
var door1 = new APP.Build.Doors.EntryDoor(100, 1, 50, 5, room1);
var bedroom1 = new APP.Build.Rooms.SquareRoom(100, 200, 180, null);
var bed1 = new APP.Furnish.Bedroom.Beds.FabricBed(130, 230, 120, 110,
bedroom1);
room1.draw();
door1.draw();
bedroom1.draw();
bed1.draw();
```

The following lines show the output generated on the JavaScript console:

```
Room
Square room
X: 0, Y: 0. Width: 200, Height: 200.
Door
Entry Door
X: 100, Y: 1. Width: 50, Height: 5.
Room
Square room
X: 100, Y: 200. Width: 180, Height: 180.
Bed
Fabric Bed
X: 130, Y: 230. Width: 120, Height: 110.
```

Summary

In this chapter, you learned how to use all the features included in Python, C#, and JavaScript in order to organize complex object-oriented code. We took advantage of modules in Python, namespaces in C#, and nested objects in JavaScript. We organized multiple classes, interfaces, and constructor functions of a house floor plan layout application. If the basic features included in JavaScript to organize code aren't enough, we can use specialized libraries (such as the popular RequireJS).

Now that you have learned how to organize object-oriented code, we are ready to understand how to move forward to take advantage of all the things you learned so far in this book and use them in our real-world applications in Python, JavaScript, and C#, which is the topic of the next chapter.

8

Taking Full Advantage of Object-Oriented Programming

In this chapter, you will learn how to refactor existing code to take advantage of all the object-oriented programming techniques that you have learned so far. We will take advantage of all the different available features to refactor a piece of code and prepare it for future requirements in each of the three covered programming languages: Python, JavaScript, and C#. We will cover the following topics:

- Putting together all the pieces of the object-oriented puzzle
- Understanding the difference between writing object-oriented code from scratch and refactoring existing code
- Preparing object-oriented code for future requirements
- Refactoring existing code in Python
- Refactoring existing code in C#
- Refactoring existing code in JavaScript

Putting together all the pieces of the object-oriented puzzle

In *Chapter 1, Objects Everywhere*, you learned how to recognize objects from real-life situations. We understood that working with objects makes it easier to write code that is easier to understand and reuse. However, Python, C#, and JavaScript have different object-oriented approaches, and each programming language provides different features that allow you to generate and organize blueprints for objects. If we have the same goals for an application, we will end up with completely different object-oriented approaches in Python, C#, and JavaScript. It is not possible to use the same approach in these three languages.

In *Chapter 2, Classes and Instances*, you learned that in Python and C#, classes are the blueprints or building blocks that we can use to generate instances. Both the programming languages allow you to customize constructors and destructors. JavaScript has a different approach. We can easily create objects in JavaScript without any kind of blueprint. However, we can also take advantage of constructor functions and prototypes to group properties and methods that we can reuse to generate multiple objects using the same building blocks.

In *Chapter 3, Encapsulation of Data*, you learned about the different members of a class and how its different members are reflected in members of the instances generated from a class. We understood the possibility of protecting and hiding data and designed both mutable and immutable classes. Immutable classes are extremely useful when we work with concurrent code. Each programming language provides a different mechanism to protect and hide data. However, the three programming languages allow you to work with property getters and setters.

Python works with prefixes to indicate that we don't have to access specific members. C# is very strict and works with access modifiers to make it impossible for us to use members that we aren't supposed to access. In fact, if we try to access a member that isn't available for us to use, the code won't even compile. However, everything has a price, and C# adds an important amount of boilerplate code to provide these features.

In JavaScript, objects are extremely flexible and can easily mutate from the original form they acquired after we use a constructor function to create a new one. We can add members—such as methods and properties—on the fly. In fact, we can even change the prototype that is linked to an object and use all the members added to a prototype in the objects that we created before our changes. Bear in mind that JavaScript provides a mechanism that allows you to protect properties from being removed. We didn't take advantage of this feature in our examples.

In *Chapter 4, Inheritance and Specialization,* you learned about the different mechanisms provided by each programming language to specialize a blueprint. Python and C# work with inheritance; therefore, we work with classes that can become superclasses or base classes of a subclass or derived class. We worked with simple inheritance in both programming languages, performed methods and operators overriding, and took advantage of polymorphism. Also, we understood the power of overloading operators.

JavaScript works with prototype-based inheritance. We created objects that specialized behavior in this programming language. We also performed method overriding in JavaScript. We don't have to abuse large prototype chains in JavaScript because prototype-based inheritance can have a negative performance impact. We must take this into account, especially when we are used to taking full advantage of inheritance in other programming languages (Python and C#).

In *Chapter 5, Interfaces, Multiple Inheritance, and Composition,* you learned that C# works with interfaces in combination with classes. The only way to have multiple inheritance in C# is through the usage of interfaces. Interfaces are extremely useful, but they have a drawback, that is, they require us to write additional code. Luckily, there are tools included in all the modern IDEs. These IDEs allow you to easily and automatically generate an interface from a class without having to write all the code. We understood how we could use interfaces as the types required for arguments and that any instance of a class that implements the interface can be used as an argument.

Python allows you to work with multiple inheritance of classes; therefore, we can declare a class with more than one superclass. However, we should use multiple inheritances carefully to avoid generating a big mess. Python doesn't work with an interface, but works with a module that allows you to work with abstract base classes. It makes sense to use abstract base classes only in specific cases in Python.

We can work with composition in JavaScript to generate objects composed of many objects. This way, we can generate instances composed of objects created with diverse prototypes.

In *Chapter 6*, *Duck Typing and Generics*, you learned that both Python and JavaScript work with duck typing. We can add the necessary validation code to make sure that all the arguments have specific properties or belong to a specific type. However, the most common practice in both languages is to take advantage of duck typing.

C# uses interfaces in combination with generics to work with parametric polymorphism. We can declare classes that work with one or more constrained generic types. Generics are very important to maximize code reuse in C#.

In *Chapter 7, Organization of Object-Oriented Code*, you learned that Python allows you to easily organize source files in folders to define module hierarchies. C# works with namespaces, and we can easily match them with the location of all the source code files within folders in the project structure. We can declare a constructor function within objects in JavaScript and nest objects to organize code in JavaScript. However, if our code is complex and we want to use many files in different folders, we can use RequireJS, a popular code organization module.

Now, we will take our existing code and refactor it to take advantage of objectoriented programming.

Refactoring existing code in Python

Sometimes, we are extremely lucky and have the possibility to follow best practices as we kick off a project. If we start writing object-oriented code from scratch, we can take advantage of all the features that we have been using in our examples throughout the book. As the requirements evolve, we may need to further generalize or specialize all the blueprints. However, as we started our project with an object-oriented approach and organizing our code, it is easier to make adjustments to the code.

Most of the times, we aren't extremely lucky and have to work on projects that don't follow best practices. In the name of Agile, we generate pieces of code that perform similar tasks without a decent organization. Instead of following the same bad practices that generated error-prone, repetitive, and difficult to maintain code, we can use all the features provided by all the different IDEs and additional helper tools to refactor existing code and generate object-oriented code that promotes code reuse and allows you to reduce maintenance headaches.

For example, imagine that we have to develop an application that has to render 3D models on a 2D screen. The requirements specify that the first set of 3D models that we will have to render are a sphere and a cube. The application has to allow you to change parameters of a perspective camera in order to allow you to see a specific part of the 3D world rendered on the 2D screen (refer to *Figure 1* and *Figure 2*):

- The X, Y, and Z position
- The X, Y, and Z direction
- The X, Y, and Z up vector

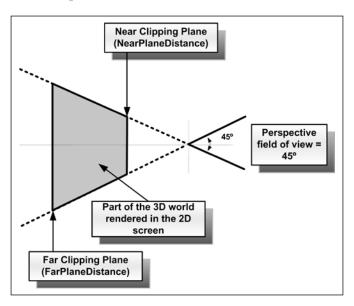


Figure 1

• **Perspective field of view in degrees**: This value determines the angle for the perspective camera's lens. A low value for this angle narrows the view. Thus, all the models will appear larger in the lens with a perspective field of a view of 45 degrees. A high value for this angle widens the view; therefore, all the models appear smaller in the visible part of the 3D world.

- The near clipping plane: The 3D region, which is visible on the 2D screen, is formed by a clipped pyramid called a frustum. This value controls the position of the plane that slices the top of the pyramid and determines the nearest part of the 3D world that the camera will render on the 2D screen. As the value is expressed taking into account the *Z* axis, it is a good idea to add code to check whether we are entering a valid value for this parameter.
- The far clipping plane: This value controls the position of the plane that slices the back of the pyramid and determines the more distant part of the 3D world that the camera will render on the 2D screen. The value is also expressed taking into account the *Z* axis; therefore, it is a good idea to add code to check whether we are entering a valid value for this parameter.

In addition, we can change the color of a directional light, that is, a light that casts light in a specific direction, which is similar to sunlight.

Let's start with the Python programming language. Here, we will be able to apply a similar procedure in C# or Java, considering the way we have been working with these languages in the previous chapters. Imagine that other developers started working on the project and generated a single Python source file with many functions that render a cube and a sphere. These functions receive all the necessary parameters to render each 3D figure, including the *X*, *Y*, and *Z* axes, determine the 3D figure's size, and configure the camera and the directional light:

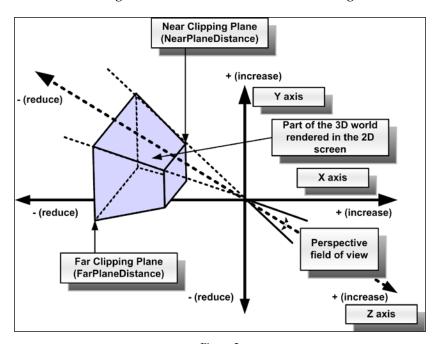


Figure 2

The following code shows an example of the declaration of the function that renders a sphere named render_sphere and the function that renders a cube named render cube:

```
def render_sphere(x, y, z, radius, camera_x, camera_y, camera_z,
    camera_direction_x, camera_direction_y, camera_direction_z, camera_
    vector_x, camera_vector_y, camera_vector_z, camera_perspective_
    field_of_view, camera_near_clipping_plane, camera_far_clipping_plane,
    directional_light_x, directional_light_y, directional_light_z,
    directional_light_color):
        pass

def render_cube(x, y, z, edge_length, camera_x, camera_y, camera_z,
        camera_direction_x, camera_direction_y, camera_direction_z, camera_
    vector_x, camera_vector_y, camera_vector_z, camera_perspective_field_
    of_view, camera_near_clipping_plane, camera_far_clipping_plane,
    directional_light_x, directional_light_y, directional_light_z,
    directional_light_color):
        pass
```

Each function requires a huge number of parameters. Let's imagine that we have requirements to add code in order to render additional shapes and add different types of cameras and lights. The preceding code can easily become a really big mess, repetitive, and difficult to maintain.

The first thing we can change is to work with a Vector3D class instead of working with separate *X*, *Y*, and *Z* values. Then, we can create a class for each of the following elements:

- SceneElement: This class represents a 3D element that is part of a scene and has a location specified with the Vector3D class. It is the base class for all the scene elements that require a location in the 3D space.
- Light: This is a subclass of SceneElement and represents a 3D light. It is the base class for all the lights.
- DirectionalLight: This is a subclass of Light and represents a directional light. It adds the property of color. The property setter makes sure that we cannot specify invalid values for the underlying attribute.
- Camera: This is a subclass of SceneElement and represents a 3D camera. It is the base class for all the cameras.

- PerspectiveCamera: This is a subclass of Camera and represents a
 perspective camera. It adds the Vector3D attributes: direction and vector.
 In addition, the class adds the field_of_view, near_clipping_plane, and
 far_clipping_plane properties. The property setters make sure that we
 cannot specify invalid values for all the underlying attributes.
- Shape: This is a subclass of SceneElement and represents a 3D shape that has a location specified with a Vector3D instance. It is the base class for all the 3D shapes and defines an empty Render method that receives a Camera instance.
- Sphere: This is a subclass of Shape that adds a radius property and overrides the Render method defined in its superclass to render a sphere.
- Cube: This is a subclass of Shape that adds an edge_length property and overrides the Render method defined in its superclass to render a sphere.
- Scene: This class represents the scene to be rendered.

The Scene class defines an active_camera attribute that holds the Camera instance. The lights attribute is a list of Light instances, whereas all the shapes attributes is a list of Shape instances that compose a scene. The add_light method adds Light to the lights list. The add_shape method adds Shape to the shapes list. Finally, the render method calls the render method for each of the Shape instances included in the shapes list and passes the active_camera attribute and the lights list as arguments.

The following code shows the Python code that defines the previously explained classes. In this case, we will use attributes; we haven't added any validation code to keep the code as simples as possible. In addition, this code doesn't really render any shapes because it would require a huge number of lines of code. Also, don't forget to organize the code as you learned in the previous chapter:

```
class Vector3D:
    def __init__(self, x, y, z):
        self.x = x
        self.y = y
        self.z = z

class SceneElement:
    def __init__(self, location):
        self.location = location
class Light(SceneElement):
    def __init__(self, location):
```

```
self.location = location
class DirectionalLight(Light):
    def __init__(self, location, color):
       super().__init__(location)
        self.color = color
class Camera(SceneElement):
    def init (self, location):
       super().__init__(location)
class PerspectiveCamera(Camera):
   def init (self, location, direction, vector, field of view,
near_clipping_plane, far_clipping_plane):
        super().__init__(location)
        self.direction = direction
        self.vector = vector
        self.field_of_view = field_of_view
        self.near clipping plane = near clipping plane
        self.far clipping plane = far clipping plane
class Shape(SceneElement):
    def init (self, location):
        super().__init__(location)
    def render(self, camera, lights):
       pass
class Sphere(Shape):
    def __init__(self, location, radius):
        super(). init (location)
        self.radius = radius
    def render(self, camera, lights):
       print("Rendering a sphere.")
class Cube(Shape):
    def __init__(self, location, edge_length):
        super().__init__(location)
```

```
self.edge_length = edge_length

def render(self, camera, lights):
    print("Rendering a cube.")

class Scene:
    def __init__(self, initial_camera):
        self.active_camera = initial_camera
        self.shapes = []
        self.lights = []

def add_light(self, light):
        self.lights.append(light)

def add_shape(self, shape):
        self.shapes.append(shape)

def render(self):
        for shape in self.shapes:
            shape.render(self.active camera, self.lights)
```

After we create the previously shown classes, we can enter the following code in the main method:

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
    camera = PerspectiveCamera(Vector3D(30, 30, 30), Vector3D(50, 0,
0), Vector3D(4, 5, 2), 90, 20, 40)
    sphere = Sphere(Vector3D(20, 20, 20), 8)
    cube = Cube(Vector3D(10, 10, 10), 5)
    light = DirectionalLight(Vector3D(2, 2, 5), 235)
    scene = Scene(camera)
    scene.add_shape(sphere)
    scene.add_light(light)
    scene.render()
```

The preceding code is very easy to understand and read. First, we created PerspectiveCamera with all the necessary parameters. Then, we created two shapes: a Sphere and a Cube. Finally, we created DirectionalLight with all the necessary parameters and Scene with the previously created PerspectiveCamera as the initial camera. Then, we added all the shapes and the light to the scene and called the render method to render the scene.

Now, compare the previous code with the following main method that calls the render sphere and render cube functions with more than a dozen parameters:

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
    render_sphere(20, 20, 20, 8, 30, 30, 30, 50, 0, 0, 4, 5, 2, 90,
20, 40, 2, 2, 5, 235)
    render_cube(10, 10, 10, 5, 30, 30, 30, 50, 0, 0, 4, 5, 2, 90, 20,
40, 2, 2, 5, 235)
```

The object-oriented version makes it easier to add parameters to any scene element. In addition, we can add the necessary light types, camera types, and shapes by specializing all the base classes. Whenever we find a behavior that is repeated in subclasses, we can generalize the code and move it to its base class. This way, we can reuse code and make future extensions to the application easier to code.

Refactoring existing code in C#

The following code shows an example of the declaration of the method that renders a sphere named RenderSphere and the method that renders a cube named RenderCube in C#:

```
public static void RenderSphere(
  int x, int y, int z, int radius,
  int cameraX, int cameraY, int cameraZ,
  int cameraDirectionX, int cameraDirectionY, int cameraDirectionZ,
  int cameraVectorX, int cameraVectorY, int cameraVvectorZ,
  int cameraPerspectiveFieldOfView,
  int cameraNearClippingPlane,
  int cameraFarClippingPlane,
  int directionalLightX, int directionalLightY, int directionalLightZ,
  int directionalLightColor)
public static void RenderCube(
  int x, int y, int z, int edgeLength,
  int cameraX, int cameraY, int cameraZ,
  int cameraDirectionX, int cameraDirectionY, int cameraDirectionZ,
  int cameraVectorX, int cameraVectorY, int cameraVvectorZ,
  int cameraPerspectiveFieldOfView,
  int cameraNearClippingPlane,
  int cameraFarClippingPlane,
  int directionalLightX, int directionalLightY, int directionalLightZ,
  int directionalLightColor)
```

Each function requires a huge number of parameters. Let's imagine that we have requirements to add code in order to render additional shapes and add different types of cameras and lights. The code can easily become a really big mess, repetitive, and difficult to maintain.

In *Chapter 3, Encapsulation of Data*, we worked with both mutable and immutable versions of the Vector3D class. Then, you learned how to overload operators in C#. The first thing we can change is to work with the Vector3D class instead of working with separate *X*, *Y*, and *Z* values. The following code shows a simple Vector3D class that uses auto-implemented properties. The code doesn't overload operators because we want to keep the example extremely simple:

```
public class Vector3D
{
  public int X { get; set; }
  public int Y { get; set; }
  public int Z { get; set; }

  public Vector3D(int x, int y, int z)
  {
    this.X = x;
    this.Y = y;
    this.Z = z;
  }
}
```

We will create a simple interface named ISceneElement to specify all the requirements for scene elements:

```
public interface ISceneElement
{
   Vector3D Location { get; set; }
}
```

The following code declares an abstract SceneElement class that implements the previously defined ISceneElement interface. The SceneElement class represents a 3D element. This element is part of a scene and has a location specified with Vector3D. It is the base class for all the scene elements that require a location in the 3D space:

```
public abstract class SceneElement : ISceneElement
{
   public Vector3D Location { get; set; }

   public SceneElement(Vector3D location)
   {
```

```
this.Location = location;
}
```

The following code declares another abstract class named Light. This is a subclass of the previously defined SceneElement class. This class represents a 3D light and is the base class for all the lights:

```
public abstract class Light : SceneElement
{
   public Light(Vector3D location)
     : base(location)
   {
    }
}
```

The following code declares a subclass of Light named DirectionalLight. The class represents a directional light and adds a Color property. In this case, we don't add validations for all the property setters just to make the example simple. However, we already know how to do it:

```
public class DirectionalLight : Light
{
   public int Color { get; set; }

   public DirectionalLight(Vector3D location, int color)
        : base(location)
   {
        this.Color = color;
    }
}
```

The following code declares an abstract class named Camera that inherits from SceneElement. The class represents a 3D camera. It is the base class for all the cameras:

```
public abstract class Camera : SceneElement
{
   public Camera(Vector3D location)
     : base(location)
   {
    }
}
```

The following code declares a subclass of Camera named PerspectiveCamera. The class represents a perspective camera and adds the Direction and Vector auto-implemented Vector3D properties. In addition, the class adds the FieldOfView, NearClippingPlane, and FarClippingPlane auto-implemented properties:

```
public class PerspectiveCamera : Camera
 public Vector3D Direction { get; set; }
 public Vector3D Vector { get; set; }
  public int FieldOfView { get; set; }
 public int NearClippingPlane { get; set; }
  public int FarClippingPlane { get; set; }
  public PerspectiveCamera(Vector3D location, Vector3D direction,
Vector3D vector, int fieldOfView, int nearClippingPlane, int
farClippingPlane)
    : base(location)
    this.Direction = direction;
    this. Vector = vector;
    this.FieldOfView = fieldOfView;
    this.NearClippingPlane = nearClippingPlane;
    this.FarClippingPlane = farClippingPlane;
}
```

The following code declares an abstract class named Shape that inherits from SceneElement. The class represents a 3D shape and is the base class for all the 3D shapes. The class defines an abstract Render method that receives the Camera instance and a list of Light instances:

```
public abstract class Shape: SceneElement
{
  public Shape(Vector3D location)
    : base(location)
  {
  }
  public abstract void Render(Camera camera, List<Light> lights);
}
```

The following code declares a Sphere class, a subclass of Shape that adds a Radius auto-implemented property and overrides the Render method defined in its abstract superclass to render a sphere:

```
public class Sphere : Shape
{
   public int Radius { get; set; }

   public Sphere(Vector3D location, int radius)
      : base(location)
   {
      this.Radius = radius;
   }

   public override void Render(Camera camera, List<Light> lights)
   {
      Console.WriteLine("Rendering a sphere.");
   }
}
```

The following code declares a Cube class, a subclass of Shape that adds an EdgeLength auto-implemented property and overrides the Render method defined in its abstract superclass to render a cube:

```
public class Cube : Shape
{
   public int EdgeLength { get; set; }

   public Cube(Vector3D location, int edgeLength)
        : base(location)
   {
        this.EdgeLength = edgeLength;
   }

   public override void Render(Camera camera, List<Light> lights)
   {
        Console.WriteLine("Rendering a cube.");
   }
}
```

Finally, the following code declares the Scene class that represents the scene to be rendered. The class defines an _activeCamera protected field that holds the Camera instance. The _lights protected field is a list of Light instances, and the _shapes protected field is a list of Shape instances that compose a scene. The AddLight method adds Light to the _lights list. The AddShape method adds Shape to the _shapes list. Finally, the render method calls the render method for each of the Shape instances included in the _shapes list and passes _activeCamera and lights list as arguments:

```
public class Scene
  protected List<Light> _lights;
 protected List<Shape> _shapes;
 protected Camera _activeCamera;
  public Scene(Camera initialCamera)
    this. activeCamera = initialCamera;
    this. shapes = new List<Shape>();
    this._lights = new List<Light>();
  public void AddLight(Light light)
    this. lights.Add(light);
  public void AddShape(Shape shape)
    this._shapes.Add(shape);
  public void Render()
    foreach (var shape in this._shapes)
      shape.Render(this. activeCamera, this. lights);
}
```

After we create the previously shown classes, we can enter the following code in the Main method of a Windows console application:

```
var camera = new PerspectiveCamera(
  new Vector3D(30, 30, 30),
  new Vector3D(50, 0, 0),
  new Vector3D(4, 5, 2),
  90, 20, 40);
var sphere = new Sphere(new Vector3D(20, 20, 20), 8);
var cube = new Cube(new Vector3D(10, 10, 10), 5);
var light = new DirectionalLight(new Vector3D(2, 2, 5), 235);
var scene = new Scene(camera);
scene.AddShape(sphere);
scene.AddShape(cube);
scene.AddLight(light);
scene.Render();
```

The preceding code is very easy to understand and read. First, we created a PerspectiveCamera instance with all the necessary parameters. Then we created two shapes: a Sphere and a Cube. Finally, we created DirectionalLight with all the necessary parameters and a Scene with the previously created PerspectiveCamera as the initial camera. Then, we added all the shapes and the light to the scene and called the Render method in order to render the scene.

Now, compare the previous code with the following code that call the RenderSphere and RenderCube methods with more than a dozen parameters:

```
RenderSphere(
  20, 20, 20,
  8, 30, 30,
  30, 50, 0,
  0, 4, 5,
  2, 90, 20,
  40, 2, 2,
  5, 235);
RenderCube(
  10, 10, 10,
  5, 30, 30,
  30, 50, 0,
  0, 4, 5,
  2, 90, 20,
  40, 2, 2,
  5, 235);
```

The object-oriented version requires a higher number of lines of code. However, it is easier to understand and expand based on future requirements. If you need to add a new type of light, a new shape, or a new type of camera, you know where to add the pieces of code, which classes to create, and the methods to change.

Refactoring existing code in JavaScript

The following code shows an example of the declaration of the function that renders a sphere named renderSphere and the function that renders a cube named renderCube in JavaScript:

```
function renderSphere (
 x, y, z, radius,
 cameraX, cameraY, cameraZ,
 cameraDirectionX, cameraDirectionY, cameraDirectionZ,
  cameraVectorX, cameraVectorY, cameraVvectorZ,
  cameraPerspectiveFieldOfView,
 cameraNearClippingPlane,
  cameraFarClippingPlane,
 directionalLightX, directionalLightY, directionalLightZ,
  directionalLightColor)
}
function renderCube(
 x, y, z, edgeLength,
 cameraX, cameraY, cameraZ,
 cameraDirectionX, cameraDirectionY, cameraDirectionZ,
  cameraVectorX, cameraVectorY, cameraVvectorZ,
  cameraPerspectiveFieldOfView,
  cameraNearClippingPlane,
 cameraFarClippingPlane,
 directionalLightX, directionalLightY, directionalLightZ,
  directionalLightColor)
```

Each function requires a huge number of parameters. Let's imagine that we have requirements to add code in order to render additional shapes and add different types of cameras and lights. The code can easily become a really big mess, repetitive, and difficult to maintain.

The first thing we can change is to define a Vector3D constructor function that provides the x, y, and z properties instead of working with separate X, Y, and Z values. The following code shows a very simple APP.Math.Vector3D constructor function:

```
var APP = APP || {};
APP.Math = APP.Math || {};
APP.Math.Vector3D = function(x, y, z) {
  this.x = x;
  this.y = y;
  this.z = z;
}
```

The following code declares an APP. Scene. Directional Light constructor function. This function generates objects that will represent a directional light. The constructor function defines the properties of location and color. We will use an APP.Math. Vector3D object for location:

```
var APP = APP || {};
APP.Scene = APP.Scene || {};
APP.Scene.DirectionalLight = function(location, color) {
  this.location = location;
  this.color = color;
}
```

The following code declares an APP.Scene.PerspectiveCamera constructor function. This function generates objects that represent a perspective camera. The constructor function defines the location, direction, and Vector properties that will hold the APP.Math.Vector3D object. In addition, this code declares and initializes the fieldOfView, nearClippingPlane, and farClippingPlane properties:

```
var APP = APP || {};
APP.Scene = APP.Scene || {};
APP.Scene.PerspectiveCamera = function(location, direction, vector, fieldOfView, nearClippingPlane, farClippingPlane) {
  this.location = location;
  this.direction = direction;
  this.vector = vector;
  this.fieldOfView = fieldOfView;
  this.nearClippingPlane = nearClippingPlane;
  this.farClippingPlane = farClippingPlane;
}
```

The following code declares an APP. Shape. Sphere constructor function that receives location and radius. The code declares the location and radius properties with all its values received as arguments. The location property will hold an APP. Math. Vector3D object. The prototype defines a render method that prints a line, which simulates that it will render a sphere:

```
var APP = APP || {};
APP.Shape = APP.Shape || {};
APP.Shape.Sphere = function(location, radius) {
  this.location = location;
  this.radius = radius;
}
APP.Shape.Sphere.prototype.render = function(camera, lights) {
  console.log("Rendering a sphere");
}
```

The following code declares an APP. Shape. Cube constructor function that receives location and edgeLength. The code declares the location and edgeLength properties with all its values received as arguments. The location property will hold the APP.Math.Vector3D object. The prototype defines the render method that prints a line simulating that it will render a cube:

```
var APP = APP || {};
APP.Shape = APP.Shape || {};
APP.Shape.Cube = function(location, edgeLength) {
  this.location = location;
  this.edgeLength = edgeLength;
}
APP.Shape.Cube.prototype.render = function(camera, lights) {
  console.log("Rendering a cube");
}
```

Finally, the following code declares the APP. Scene. Scene constructor function. This function generates objects that represent the scene to be rendered. The constructor function receives an initialCamera argument that the code assigns to the activeCamera property. The lights property is an array that will hold APP. Scene.DirectionalLight objects. The shapes property is an array that will hold APP. Shape.Sphere or APP. Shape.Cube objects that compose a scene. The addLight method adds an APP. Scene.DirectionalLight object to the lights array. The addShape method adds either an APP. Shape.Sphere object or an APP. Shape.Cube object to the shapes array. Finally, the render method calls the render method for each of the elements in the shape array Shape instances included in the _shapes list and passes _activeCamera and the lights list as arguments:

```
var APP = APP | | {};
```

```
APP.Scene = APP.Scene || {};
APP.Scene.Scene = function(initialCamera) {
   this.activeCamera = initialCamera;
   this.shapes = [];
   this.lights = [];
}
APP.Scene.Scene.prototype.addLight = function(light) {
   this.lights.push(light);
}
APP.Scene.Scene.prototype.addShape = function(shape) {
   this.shapes.push(shape);
}
APP.Scene.Scene.prototype.render = function() {
   this.shapes.forEach(function (shape) { shape.render(this.activeCamera, this.lights); });
}
```

After we create the previously shown constructor functions and their prototypes, we can enter the following code on a JavaScript console:

```
var camera = new APP.Scene.PerspectiveCamera(
   new APP.Math.Vector3D(30, 30, 30),
   new APP.Math.Vector3D(50, 0, 0),
   new APP.Math.Vector3D(4, 5, 2),
   90, 20, 40);
var sphere = new APP.Shape.Sphere(new APP.Math.Vector3D(20, 20, 20),
8);
var cube = new APP.Shape.Cube(new APP.Math.Vector3D(10, 10, 10), 5);
var light = new APP.Scene.DirectionalLight(new APP.Math.Vector3D(2, 2, 5), 235);
var scene = new APP.Scene.Scene(camera);
scene.addShape(sphere);
scene.addLight(light);
scene.addLight(light);
scene.render();
```

The preceding code is very easy to understand and read. We created an APP.Scene. PerspectiveCamera object with all the necessary parameters. Then, we created two shapes: APP.Shape.Sphere and APP.Shape.Cube. Finally, we created APP.Scene. DirectionalLight with all the necessary parameters and APP.Scene.Scene with the previously created APP.Scene.PerspectiveCamera as the initial camera. Then, we added all the shapes and the light to the scene and called the render method in order to render a scene.

Now, compare the previous code with the following code that calls the renderSphere and renderCube functions with more than a dozen parameters:

```
renderSphere(
  20, 20, 20,
  8, 30, 30,
  30, 50, 0,
  0, 4, 5,
  2, 90, 20,
  40, 2, 2,
  5, 235);
renderCube(
  10, 10, 10,
  5, 30, 30,
  30, 50, 0,
  0, 4, 5,
  2, 90, 20,
  40, 2, 2,
  5, 235);
```

The object-oriented version requires a higher number of lines of code. However, it is easier to understand and expand based on future requirements. We haven't included any kind of validations in order to keep the sample code as simple as possible and focus on the refactoring process. However, it is easy to make all the necessary changes to add the necessary validations as you learned in the previous chapters.

Summary

In this chapter, you learned how to use all the features included in Python, C#, and JavaScript in order to write simple and complex object-oriented code. We can even refactor existing code to take advantage of object-oriented programming in order to prepare the code for future requirements, reduce maintenance costs, and maximize code reuse.

Once you start working with object-oriented code and follow its best practices, it is difficult to stop writing code that works with objects. Objects are everywhere in real-life situations; therefore, it makes sense to code plenty of objects.

Now that you have learned to write object-oriented code, you are ready to use everything you learned in real-life applications that will not only rock, but also maximize code reuse and simplify maintenance.

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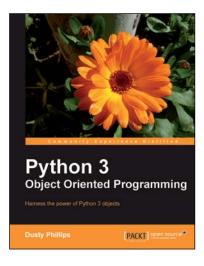
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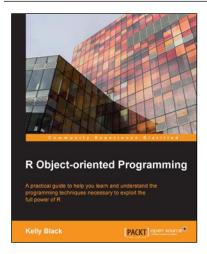


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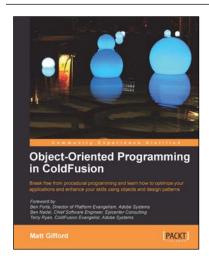


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