

Design patterns with object-oriented approaches









Patrick Schiefer



- 12 years of experience as Software developer
- Blogging about BC and Azure DevOps

https://patrickschiefer.com











Agenda

- General
- SOLID Principle
- Design patterns
 - Template Method Pattern
 - Command Pattern
 - Command Queue Pattern
 - Dependency Inversion Principle









Object-oriented programming (OOP) is a computer programming model that organizes software design around data, or objects, rather than functions and logic. An object can be defined as a data field that has unique attributes and behavior.

Source: https://www.techtarget.com/searchapparchitecture/definition/object-oriented-programming-OOP









Classes and Objects

- Class (codeunit): Definition of the data and available procedures inside an object
- Object: instances of classes
 - Consisting of properties and procedures









Value and reference types

- Value type: the value is stored directly in an variable
 - Numbers
 - Char
 - Byte
 - More or less every single type
- Reference type: the variable only includes a reference to the instance









Behaviour of value types

```
procedure ValueTypeExample()
var
    a: integer;
    b: integer;
begin
    a := 5;
    b := a;
end;
```

Variablename	Value
а	
b	







Behaviour of value types

```
procedure ValueTypeExample()
var
    a: integer;
    b: integer;
begin
    a := 5;
    b := a;
end;
```

Variablename	Value
а	5
b	







Behaviour of value types

```
procedure ValueTypeExample()
var
    a: integer;
    b: integer;
begin
    a := 5:
    b := a;
end;
```

Variablename	Value
а	5
b	5







```
codeunit 50100 IntegerCodeunit
{
    2 references | 0% Coverage
    procedure SetValue(param : Integer)
    begin
        intValue := param;
    end;

1 reference | 0% Coverage
    procedure GetValue() : Integer
    begin
        exit(intValue);
    end;

var
    2 references
    intValue : integer;
}
```







Variablename	Value
а	Instance of a
b	Instance of b
Instance of a	
intValue	5
Instance of b	
intValue	







Variablename	Value
а	Instance of a
b	Instance of a
Instance of a	
intValue	5
•••	
Instance of b	
intValue	







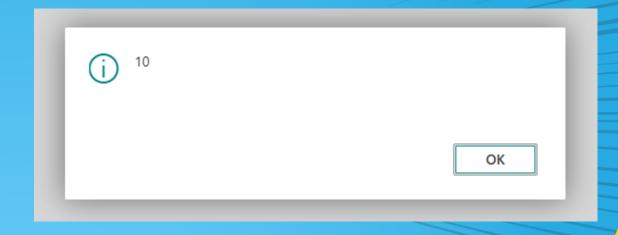
Variablename	Value
а	Instance of a
b	Instance of a
Instance of a	
intValue	10







```
codeunit 50101 "IntegerUsage"
{
    1 reference | 0% Coverage
    procedure IntegerCodeunitExample()
    var
        a: Codeunit IntegerCodeunit;
        b: Codeunit IntegerCodeunit;
    begin
        a.SetValue(5);
        b := a;
        b.SetValue(10);
        Message(Format(a.GetValue()));
    end;
}
```









2 Facts about AL

It is not object oriented

Uses .net as underlaying technology









SOLID Principle

- S ingle Responsibility Principle
- O pen Closed Principle
- L iskov Substitution Principle
- I nterface Segregation Principle
- **D** ependency Inversion Principle









Template method pattern

- Used to solve similar problems in a similar way
- Uses a template method without actual implementation of the problem
- The implementation is separated in a second codeunit
- An interface defines how the implementation looks
- Could also be used to improve testability of your app









Bad code example

```
procedure ExportData(SalesHeader: Record "Sales Header"; SalesLine: Record "Sales Line")
begin
   if not CheckData() then
        exit;
   repeat
        case SalesHeader.ExportType of
            Enum::ExportType::A:
                GenerateLineTypeA(SalesLine);
            Enum::ExportType::B:
                GenerateLineTypeB(SalesLine);
        end;
   until SalesLine.Next() = 0;
   case SalesHeader.ExportTo of
        Enum::ExportTo::A:
            WriteToFile();
        Enum::ExportTo::B:
            SendToWebService();
   end;
end;
```









Command Pattern

- Behavioral design pattern
- Generate components which are calling code without knowing which code
- Write flexible code
- Contains at least 3 Elements
 - Interface "ICommand" which defines how a command looks
 - A command codeunit implementing the interface command
 - A commander codeunit invokes the command









Bad code example

```
codeunit 50103 SalesPoster
    2 references | 0% Coverage
    procedure PostSalesDocument(header : Record "Sales Header")
    begin
         //TODO Posting logic
    end;
    0 references | 0% Coverage
    procedure PostAndPrint(header : Record "Sales Header")
    begin
        PostSalesDocument(header);
        Print();
    end;
    0 references | 0% Coverage
    procedure PostAndExportToFile(header : Record "Sales Header")
    begin
        PostSalesDocument(header);
        ExportToWebService();
    end;
```









Command Queue Patterns

- Extension to the command pattern
- Commands are stored in a queue and executed in sequence
- Used to control the flow of a process
- Combines single tasks to a process









- Reducing dependencies between objects and apps
- Using Interfaces to connect objects and apps







Sales App

Purchase App

Pricing App

Generic Library App









- Implizit dependency from Printing App to pricing app
- When Pricing app is updated, sales, purchase and printing app need to be reinstalled







Generic Library App

Sales App

Purchase App

Pricing App

Base Line App with Interface









- Base Line Includes no code just interfaces
- Update should be very rare
- New Apps could easily be added with out adding complexity to the dependency tree











Addional Informations

- https://alguidelines.dev
- https://clean-code-developer.com/
- https://springframework.guru/gang-of-four-design-patterns/









