



9 Existing Objects

Spec and Auto-spec

Mock objects create attributes and methods on-demand giving them the ability to replace other objects. Allowing for maximum flexibility, mocks don't enforce restrictions on allowed attributes or callable parameters. These allowed differences can lead to tests which are tightly coupled to mock objects rather than the objects being mocked.

The unittest.mock module includes mechanisms used to ensure mock objects adhere more closely to the object being mocked.

```
1 from unittest.mock import MagicMock, create_autospec
2 class KeepingItClassy:
3     def add(self, a, b):
4         return self.a + self.b
5     def mul(self, a, b):
6         return self.a * self.b
7 # The spec keyword argument ensures mock matches the methods and
8 # a class or object.
9 mock = MagicMock(spec=KeepingItClassy)
10 # Set the return values for the two methods.
11 mock.add.return_value = 2
12 mock.mul.return_value = 10
13 # Calling the methods returns the expected pre-set return value
14 assert mock.add(1, 1) == 2
15 assert mock.mul(5, 2) == 10
16 # Ensure the methods are called with the expected arguments.
17 mock.add.assert_called_with(1, 1)
18 mock.mul.assert_called_with(5, 2)
19 # Spec ensures that non-existent attributes and methods aren't
20 # Attempting to access a non-existent attributes raises an Attr
21 try:
22     mock.non_existent_attr
23 except AttributeError as ex:
24     print(f'The {ex.args[0]} attribute does not exist')
```

< Back

Start check ↻



```
22 mock.non_existent_attr
23 except AttributeError as ex:
24     print(f'The {ex.args[0]} attribute does not exist')
25 # Attempting to access a non-existent method raises an AttributeError
26 try:
27     mock.div(10, 2)
28 except AttributeError as ex:
29     print(f'The {ex.args[0]} attribute does not exist')
30 # Spec is useful for ensuring that attributes and methods match
31 # However, spec allows callables to be called with any argument
32 # the defined parameters of the callable.
33 # A function with 2 required positional arguments.
34 def add(a, b):
35     return a + b
36 # Use the add function as the spec with a return value of 2.
37 mock = MagicMock(spec=add, return_value=2)
38 assert mock(1, 1) == 2
39 # The spec doesn't respect the 2 defined parameters.
40 mock(1, 1, 1)
41 # The create_autospec callable creates mocks that enforce callables
42 # create_autospec creates a MagicMock by default.
43 mock = create_autospec(spec=add, return_value=2)
44 assert mock(1, 1) == 2
45 # Trying to call the mock object with the incorrect signature raises
46 try:
47     mock(1, 1, 1)
48 except TypeError as ex:
49     print(ex)
50 #####
51 print('No assertion errors')
```

Instructions

1. Arrange the **playground.py** file to match the code above.
2. Run **playground.py** in the IDE's terminal pane.

```
1 python3 ccloudacademy/playground.py
```

< Back

Start check