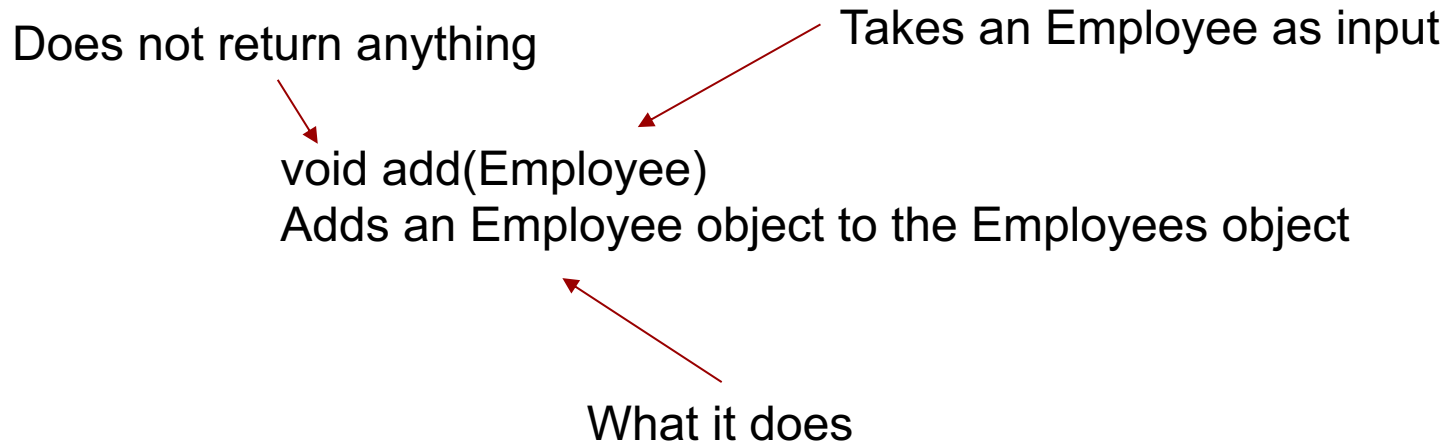# ADTs

- An Abstract Data Type describes a class without giving all the details
- And it includes no implementation
- It might or might not mention attributes
  - But does not NEED to include attributes
    - Since we only care about what the class does, not how it does it.
- It does mention the class methods
  - Name of the method
  - What it takes as input
  - What it returns as output
  - What it does

Example:

If we want to describe class Employees, we need to describe the add method:

Does not return anything

Takes an Employee as input

void add(Employee)
Adds an Employee object to the Employees object

What it does

- Other formats are also OK
- For example
  - Method add
    - Takes an Employee as input
    - Does not return anything
    - Adds the Employee it received as input to the Employees object
- The example in the previous slide is preferable, since it is more compact
- Notice that, not by accident, that format looks like what you find for class/method documentation when you search online