

Building Java Programs

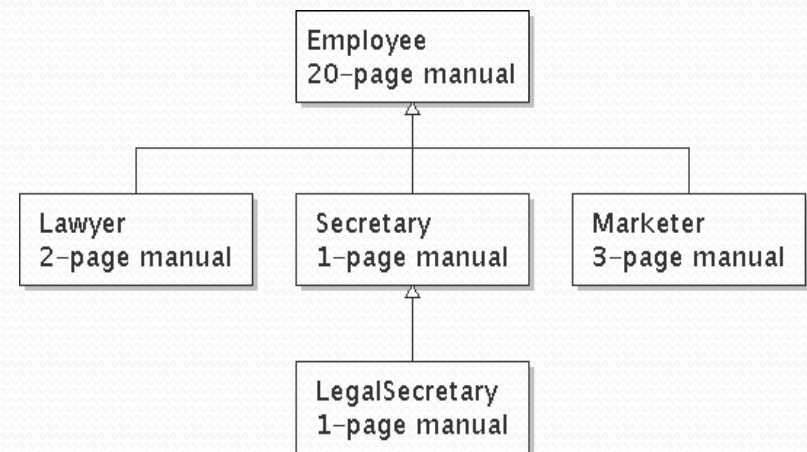
Chapter 9

Lecture 9-1: Inheritance

reading: 9.1

Law firm employee analogy

- common rules: hours, vacation, benefits, regulations ...
 - all employees attend a common orientation to learn general company rules
 - each employee receives a 20-page manual of common rules
- each subdivision also has specific rules:
 - employee receives a smaller (1-3 page) manual of these rules
 - smaller manual adds some new rules and also changes some rules from the large manual

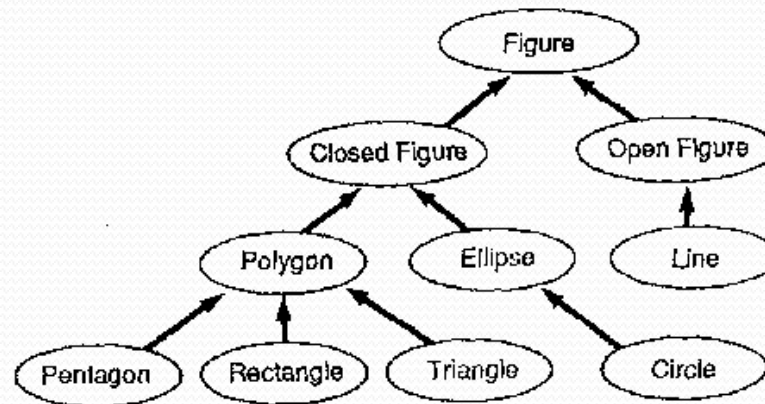


Separating behavior

- Why not just have a 22 page Lawyer manual, a 21-page Secretary manual, a 23-page Marketer manual, etc.?
- Some advantages of the separate manuals:
 - maintenance: Only one update if a common rule changes.
 - locality: Quick discovery of all rules specific to lawyers.
- Some key ideas from this example:
 - General rules are useful (the 20-page manual).
 - Specific rules that may override general ones are also useful.

Is-a relationships, hierarchies

- **is-a relationship:** A hierarchical connection where one category can be treated as a specialized version of another.
 - every marketer *is an* employee
 - every legal secretary *is a* secretary
- **inheritance hierarchy:** A set of classes connected by is-a relationships that can share common code.



Employee regulations

- Consider the following employee regulations:
 - Employees work 40 hours / week.
 - Employees make \$40,000 per year, except legal secretaries who make \$5,000 more (\$45,000 total), and marketers who make \$10,000 more (\$50,000 total).
 - Employees have 10 days of paid vacation per year, except lawyers who get an extra week (a total of 15 days).
 - Employees should use a yellow form to apply for leave, except for lawyers who use a pink form.
- Each type of employee has some unique behavior:
 - Lawyers know how to sue.
 - Marketers know how to advertise.
 - Secretaries know how to take dictation.
 - Legal secretaries know how to prepare legal documents.

An Employee class

```
// A class to represent employees in general (20-page manual).
public class Employee {
    public int getHours() {
        return 40;           // works 40 hours / week
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 40000.0;      // $40,000.00 / year
    }

    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 10;          // 2 weeks' paid vacation
    }

    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "yellow";    // use the yellow form
    }
}
```

- Exercise: Implement class `Secretary`, based on the previous employee regulations. (Secretaries can take dictation.)

Redundant Secretary class

// A redundant class to represent secretaries.

```
public class Secretary {
    public int getHours() {
        return 40;           // works 40 hours / week
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 40000.0;      // $40,000.00 / year
    }

    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 10;          // 2 weeks' paid vacation
    }

    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "yellow";    // use the yellow form
    }

    public void takeDictation(String text) {
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);
    }
}
```

Desire for code-sharing

- `takeDictation` is the only unique behavior in `Secretary`.

- We'd like to be able to say:

```
// A class to represent secretaries.
```

```
public class Secretary {
```

```
    copy all the contents from the Employee class
```

```
    public void takeDictation(String text) {
```

```
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```


Inheritance

- **inheritance:** A way to form new classes based on existing classes, taking on their attributes/behavior.
 - a way to group related classes
 - a way to share code between two or more classes
- One class can *extend* another, absorbing its data/behavior.
 - **superclass:** The parent class that is being extended.
 - **subclass:** The child class that extends the superclass and inherits its behavior.
 - Subclass gets a copy of every field and method from superclass

Inheritance syntax

```
public class name extends superclass {
```

Example:

```
public class Secretary extends Employee {  
    ...  
}
```

- By extending `Employee`, each `Secretary` object now:
 - receives a `getHours`, `getSalary`, `getVacationDays`, and `getVacationForm` method automatically
 - can be treated as an `Employee` by client code (seen later)

Improved Secretary code

```
// A class to represent secretaries.  
public class Secretary extends Employee {  
    public void takeDictation(String text) {  
        System.out.println("Taking dictation of text: " + text);  
    }  
}
```

- We only write the parts unique to each type.
 - Secretary **inherits** `getHours`, `getSalary`, `getVacationDays`, and `getVacationForm` **methods** from `Employee`.
 - Secretary **adds** the `takeDictation` **method**.

Implementing Lawyer

- Consider the following lawyer regulations:
 - Lawyers get an extra week of paid vacation (a total of 3).
 - Lawyers use a pink form when applying for vacation leave.
 - Lawyers have some unique behavior: they know how to sue.
- Problem: We want lawyers to inherit *most* behavior from employee, but we want to replace parts with new behavior.

Overriding methods

- **override:** To write a new version of a method in a subclass that replaces the superclass's version.
 - No special syntax required to override a superclass method. Just write a new version of it in the subclass.

```
public class Lawyer extends Employee {  
    // overrides getVacationForm method in Employee class  
    public String getVacationForm() {  
        return "pink";  
    }  
    ...  
}
```

- **Exercise:** Complete the `Lawyer` class.
 - (3 weeks vacation, pink vacation form, can sue)

Lawyer class

```
// A class to represent lawyers.
public class Lawyer extends Employee {
    // overrides getVacationForm from Employee class
    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "pink";
    }

    // overrides getVacationDays from Employee class
    public int getVacationDays() {
        return 15;           // 3 weeks vacation
    }

    public void sue() {
        System.out.println("I'll see you in court!");
    }
}
```

- Exercise: Complete the `Marketer` class. Marketers make \$10,000 extra (\$50,000 total) and know how to advertise.

Marketer class

// A class to represent marketers.

```
public class Marketer extends Employee {  
    public void advertise() {  
        System.out.println("Act now while supplies last!");  
    }  
  
    public double getSalary() {  
        return 50000.0;          // $50,000.00 / year  
    }  
}
```

Levels of inheritance

- Multiple levels of inheritance in a hierarchy are allowed.
 - Example: A legal secretary is the same as a regular secretary but makes more money (\$45,000) and can file legal briefs.

```
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {  
    ...  
}
```

- Exercise: Complete the `LegalSecretary` class.

LegalSecretary class

```
// A class to represent legal secretaries.  
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {  
    public void fileLegalBriefs() {  
        System.out.println("I could file all day!");  
    }  
  
    public double getSalary() {  
        return 45000.0;        // $45,000.00 / year  
    }  
}
```

Changes to common behavior

- Imagine a company-wide change affecting all employees.

Example: Everyone is given a \$10,000 raise due to inflation.

- The base employee salary is now \$50,000.
 - Legal secretaries now make \$55,000.
 - Marketers now make \$60,000.
-
- We must modify our code to reflect this policy change.

Modifying the superclass

```
// A class to represent employees in general (20-page manual).
public class Employee {
    public int getHours() {
        return 40;           // works 40 hours / week
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return 50000.0;      // $50,000.00 / year
    }

    ...
}
```

- Are we finished?
- The `Employee` subclasses are still incorrect.
 - They have overridden `getSalary` to return other values.

An unsatisfactory solution

```
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {
    public double getSalary() {
        return 55000.0;
    }
    ...
}

public class Marketer extends Employee {
    public double getSalary() {
        return 60000.0;
    }
    ...
}
```

- Problem: The subclasses' salaries are based on the Employee salary, but the `getSalary` code does not reflect this.

Calling overridden methods

- Subclasses can call overridden methods with `super`

`super.method(parameters)`

- Example:

```
public class LegalSecretary extends Secretary {
    public double getSalary() {
        double baseSalary = super.getSalary();
        return baseSalary + 5000.0;
    }
    ...
}
```

- Exercise: Modify `Lawyer` and `Marketer` to use `super`.

Improved subclasses

```
public class Lawyer extends Employee {
    public String getVacationForm() {
        return "pink";
    }

    public int getVacationDays() {
        return super.getVacationDays() + 5;
    }

    public void sue() {
        System.out.println("I'll see you in court!");
    }
}

public class Marketer extends Employee {
    public void advertise() {
        System.out.println("Act now while supplies last!");
    }

    public double getSalary() {
        return super.getSalary() + 10000.0;
    }
}
```