



Design Patterns

...live and in action!

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*With material from Hal Perkins, David Notkin, Michael Ernst,
Marty Stepp, and Joshua Bloch (Effective Java)*

MVC

- One of the most well-known patterns
- Review it before interviews (especially at web companies)

More Common Patterns

- Recall from lecture...
- Creational
 - **Create objects without calling constructor directly**
 - Singleton: allow only one instance
 - Factory: hide constructors
 - Prototype: “cloneable” objects
- Structural (wrappers)
 - **Interact with the “important” class through a wrapper class**
 - Adapter: different interface, same functionality
 - Decorator: same interface, different functionality
 - Proxy: same interface, same functionality
- Behavioral
 - **Interface for communication between objects**
 - Visitor: traverse a data structure

Singleton

- One shared instance of a class
- When useful
 - Maintaining global state; coordinating among objects or threads
 - Often lower-level tasks (e.g. hardware interaction)
- When not useful
 - Need to store state/data specific to each use (instance fields)
- Controversial
 - Global → hides dependencies, hard to test
 - Overused
 - Good tool to have, but only use if it's the right tool (get a second opinion!)
- Examples: logger, window manager



Implementing Singleton

- Private constructor
- Several options(*Effective Java* pp. 18+)
 - One private static instance, accessed with `getInstance()`
 - Pros: flexibility – could reimplement `getInstance()` to no longer be Singleton
 - One publicly accessible static instance
 - Pros: clarity – obvious that you're using a shared copy
 - Enum
 - Pros: safer (harder to break Singleton), provides serialization
 - But not how Enum is meant to be used

Singleton Demo

FileServer / Logger

Factory

- Get new object by calling non-constructor (`getInstance()`, `valueOf()`, ...)
 - May create a new object or may reuse an old one
- Advantages (*Effective Java*, pg. 5)
 - Can reuse objects
 - Can return objects of subclasses
 - More descriptive naming than constructors

Factory Demo

GameFactory / GameRoom

Adapter

- Different interface, same functionality
- Use: translate interface to be compatible with a different object

Demo: TicTacToe / GameRoom

Strategy

- *Problem:* We want to generalize behavior of one part of our app.
 - Example: Layout of components within containers.
 - Example: Ways of sorting to arrange data.
 - Example: Computer game player AI algorithms.

Poor Solutions

- Boolean flags or many set methods to enable various algorithms.

```
myContainer.useFlow(); game.playerDifficulty(3);
```

- Lots of if statements in our app to choose between algorithms.

```
if (abc) { mergeSort(data); }  
else if (xyz) { bubbleSort(data); }
```

- Rewriting entire model classes just to change the algorithm.

```
FlowContainer, BorderContainer, ..., EasyPlayer,  
HardPlayer
```



Strategy Pattern

- **strategy:** An algorithm separated from the object that uses it, and encapsulated as its own object.
 - Each strategy implements one specific behavior; one implementation of how to solve the same problem.
 - Separates algorithm for behavior from object that wants to act.
 - Allows changing an object's behavior dynamically without extending or changing the object itself.

Strategy Demo

- RockPaperScissors / GameRoom