

Design Patterns: Creational

Creational Patterns:

- Creational patterns focus on the **process of object creation**, ensuring that objects are created in a way that suits the system's design requirements.
- These patterns allow developers to manage and control how objects are instantiated, giving flexibility to change the instantiation process without altering existing code.



▼ What is a Singleton Pattern?

- The Singleton Pattern ensures that a class has only **one instance** and provides a global point of access to that instance.
- This is particularly useful in scenarios where exactly one object is needed to coordinate actions across the system.



Why do we need a Singleton?

- Some applications require only a single instance of a class to control access to resources.
 - Examples:
 - Logger classes (global logging for the entire application).
 - Configuration managers (central management of app configuration).
 - Database connection pools (ensure only one connection pool exists).

Benefits of Singleton Pattern

- Controlled access to the sole instance.
- Rather than creating multiple objects, a single instance manages everything.
- All parts of the system use the same instance, ensuring uniform behaviour across the application.

Singleton Singleton is a creational design pattern that lets you ensure that a class has only one instance, while providing a global access point to this instance.



Singletons in Java | Baeldung

See how to implement the Singleton Design Pattern in plain Java.



https://www.baeldung.com/java-singleton

Basic Implementation of Singleton Pattern

Here's a simple implementation of the Singleton pattern in Java:

```
public class Logger {
    // Step 1: Create a private static instance of
the class
    private static Logger instance;
    // Step 2: Private constructor to prevent insta
ntiation
    private Logger() {}
    // Step 3: Public method to provide global acce
ss to the instance
    public static Logger getInstance() {
        if (instance == null) {
            instance = new Logger();
        }
        return instance;
    }
    // Example method
    public void logMessage(String message) {
        System.out.println("Log: " + message);
```

```
}
```

}

Key Points about the Basic Implementation

- **Private Constructor:** Prevents instantiation from outside the class.
- Static Instance: Ensures a single instance across the entire application.
- Lazy Initialisation: The instance is created only when it's needed (first time getInstance() is called).

Thread-Safe Singleton Implementation

In a multi-threaded environment, multiple threads could try to instantiate the Singleton at the same time. To prevent this, we need to make the Singleton thread-safe.

 Synchronized Method → One simple approach is to synchronise the getInstance method, but this can lead to performance issues.

```
public class ThreadSafeLogger {
    private static ThreadSafeLogger instance;
    private ThreadSafeLogger() {}
    public static synchronized ThreadSafeLogger
getInstance() {
        if (instance == null) {
            instance = new ThreadSafeLogger();
        }
        return instance;
    }
    public void logMessage(String message) {
        System.out.println("Log: " + message);
    }
}
```

 Double-Checked Locking → A more efficient thread-safe approach using double-checked locking.

```
public class EfficientThreadSafeLogger {
    private static volatile EfficientThreadSafeL
ogger instance;
    private EfficientThreadSafeLogger() {}
    public static EfficientThreadSafeLogger getI
nstance() {
        if (instance == null) {
            synchronized (EfficientThreadSafeLog
ger.class) {
                if (instance == null) {
                    instance = new EfficientThre
adSafeLogger();
                }
            }
        }
        return instance;
    }
    public void logMessage(String message) {
        System.out.println("Log: " + message);
    }
}
```

Common Pitfalls in Singleton

- **Global State**: Singleton can introduce global state, making it harder to isolate components during testing.
- **Testing Challenges:** It's hard to mock or substitute the singleton class in unit tests, unless dependency injection or mock frameworks are used.
- **Tight Coupling:** Singleton can lead to tight coupling between classes, reducing flexibility and increasing dependency

management complexity.

▼ Eager Initialisation vs. Lazy Initialisation

Eager Initialisation: Singleton instance is created at the time of class loading.

```
public class EagerLogger {
    // Step 1: Initialize the instance at class loa
d time
    private static final EagerLogger instance = new
EagerLogger();
    private EagerLogger() {}
    public static EagerLogger getInstance() {
        return instance;
    }
    public void logMessage(String message) {
        System.out.println("Log: " + message);
    }
}
```

Lazy Initialisation: Singleton instance is created when it's actually needed, as shown in the previous examples.

```
public static void main(String[] args) {
    Logger logger = Logger.getInstance();
    logger.logMessage("Singleton pattern in act
ion!"); // Output: Log: Singleton pattern in actio
n!
  }
```

Which one to use?

• **Eager Initialisation**: Use when the instance is lightweight and expected to be used frequently.

- Lazy Initialisation: Use when the instance might not always be needed and can be created on demand.
- ▼ Common Pitfalls of Singleton:
 - Global State
 - A **Singleton** can inadvertently introduce **global state** into the application.
 - Global state refers to variables or data that are accessible throughout the entire application.
 - While Singleton ensures that only one instance of a class exists, it also means that every part of the program shares that one instance.
 - If that instance contains mutable data, it can lead to unintended consequences when different parts of the system change that state.

Example Scenario:

Imagine we have a Singleton **ConfigManager** that holds applicationwide configuration settings.

```
public class ConfigManager {
    private static ConfigManager instance;
    private String setting;

    private ConfigManager() {}

    public static ConfigManager getInstance() {
        if (instance == null) {
            instance = new ConfigManager();
        }
        return instance;
    }

    public void setSetting(String setting) {
        this.setting = setting;
    }

    public String getSetting() {
```

```
return setting;
}
}
```

Since all parts of the program use the same instance of ConfigManager, a change in one part can unexpectedly affect other parts of the system.

Testing Example:

```
public class ConfigManagerTest {
    @Test
    void testGlobalStateIssue() {
        ConfigManager configManager = ConfigMana
ger.getInstance();
        configManager.setSetting("Development");
        // In a different part of the program, a
nother test runs
        ConfigManager anotherReference = ConfigM
anager.getInstance();
        anotherReference.setSetting("Productio
n");
        // Original reference has now changed un
expectedly
        assertEquals("Production", configManage
r.getSetting());
    }
}
```

Here, the shared instance leads to a **global state** issue, where modifying the setting in one place affects all other places. This makes it difficult to predict the system's behaviour.

Testing Challenges

- Testing Singleton classes is tricky because of their global nature.
- Since Singleton classes control their instantiation, it becomes hard to substitute them with mock objects or different instances in unit tests.
- It can also interfere with test isolation.

Example Scenario:

Imagine a Singleton **DatabaseConnection** that connects to a database.

```
public class DatabaseConnection {
    private static DatabaseConnection instance;
    private DatabaseConnection() {
        // Expensive connection setup
    }
    public static DatabaseConnection getInstance
() {
        if (instance == null) {
            instance = new DatabaseConnection();
        }
        return instance;
    }
    public String query(String sql) {
        // Database query implementation
        return "Result";
    }
}
```

When running tests, we might want to **mock** the database connection or use a **different instance** for isolation, but Singleton makes this challenging.

Test Challenge:

```
public class DatabaseConnectionTest {
    @Test
    void testQuery() {
        DatabaseConnection dbConn = DatabaseConn
ection.getInstance();
        // Hard to isolate or mock this connecti
on in a unit test
        String result = dbConn.query("SELECT * F
ROM users");
        assertEquals("Result", result);
    }
    @Test
    void testWithMock() {
        DatabaseConnection mockConn = Mockito.mo
ck(DatabaseConnection.class);
        Mockito.when(mockConn.query("SELECT * FR
OM users")).thenReturn("Mocked Result");
        // But there's no easy way to inject thi
s mock into the Singleton structure
    }
}
```

Solution:

This can be mitigated by using **dependency injection** (DI) frameworks or testing libraries that allow **mocking singletons** (like <u>Mockito</u> with <u>PowerMock</u>). Alternatively, refactoring to avoid a Singleton can also resolve this issue.

Tight Coupling

- Singleton can create tight coupling between classes.
- When multiple classes depend on a Singleton, it becomes harder to change the Singleton's implementation or switch to a different pattern.

• Over time, this can lead to **spaghetti code** and a **rigid architecture**.

Example Scenario:

Let's assume we have multiple classes relying on a Logger Singleton. As the system grows, they become tightly coupled to the specific Singleton implementation.

```
public class Logger {
    private static Logger instance;
    private Logger() {}
    public static Logger getInstance() {
        if (instance == null) {
            instance = new Logger();
        }
        return instance;
    }
    public void log(String message) {
        System.out.println(message);
    }
}
// Multiple classes relying on Logger Singleton
public class ServiceA {
    public void performAction() {
        Logger.getInstance().log("ServiceA is pe
rforming an action");
    }
}
public class ServiceB {
    public void performAction() {
        Logger.getInstance().log("ServiceB is pe
rforming an action");
```

}

}

If we want to replace Logger with a different logging framework, we'd have to refactor **all classes** that rely on Logger.getInstance(), which introduces **tight coupling**.

Testing Example:

```
public class LoggerTest {
    @Test
    void testLoggerWithMultipleServices() {
        Logger logger = Logger.getInstance();
        // Logger instance used in multiple plac
es can create coupling issues
        ServiceA serviceA = new ServiceA();
        ServiceB serviceB = new ServiceB();
        serviceA.performAction(); // Relies on t
he same Logger
        serviceB.performAction(); // Relies on t
he same Logger
        }
}
```

▼ What is the Factory Method Pattern?

- The Factory Method Pattern defines an interface for creating objects but allows subclasses to alter the type of objects that will be created.
- The essence of the pattern is that **object creation is deferred to a specialised method**, often called a **factory method**.
 - Problem: You have a class that needs to create objects, but you want to delegate the responsibility of deciding which class to instantiate.
 - **Solution:** Use the **Factory Method Pattern**, where the object creation is delegated to subclasses or a specific factory class.

Factory Method Design Pattern

Define an **interface** for creating an object, but let subclasses decide which object to instantiate. Factory Method lets a class defer instantiation to subclasses.





superclass, but allows subclasses to alter the type of

https://refactoring.guru/design-patterns/factorymethod



▼ Example Scenario

- Imagine you are building a logistics system.
- Depending on whether you are handling land or sea transportation, you will need to instantiate different kinds of vehicles, such as trucks or ships.
- In a standard scenario, you might use new to create these objects, but this approach would make your code less flexible if new vehicle types are introduced later.
- Step-by-Step Example

Step 1: Define the Product Interface (Common Interface for Products)

You define a common interface for the types of objects you want to create.

```
public interface Transport {
    void deliver();
}
```

Step 2: Concrete Products (Specific Object Types)

You create concrete classes that implement the common interface, such as Truck and Ship.

```
public class Truck implements Transport {
    @Override
    public void deliver() {
        System.out.println("Delivering by land i
n a truck");
    }
}
public class Ship implements Transport {
    @Override
    public void deliver() {
        System.out.println("Delivering by sea in
a ship");
    }
}
```

Step 3: Factory Interface or Abstract Class

Now, define an abstract class (or an interface) that declares the factory method responsible for creating objects of type Transport.

```
public abstract class Logistics {
    // The Factory Method
    public abstract Transport createTransport();
```

```
// Other methods using the product created b
y the factory method
    public void planDelivery() {
        Transport transport = createTransport();
        transport.deliver();
    }
}
```

Step 4: Concrete Factories (Classes that decide which product to create)

Concrete factory classes will override the factory method to decide which Transport to create.

```
public class RoadLogistics extends Logistics {
    @Override
    public Transport createTransport() {
        return new Truck(); // Concrete Product
(Truck)
    }
}
public class SeaLogistics extends Logistics {
    @Override
    public Transport createTransport() {
        return new Ship(); // Concrete Product
(Ship)
    }
}
```

Step 5: Client Code

The client code calls the factory method but doesn't need to know the exact class of the object that will be created.

```
public class LogisticsApp {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        // Choosing the type of logistics dynami
    cally
        Logistics logistics = new RoadLogistics
```

```
();
    logistics.planDelivery(); // Output: De
livering by land in a truck
    logistics = new SeaLogistics();
    logistics.planDelivery(); // Output: De
livering by sea in a ship
    }
}
```

Why Use the Factory Method Pattern?

- The factory method separates the process of creating an object from the client code that uses it — This allows you to introduce new types of products without modifying existing code.
- If new product types are introduced (e.g., AirLogistics), they can be handled by creating a new concrete class without modifying the existing code.
- It gives flexibility in object creation while ensuring the client remains decoupled from specific product implementations.

Common Pitfalls of Factory Method:

• Over-complication

- The Factory Method Pattern introduces abstraction by creating additional classes (factory and product classes) to decouple object creation. However, if your application only requires a small number of product variations, this extra complexity may become burdensome rather than beneficial.
- Over-complication occurs when the Factory Method Pattern introduces too much overhead for a problem that could be solved with simpler constructs, like constructors or static methods.

Example:

Consider a scenario where you're building a system that only deals with **two vehicle types**: car and Bike.

• If you apply the Factory Method Pattern here, you'll need:

- A vehicle interface.
- A car class implementing Vehicle.
- A Bike class implementing Vehicle.
- A VehicleFactory abstract class or interface.
- A carFactory and BikeFactory that inherit from VehicleFactory.
- While this is technically correct, the amount of boilerplate code introduced far outweighs the benefit of using the Factory Method Pattern.
- For two types of vehicles, it might be better to use a simple constructor or a static method rather than adding unnecessary layers of abstraction.

```
// Example: Overcomplicated Factory for Two Vehi
cle Types
interface Vehicle {
    void move();
}
class Car implements Vehicle {
    @Override
    public void move() {
        System.out.println("Car is moving");
    }
}
class Bike implements Vehicle {
    @Override
    public void move() {
        System.out.println("Bike is moving");
    }
}
abstract class VehicleFactory {
    public abstract Vehicle createVehicle();
}
```

```
class CarFactory extends VehicleFactory {
   @Override
   public Vehicle createVehicle() {
      return new Car();
   }
}
class BikeFactory extends VehicleFactory {
   @Override
   public Vehicle createVehicle() {
      return new Bike();
   }
}
```

In this case, simply using direct instantiation would be far more efficient:

```
// Simpler Code
Vehicle car = new Car();
Vehicle bike = new Bike();
```

- Violation of the Open/Closed Principle
 - The Open/Closed Principle (OCP) suggests that classes should be open for extension but closed for modification. This means that when you add new functionality (e.g., adding a new product type), you should extend existing classes rather than modifying them.
 - However, in some cases, the Factory Method Pattern can lead to violations of this principle if you find yourself constantly modifying existing factory logic to accommodate new products.

Example:

Suppose your logistics system initially only supports Truck and Ship.

• Later, you need to introduce Plane and Train.

 If the factory classes or factory methods have to be modified repeatedly to accommodate these new vehicle types, you are violating OCP by constantly updating the same code.

```
// Violating OCP by Modifying Factory
class Logistics {
    public Transport createTransport(String t
ype) {
        if (type.equals("Truck")) {
            return new Truck();
        } else if (type.equals("Ship")) {
            return new Ship();
        } else if (type.equals("Plane")) {
            return new Plane(); // Modifying
the factory logic
        } else if (type.equals("Train")) {
            return new Train(); // Modifying
again for Train
        } else {
            throw new IllegalArgumentExceptio
n("Invalid transport type");
        }
    }
}
```

Each time you add a new type of vehicle, you modify the createTransport method. This violates the **Open/Closed Principle** because instead of **extending** the code with new subclasses, you're constantly **modifying** the original logic.

Solution:

To solve this, you can structure your code so that new vehicle types can be **extended** without modifying existing factory logic. This can be achieved by creating a separate factory for each new type of vehicle or by using an **Abstract Factory**.

```
// Extending Without Modifying Existing Code (OC
P Compliant)
abstract class TransportFactory {
```

```
public abstract Transport createTransport();
}
class TruckFactory extends TransportFactory {
    @Override
    public Transport createTransport() {
        return new Truck();
    }
}
class PlaneFactory extends TransportFactory {
    @Override
    public Transport createTransport() {
        return new Plane();
    }
}
class TrainFactory extends TransportFactory {
    @Override
    public Transport createTransport() {
        return new Train();
    }
}
```

Now, adding a new type of vehicle (e.g., **Plane**) doesn't require modifying existing classes. You just need to create a new factory that extends **TransportFactory**, keeping the rest of the code intact.