

Interfaces, Abstract Classes and the DanceStudio

- Similarities and Differences between Abstract Classes and interfaces
- Dance Studio Project



Class Object

- In Java every class by default extends a library class Object (from java.lang)
- Object is a concrete class

```
public class Object
{
    public String toString {...}
    public boolean equals (Object other) {... }
    public int hashCode() { ... }

    // a few other methods
    ...
}
```

Methods
redefined
(overridden)
as necessary



Classes

Interfaces

Similarities

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A superclass provides a secondary data type to objects of its subclasses. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An interface provides a secondary data type to objects of classes that implement that interface. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An abstract class cannot be instantiated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An interface cannot be instantiated. |



Classes

Interfaces

Similarities

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A concrete subclass of an abstract class must define all the inherited abstract methods. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A concrete class that implements an interface must define all the methods specified by the interface. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A class can extend another class. A subclass can add methods and override some of its superclass' methods. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An interface can extend another interface (called its <i>superinterface</i>) by adding declarations of abstract methods. |



Classes

Interfaces

Differences

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A class can extend only one class. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A class can implement any number of interfaces. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A class can have fields. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An interface cannot have fields (except, possibly, some public static final constants). |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A class defines its own constructors (or gets a default constructor). | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An interface has no constructors. |



Classes

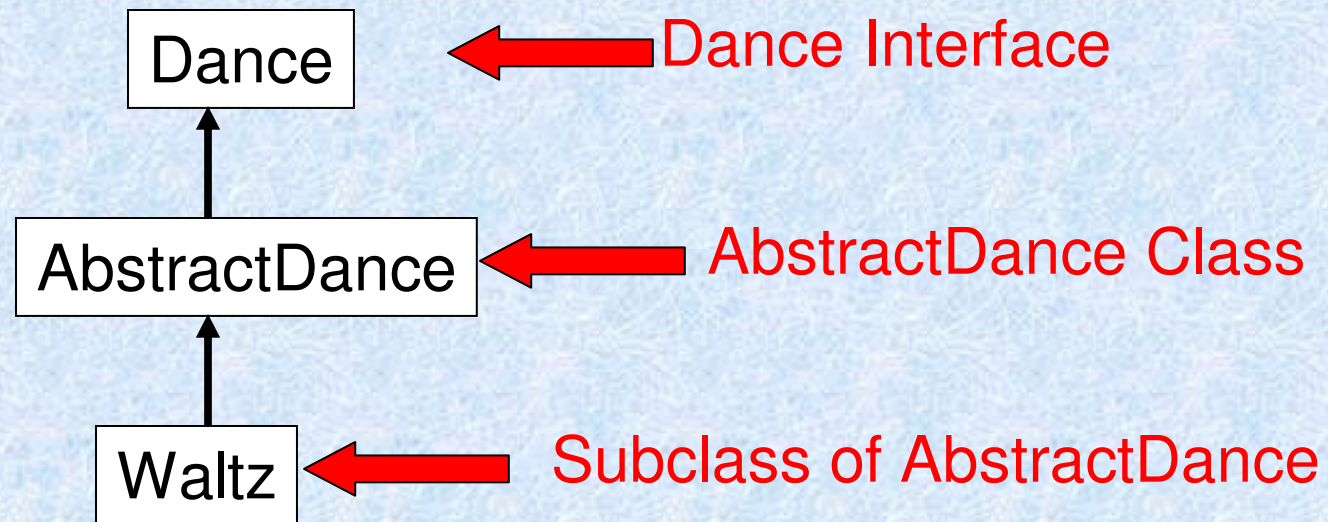
Interfaces

Differences

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A concrete class has all its methods defined. An abstract class usually has one or more abstract methods. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All methods declared in an interface are abstract. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every class is a part of a hierarchy of classes with Object at the top. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interfaces are generally standalone structures. |



Dance Studio (already done)



Dance Studio (your job)



```
public interface Dance
{
    DanceStep getStep(int i);
    int getTempo();
    int getBeat(int i);
}
```

