

Using the Factory Pattern in OOABL: How, when and why

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Consultingwerk Software Services Ltd.

- Independent IT consulting organization
- Focusing on **OpenEdge** and **related technology**
- Located in Cologne, Germany, subsidiaries in UK, USA and Romania
- Customers in Europe, North America, Australia and South Africa
- Vendor of developer tools and consulting services
- Specialized in GUI for .NET, Angular, OO, Software Architecture, Application Integration
- Experts in OpenEdge Application Modernization



Services Portfolio, Progress Software

- OpenEdge (ABL, Developer Tools, Database, PASOE, ...)
- Telerik DevCraft (.NET, Kendo UI, Angular, ...), Telerik Reporting
- OpenEdge UltraControls (Infragistics .NET)
- Telerik Sitefinity CMS (incl. integration with OpenEdge applications)
- Kinvey Plattform, NativeScript
- Corticon BRMS
- Whatsup Gold infrastructure-, network- and application monitoring
- Kemp Loadmaster
- ...

Services Portfolio, related products

- Protop Database Monitoring
- Combit List & Label
- Web frameworks, e.g. Angular
- .NET
- Java
- ElasticSearch, Lucene
- Amazon AWS, Azure
- DevOps, Docker, Jenkins, ANT, Gradle, JIRA, ...
- ...

Recap from yesterday

- Patterns in general
- Decorator pattern

Software Design Patterns

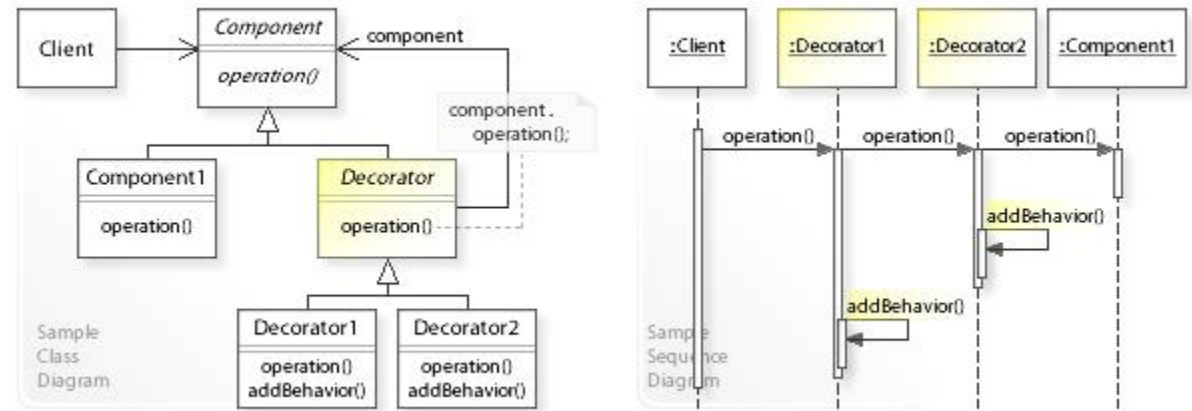
- Well known “ways of doing”, solving common, reoccurring problems
- Easier to understand und maintain clean code
- Prevents reinventing the wheel and “too creative” code

Decorator pattern

- Allows functionality to be divided by concern (Single Responsibility)
- Allows extension without modification (Open Closed Principle)
 - This is the actual decoration
- Flexible, efficient way of extending an object without creating a new object
 - No Casting, Extending or Overwrites needed

Decorator pattern

- Interface, Decorator(s), Decorated
- Decorator implements Interface of the to be decorated
- Decorator holds reference to the decorated object (Wrapper)



Software Design Patterns

- Popular through the GoF (Gang of Four)
 - Erich Gamma (IBM/Rational/Microsoft – Developer of Eclipse, Junit and VS Code)
 - Richard Helm (IBM/Boston Consulting)
 - Ralph Johnson (worked on Smalltalk)
 - John Vlissides (IBM)
- Examples: Factory, Builder, Singleton, Facade, Adapter, Iterator, Lazy Initialization, and many more....

Agenda

- Example
- Factory patterns
- Fluent Interface
- Examples



Example

- We want to create houses
- With different capabilities
 - With Insulation
 - With Solar
 - With Heat Pump
- A house may have one or more of these capabilities
 - Capabilities can be upgraded over the lifetime of a house
 - Different houses have different features in place

How do we specify the capabilities?

- Constructor arguments
 - Does allow required values to be set
 - Optional values may be set
 - Can end up with vary many constructors, with very many parameter combinations
 - Can end up with overly-broad constructors, with too many parameters for the required capabilities

Which constructor is a developer supposed to call?

- Settable properties, public methods
 - Caller must somehow know that they are supposed to call these

Bad Example

```
oHouse = NEW ClassWithUglyConstructor(FALSE, FALSE, "", 5, 12.0, 6, TRUE, TRUE, 5, 6, "WTF", FALSE, FALSE).
```

- Constructor arguments
 - Not really comprehensive (What does the values given mean, and why?)
 - Intellisense the parameters to at least see what they might mean.
 - Need a parameter more for some processing inside the class?
 - New Constructor with meaningful default values
 - Change all code pieces that used the old one

Introducing Factories & Builders

- [Abstract factory](#) Provide an interface for creating *families* of related or dependent objects without specifying their concrete classes
- [Builder](#) Separate the construction of a complex object from its representation, allowing the same construction process to create various representations
- [Factory method](#) Define an interface for creating a *single* object, but let subclasses decide which class to instantiate. Factory Method lets a class defer instantiation to subclasses

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abstract_factory_pattern

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Builder_pattern

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Factory_method_pattern

Factories & builders

```
CLASS Consultingwerk.Demo.Factory.HouseBuilder  
  IMPLEMENTS IHouseBuilder ABSTRACT  
  :
```

```
  DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY House AS IHouse NO-UNDO  
  GET():  
    RETURN THIS-OBJECT:GetInstance().  
  END GET.
```

```
  METHOD ABSTRACT PROTECTED IHouse GetInstance().
```

```
  METHOD STATIC PUBLIC IHouseBuilder Build (pcHouseCategory AS CHARACTER):  
    IF pcHouseCategory = "modern" THEN  
      RETURN NEW ModernHouseBuilder().  
    ELSE  
      RETURN NEW DefaultHouseBuilder().  
    END METHOD.
```

```
END CLASS.
```

Abstract Factory

Factory method

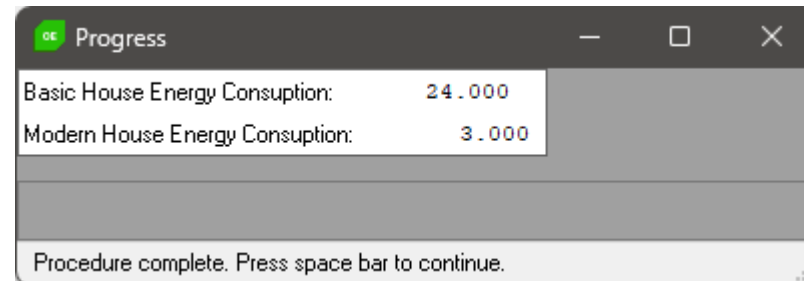
Builders

Factories & builders

- Developer doesn't need to know specific type that is created
- Factory might have more meaningful method names
 - A Constructor is always called like the class name
- You can change the Factory providing new implementations without having to change the client code
- Abstract Factory is kind of magic black box. You don't know who builds you what specific type.

Abstract Factory usage

```
DEFINE VARIABLE oHouse AS IHouse NO-UNDO.  
  
/* ***** Main Block ***** */  
  
oHouse = HouseBuilder:Build(""):House. //you don't see who build the object for you  
DISPLAY "Basic House Energy Consumption: " oHouse:GetEndEnergyConsumption().  
  
oHouse = HouseBuilder:Build("modern"):House. //you don't see who build the object for you  
DISPLAY "Modern House Energy Consumption: " oHouse:GetEndEnergyConsumption().
```



The Builder builds the object for you

```
CLASS Consultingwerk.Demo.Factory.DefaultHouseBuilder INHERITS HouseBuilder:  
  METHOD PROTECTED OVERRIDE IHouse GetInstance():  
    DEFINE VARIABLE oHouse AS IHouse NO-UNDO.  
    oHouse = new BasicHouse().  
    RETURN oHouse.  
  END METHOD.  
END CLASS.
```

```
CLASS Consultingwerk.Demo.Factory.ModernHouseBuilder INHERITS HouseBuilder:  
  METHOD PROTECTED OVERRIDE IHouse GetInstance():  
    DEFINE VARIABLE oHouse AS IHouse NO-UNDO.  
    // create a house  
    oHouse = new BasicHouse().  
    //decorate it  
    oHouse = new InsulatedHouse(oHouse).  
    oHouse = new HeatPumpHouse(oHouse).  
    oHouse = new SolarPoweredHouse(oHouse).  
    RETURN oHouse.  
  END METHOD.  
END CLASS.
```

Classical Builders

- Help to create complex objects without long parameter lists in telescopic constructors (see the bad example)

- Create object in steps:

```
oHouseBuilder = NEW ClassicalHouseBuilder().  
  
oHouseBuilder:AddInsulation(TRUE).  
oHouseBuilder:AddHeatPump(FALSE).  
oHouseBuilder:AddSolar(TRUE).  
  
oHouse = oHouseBuilder:Build().
```

- Doesn't fit all use cases (Not even the one in our example here 😊)
- Don't use for immutable objects (Can't be changed at runtime)

Fluent interface



A [fluent interface](#) is an object-oriented API whose design relies extensively on method chaining. Its goal is to increase code legibility by creating a domain-specific language (DSL).

```
using OpenEdge.Net.HTTP.*;

define variable oRequest as IHttpRequest no-undo.

oRequest = RequestBuilder:Post("https://example.com/", oJsonData )
           :ContentType( "application/json" )
           :AcceptJson()
           :SetHeader("X-API-Key", "abc123")
           :Request.
```

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fluent_interface

Fluent House Builder

This is the trick!

```
INTERFACE Consultingwerk.Demo.Fluent.IFluentHouseBuilder:  
  
    METHOD PUBLIC IFluentHouseBuilder AddInsulation(plInsulation AS LOGICAL).  
  
    METHOD PUBLIC IFluentHouseBuilder AddHeatPump(plHeatPump AS LOGICAL).  
  
    METHOD PUBLIC IFluentHouseBuilder AddSolar(plSolar AS LOGICAL).  
  
    DEFINE PUBLIC PROPERTY House AS IHouse NO-UNDO  
    GET.  
  
END INTERFACE.
```

Fluent interface: example

```
DEFINE VARIABLE oHouse AS IHouse.

//basic house
oHouse = FluentHouseBuilder:Build()
           :House.

DISPLAY "Basic House energy consumption:" oHouse:GetEndEnergyConsumption() SKIP.

//insulated house
oHouse = FluentHouseBuilder:Build()
           :AddInsulation(TRUE)
           :House.

DISPLAY "Insualted House energy consumption:" oHouse:GetEndEnergyConsumption() SKIP.

//insulated house with heat pump
oHouse = FluentHouseBuilder:Build()
           :AddInsulation(TRUE)
           :AddHeatPump(TRUE)
           :House.

DISPLAY "After heat pump upgrade:" oHouse:GetEndEnergyConsumption() SKIP.

//insulated house with heat pump and solar
oHouse = FluentHouseBuilder:Build()
           :AddInsulation(TRUE)
           :AddHeatPump(TRUE)
           :AddSolar(TRUE)
           :House.

DISPLAY "After solar installation:" oHouse:GetEndEnergyConsumption() SKIP.
```

Configure your object as needed.

Use variables instead of hard-coded TRUE to dynamically build the right thing for you.

Conclusion

- Never write a NEW again! Factories and builders give us a single-responsibility class for instantiating objects

- Application developers don't need to think about any complexities of constructing objects

Additional info

- More examples are available at <https://github.com/4gl-fanatics/airplane-seat-patterns>

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- We have a OpenEdge quiz running at our booth or available at consultingwerk.com/quiz
- Challenge your OpenEdge knowledge to earn a chance to win an Amazon Echo Studio, Echo or Echo Spot
- Best entries will be presented on Friday here at the PUG!

