

Polymorphism

CIS 15 : Spring 2007

Functionalia

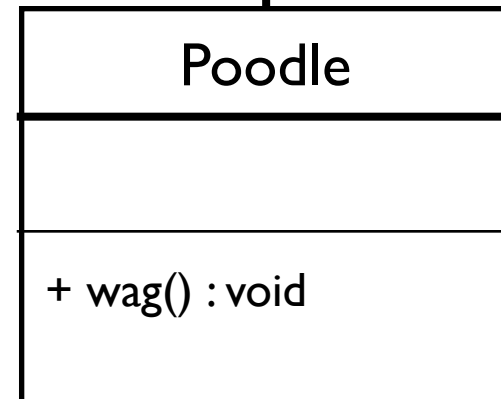
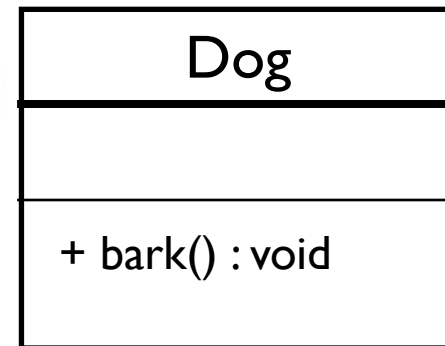
Today:

- Polymorphism
- Virtual Functions
- Abstract Classes
- Multiple Inheritance

Dogs

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void wag() { cout << "wag! wag!" << endl; }  
};
```



Using a Dog pointer to store a Poodle

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void wag() { cout << "wag! wag!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    Dog * pet1;
```

```
    Dog * pet2;
```

```
    pet1 = new Dog;
```

```
    pet2 = new Poodle;
```

```
    pet1->bark();
```

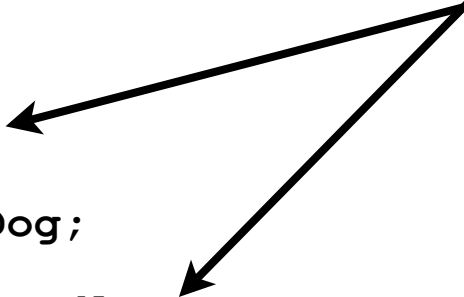
```
    pet2->bark();
```

```
    delete pet1;
```

```
    delete pet2;
```

```
}
```

Is this legal?



Upcasting

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void wag() { cout << "wag! wag!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    Dog * pet1;
```

```
    Dog * pet2;
```

```
    pet1 = new Dog;
```

```
    pet2 = new Poodle;
```

```
    pet1->bark();
```

```
    pet2->bark();
```

```
    delete pet1;
```

```
    delete pet2;
```

```
}
```

Since Poodle is-a kind of Dog:

A Dog pointer can be used to
reference to the Poodle class.
(the Poodle object is upcast to a Dog)

A Poodle always inherits `bark()`

Upcasting

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void wag() { cout << "wag! wag!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    Dog * pet1;
```

```
    Dog * pet2;
```

```
    pet1 = new Dog;
```

```
    pet2 = new Poodle;
```

```
    pet1->bark();
```

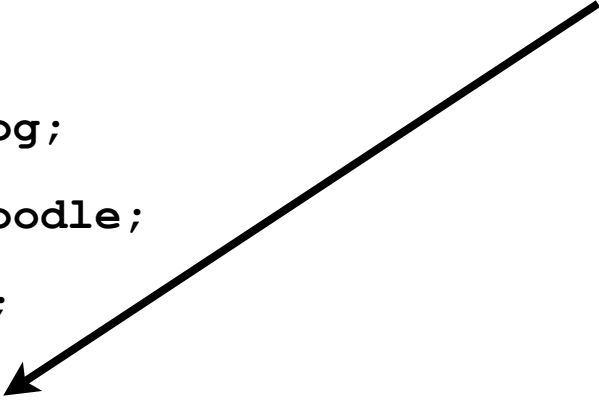
```
    pet2->wag();
```

```
    delete pet1;
```

```
    delete pet2;
```

```
}
```

Is this legal?



Upcasting

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void wag() { cout << "wag! wag!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {
```

```
    Dog * pet1;
```

```
    Dog * pet2;
```

```
    pet1 = new Dog;
```

```
    pet2 = new Poodle;
```

```
    pet1->bark();
```

```
    pet2->wag();
```

```
    delete pet1;
```

```
    delete pet2;
```

```
}
```

No. Compile-time error.

error: 'class Dog' has no member named 'wag'

The *is-a* relationship does not work in reverse.

Downcasting

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void wag() { cout << "wag! wag!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
    pet->bark();
```

```
    Poodle * pet2 = static_cast<Poodle *>(pet);  
    pet2->wag();  
    delete pet;
```

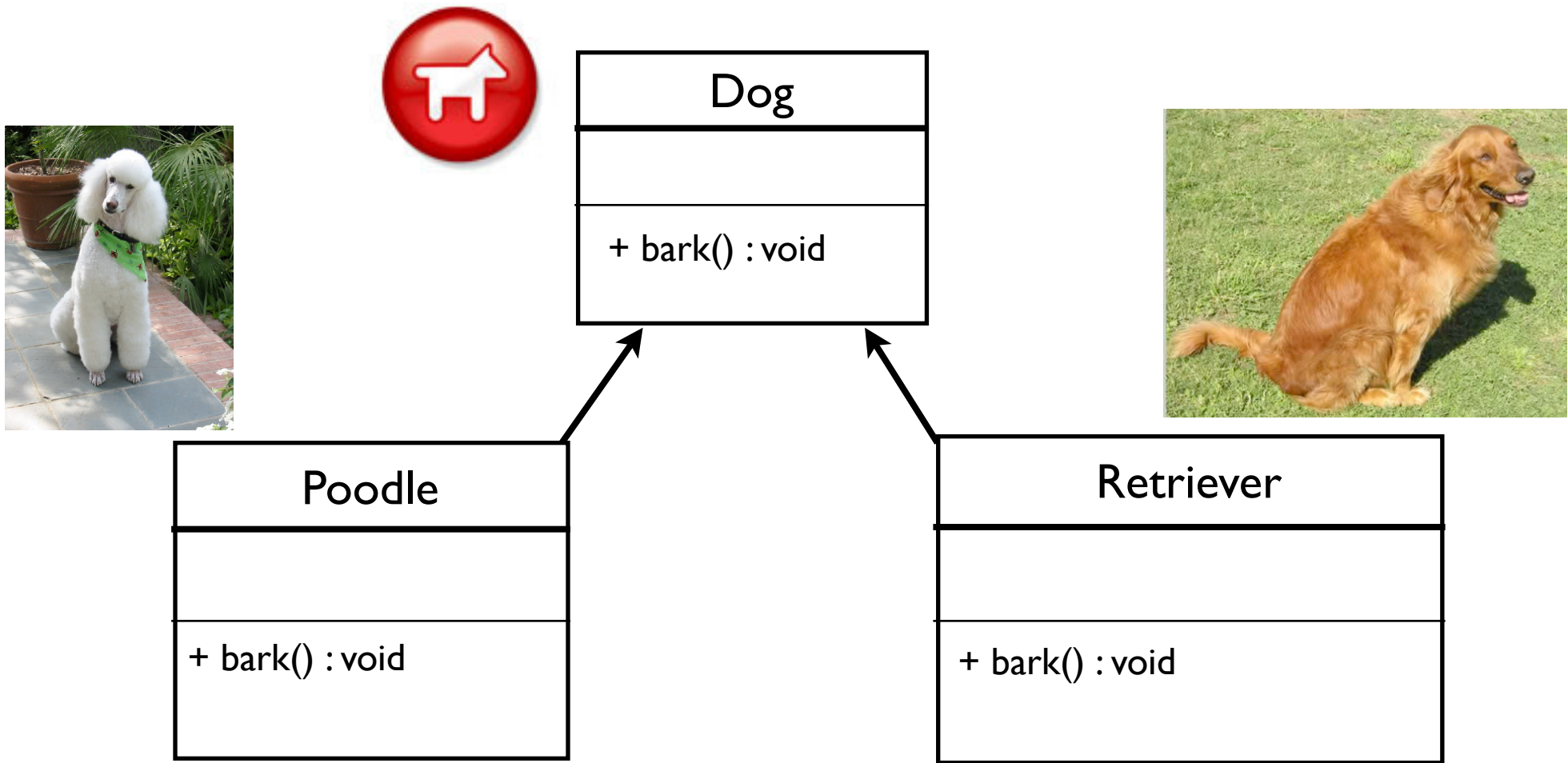
```
}
```

Work-Around

Recast the Dog pointer
to a Poodle Pointer

messy

Polymorphism



Polymorphism allows for a reference variable or an object pointer reference objects of *different* types (i.e. Poodle vs. Retriever), and to call the correct member functions(i.e. bark()), depending on the type of object being referenced.

Dogs and their bark()

```
class Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }
};

class Poodle : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }
};

class Retriever : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }
};

int main() {
    Dog * pet;

    pet = new Dog;

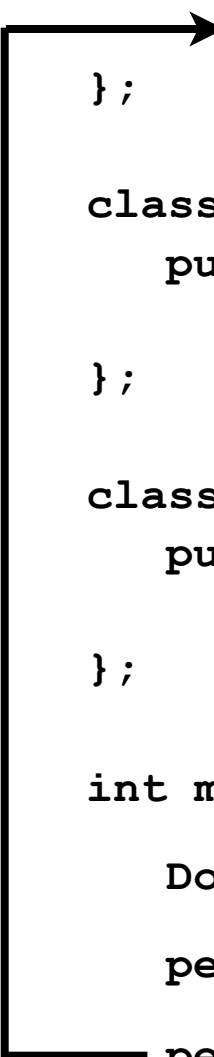
    pet->bark();

    delete pet;
}
```

What kind of bark?

Dogs and their bark()

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
    void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
    void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
    void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Dog;  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```



bark bark!

Dogs and their bark()

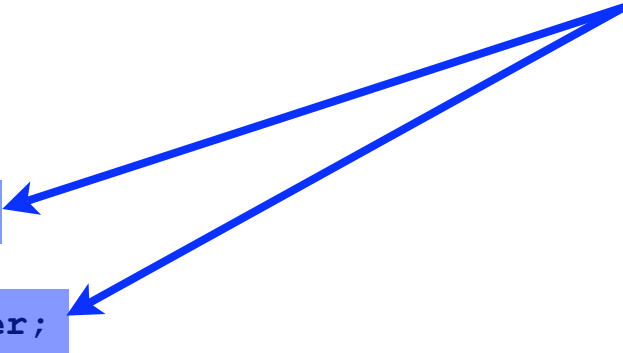
```
class Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }
};

class Poodle : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }
};

class Retriever : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }
};

int main() {
    srand(time(NULL));
    Dog * pet;
    if((rand()%2) == 0)
        pet = new Poodle;
    else
        pet = new Retriever;
    pet->bark();
    delete pet;
}
```

Suppose we do not know the type of Dog at run-time.

Two blue arrows originate from the text 'Suppose we do not know the type of Dog at run-time.' The first arrow points to the line 'pet = new Poodle;' and the second arrow points to the line 'pet = new Retriever;'. Both lines are highlighted with a light blue background.

Dogs and their bark()

```
class Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }
};

class Poodle : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }
};

class Retriever : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }
};

int main() {
    Dog * pet;
    pet = new Poodle;

    pet->bark();
    delete pet;
}
```

Simplified.

What kind of bark?

Dogs and their bark()

```
class Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }
};

class Poodle : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }
};

class Retriever : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }
};

int main() {
    Dog * pet;
    pet = new Poodle;

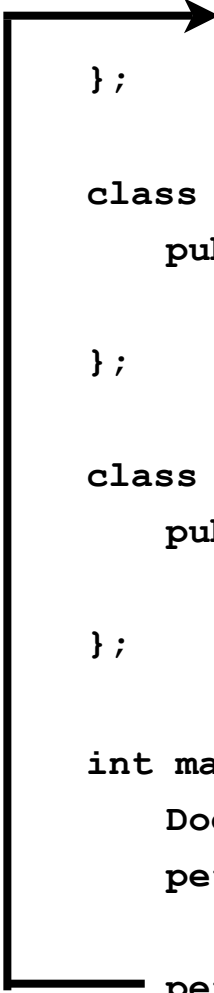
    pet->bark();
    delete pet;
}
```

bark bark!

Why?

bark() is ***statically bound***

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
    void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
    void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
    void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

A diagram consisting of a thick black line that starts at the 'pet->bark();' line in the main function, extends vertically downwards, then turns horizontally to the left, and finally turns diagonally upwards to point at the 'void bark()' method definition inside the 'class Dog' block.

The compiler binds the function call to the only class it knows about at the time, the Dog class.

Also called **early binding**.

virtual functions allow for *virtual binding*

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

Now, the function that will be called depends on the *type* of the object and is decided at **runtime**.

What kind of bark?

virtual functions allow for ***virtual binding***

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:
```

```
    - - -> void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;
```

```
    - - pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

woof! woof!

virtual binding also called ***late binding***
because the function to call is decided at
a *later* time during runtime.

All `bark()` functions are virtual in hierarchy

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

Although not necessary to explicitly define them as virtual:

A function defined as *virtual* in the base class is *virtual* in the derived classes.

Virtual Functions extend through ***Multiple Levels*** of inheritance

```
class Dog {
    public:
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }
};

class Poodle : public Dog {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }
};

class FrenchPoodle : public Poodle {
    public:
        void bark() { cout << "ouah! ouah!" << endl; }
};

int main() {
    Dog * pet;
    pet = new FrenchPoodle;

    pet->bark();
    delete pet;
}
```

(**source** <http://www.georgetown.edu/faculty/ballc/animals/dog.html>)

Virtual Functions extend through **Multiple Levels** of inheritance

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class FrenchPoodle : public Poodle {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "ouah! ouah!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new FrenchPoodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

ouah! ouah!

(**source** <http://www.georgetown.edu/faculty/ballc/animals/dog.html>)

Redefining versus Overriding

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class FrenchPoodle : public Poodle {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "ouah! ouah!" << endl; }  
};
```

overrides

overrides

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new FrenchPoodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

Virtual functions **override** a
Base Class's function

Redefining versus Overriding

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class FrenchPoodle : public Poodle {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "ouah! ouah!" << endl; }  
};
```

overrides

overrides

Virtual functions ***override*** a
Base Class's function

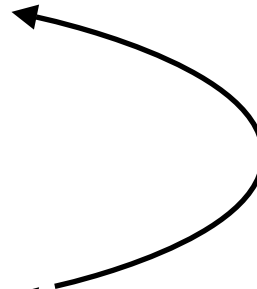
dynamic and run-time

Redefining versus Overriding

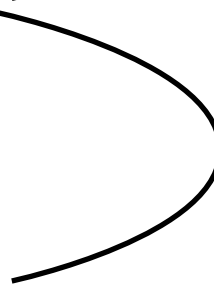
```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class FrenchPoodle : public Poodle {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "ouah! ouah!" << endl; }  
};
```



redefines



redefines

Non Virtual functions ***redefine***
a Base Class's function

static and compile time

Destructors

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
        Poodle() { chewy = new Toy; }  
        ~Poodle() { delete chewy; }  
    private:  
        Toy * chewy;   
};
```

Poodle contains a
dynamically allocated object
(a chew Toy)

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```


Destructors

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
        Poodle() { chewy = new Toy; }  
        ~Poodle() { delete chewy; }  
    private:  
        Toy * chewy;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

Poodle object is referenced
through a Base Class pointer.



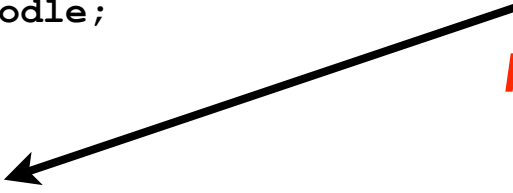
Destructors

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
        Poodle() { chewy = new Toy; }  
        ~Poodle() { delete chewy; }  
    private:  
        Toy * chewy;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

*Will all of the dynamic
memory be de-allocated?*



Destructors

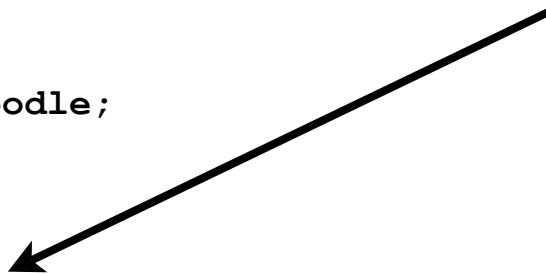
```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
        Poodle() { chewy = new Toy; }  
        ~Poodle() { delete chewy; }  
    private:  
        Toy * chewy;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

No.
Default Destructor is
called (~Dog())

Solution?



Virtual Destructors

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
        virtual ~Dog();  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
        Poodle() { chewy = new Toy; }  
        ~Poodle() { delete chewy; }  
    private:  
        Toy * chewy;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

Declaring the Base Class
Destructor Virtual guarantees
that the *appropriate* Object's
Destructor is called.

Virtual Destructors

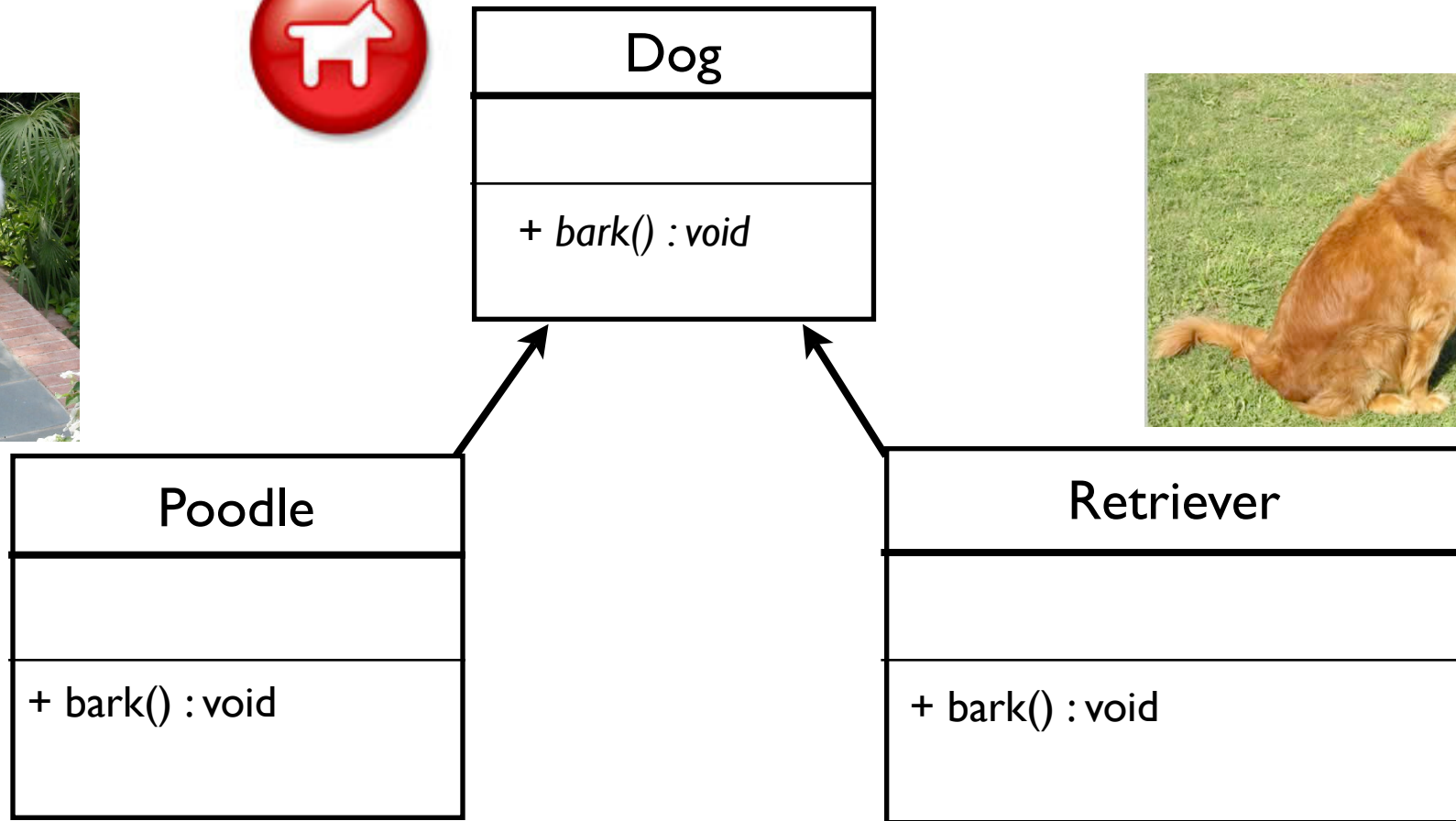
```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
        virtual ~Dog();  
};
```

```
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
        Poodle() { chewy = new Toy; }  
        ~Poodle() { delete chewy; }  
    private:  
        Toy * chewy;  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

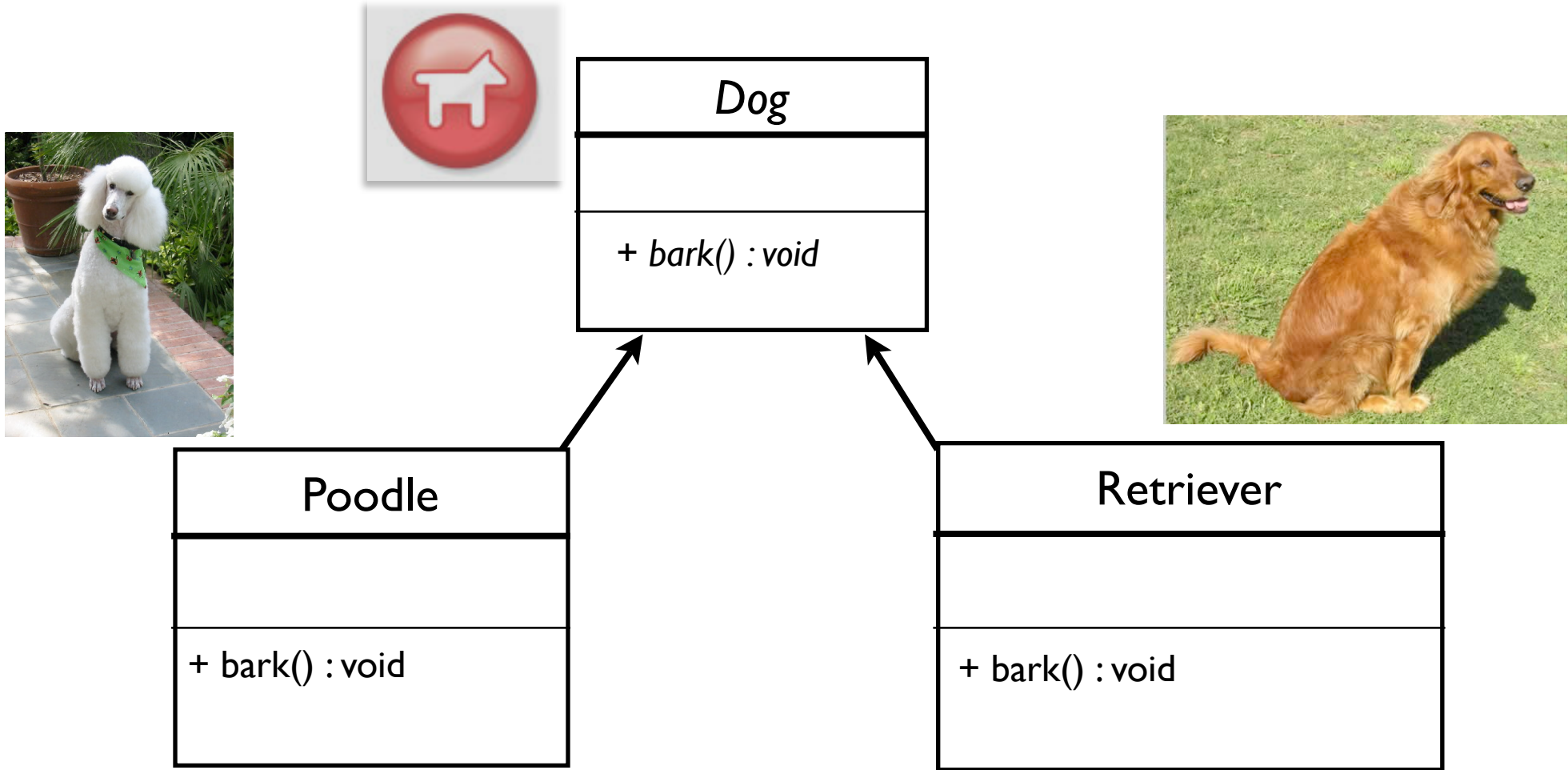
If the Base Class contains
virtual functions, it is always
good programming practice to
declare the destructors
virtual.

UML and Virtual Functions



Virtual Functions in the Base Class are commonly shown in *italics* in UML.

Abstract Base Class



Sometimes the Object Hierarchy should start with a common Base Class that is **Generic** and **Abstract** and would not ever be implemented itself.

Here, **Poodles** and **Retrievers** would be instantiated, but never the **Dog** class on its own. (Of course **Dog** pointers would still be used.)

Make Dog an Abstract Class

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() { cout << "bark bark!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

Virtual functions in Abstract Base classes would not have an code associated to them.

Make Dog an Abstract Class

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() = 0;  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};  
  
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Poodle;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

They are *pure virtual* functions.

Indicated by the “= 0”

Have no body or definition in base class.

Make Dog an Abstract Class

```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() = 0;  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Dog;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

An Abstract Class cannot be instantiated.

error: cannot allocate an object of abstract type 'Dog'

Multiple Inheritance

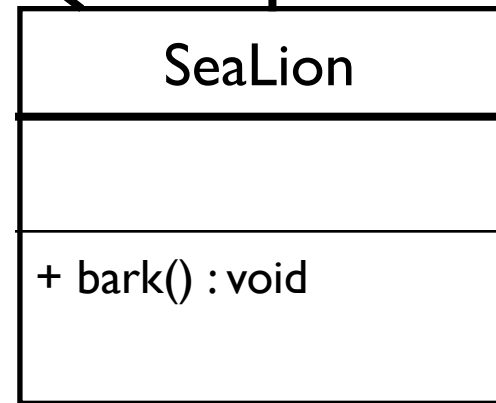
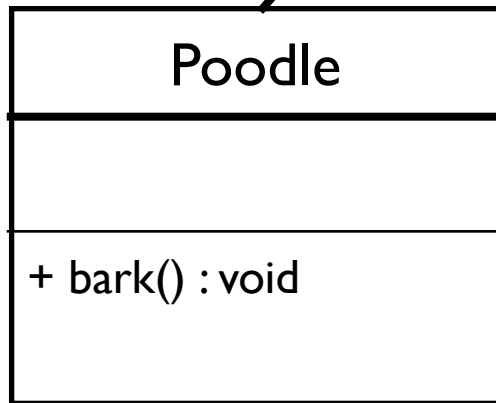
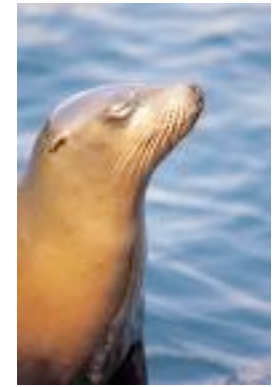
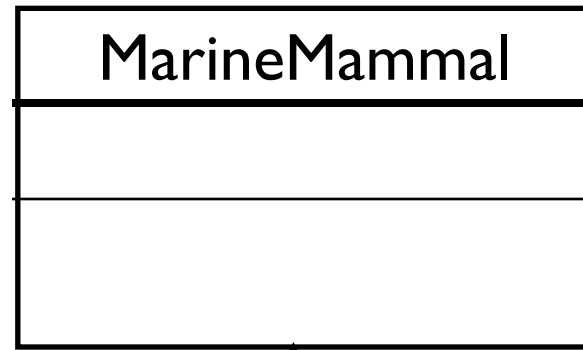
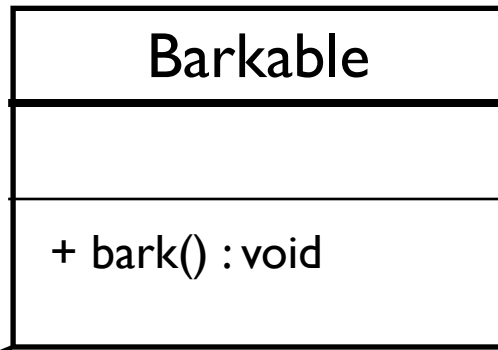
```
class Dog {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() = 0;  
};  
  
class Poodle : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "woof! woof!" << endl; }  
};  
  
class Retriever : public Dog {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};
```

```
int main() {  
    Dog * pet;  
    pet = new Dog;  
  
    pet->bark();  
    delete pet;  
}
```

An Abstract Class cannot be instantiated.

error: cannot allocate an object of abstract type 'Dog'

Sea Lions Bark too! Multiple Inheritance



C++ is an Object Oriented Language that supports Multiple Inheritance in classes, which allow for a more extensible hierarchies of Classes.

A Class can Inherit from more than One Class

```
class MarineMammal {  
    ...  
};  
  
class Barkable {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() = 0;  
};  
  
class SeaLion : public MarineMammal, public Barkable {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};
```

A SeaLion is a type of MarineMammal and is a Barkable object.

Inherits all members of both Classes (i.e. and their hierarchies).

Constructors are called in Order that they are Listed

1.

2.

```
class SeaLion : public MarineMammal, public Barkable {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl;  
        SeaLion() {}  
};
```

3.

1. `MarineMammal` constructor is called.
2. `Barkable` constructor is called.
3. `SeaLion` constructor is called.

Date and Time Classes : Multiple Inheritance

```
class Date {  
    protected:  
        int day;  
        int month;  
        int year;  
    public:  
        Date(int d, int m, int y) {  
            day = d; month = m; year = y;  
        }  
};
```

```
class Time {  
    protected:  
        int hour;  
        int min;  
        int sec;  
    public:  
        Time(int h, int m, int s) {  
            hour = h; min = m; sec = s;  
        }  
};
```

DateTime Combined Class with Constructor

```
class DateTime : public Date, public Time
{
    public:
        DateTime(int dy, int mon, int yr, int hr, int mn, int sc);
        ...
};

DateTime::DateTime(int dy, int mon, int yr, int hr, int mn, int sc) :
Date(dy, mon, yr), Time(hr, mn, sc)
{
    ...
}
```


DateTime Combined Class with Constructor

```
class DateTime : public Date, public Time
```

```
{
```

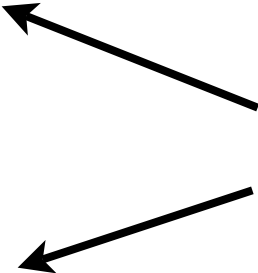
```
    public:
```

```
        DateTime(int dy, int mon, int yr, int hr, int mn, int sc);
```

```
        ...
```

```
};
```

Constructor Definition



```
DateTime::DateTime(int dy, int mon, int yr, int hr, int mn, int sc) :
```

```
Date(dy, mon, yr), Time(hr, mn, sc)
```

```
{
```

```
    ...
```

```
}
```

DateTime Combined Class with Constructor

```
class DateTime : public Date, public Time
{
    public:
        DateTime(int dy, int mon, int yr, int hr, int mn, int sc);
        ...
};
```

```
DateTime::DateTime(int dy, int mon, int yr, int hr, int mn, int sc) :
Date(dy, mon, yr), Time(hr, mn, sc)
{
    ...
}
```

Inherited Constructors



Interfaces

```
class MarineMammal {  
    ...  
};
```

```
class Barkable {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() = 0;  
};
```

```
class SeaLion : public MarineMammal, public Barkable {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};
```

An Abstract Base class can be thought of as an ***interface*** (through its pure virtual functions) for a class that derives from it.

Multiple Inheritance allows for multiple interfaces.

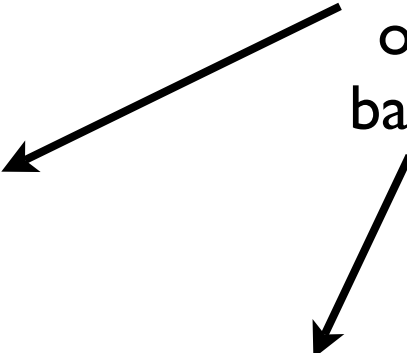
Interfaces

```
class MarineMammal {  
    ...  
};
```

```
class Barkable {  
    public:  
        virtual void bark() = 0;  
};
```

```
class SeaLion : public MarineMammal, public Barkable {  
    public:  
        void bark() { cout << "arf! arf!" << endl; }  
};
```

Barkable Interface allows
other classes to pass the
bark() message to SeaLion.



An Abstract Base class can be thought of as an ***interface***
(through its pure virtual functions) for a class that derives from it.

Multiple Inheritance allows for multiple interfaces.

Interfaces

```
class Printable {  
    public:  
        virtual void print(string printer) = 0;  
};
```

```
class Emailable {  
    public:  
        virtual void email(string sender, string rcpt) = 0;  
};
```

```
class WordDoc : public Document, public Printable, public Emailable {  
    public:  
        void WordDoc();  
        ...  
};
```

Java has a type of class that is called an Interface that serves this purpose.

More Stuff About Classes

Friends

A class can declare a function of another class or another class itself a **friend**. A **friend** can have access to the private members of a class.

Friends

A class can declare a function of another class or another class itself a **friend**. A **friend** can have access to the private members of a class.

This is specified as a list of functions and classes in the class description.

```
class Club {  
    private:  
        vector<string> VIPs;  
    public:  
        bool gainAccess(string name);  
    friend void Promoter::addToVIPList(Club & c, string name);  
};
```

Friend keyword



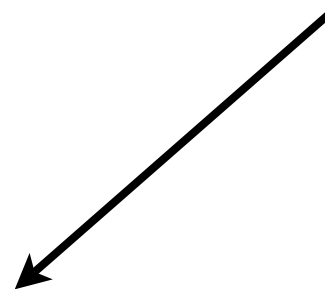
Friends

A class can declare a function of another class or another class itself a **friend**. A **friend** can have access to the private members of a class.

This is specified as a list of functions and classes in the class description.

```
class Club {  
    private:  
        vector<string> VIPs;  
    public:  
        bool gainAccess(string name);  
  
    friend void Promoter::addToVIPList(Club & c, string name);  
};
```

Function that has private access



Friends

```
class Club {  
    private:  
        vector<string> VIPs;  
  
    public:  
        bool gainAccess(string name);  
  
    friend void Promoter::addToVIPList(Club & c, string name);  
};  
  
class Promoter {  
    public:  
        void addToVIPList(Club & c, string name) {  
            c.VIPs.push_back(name);  
        }  
};
```

← Access to private member through dot-notation

Forward declaration of Promoter

```
class Promoter;
```

Need to let the Club Class know that the Promoter class exists.

```
class Club {
```

```
    private:
```

```
        vector<string> VIPs;
```

```
    public:
```

```
        bool gainAccess(string name);
```

```
        friend void Promoter::addToVIPList(Club & c, string name);
```

```
};
```

```
class Promoter {
```

```
    public:
```

```
        void addToVIPList(Club & c, string name) {
```

```
            c.VIPs.push_back(name);
```

```
        }
```

```
};
```

Can also friend Classes as a whole

```
class Promoter;  
  
class Club {  
    private:  
        vector<string> VIPs;  
  
    public:  
        bool gainAccess(string name);  
  
        friend class Promoter;  
};  
  
class Promoter {  
    public:  
        void addToVIPList(Club & c, string name) {  
            c.VIPs.push_back(name);  
        }  
};
```

Static Members of Classes

Classes can have static member variables, single instances of a variable which do not belong to any specific object instance of that class.

They act like global variables.

```
class Tree {  
    private:  
        static int count;  
    public:  
        Tree() {  
            count++;  
        }  
        ~Tree() {  
            count--;  
        }  
        int getCount() { return count; }  
};  
  
int Tree::count = 0;
```

Static Members of Classes

Classes can have static member variables, single instances of a variable which do not belong to any specific object instance of that class.

They act like global variables.

```
class Tree {  
    private:  
        static int count;  
    public:  
        Tree() {  
            count++;  
        }  
        ~Tree() {  
            count--;  
        }  
        int getCount() { return count; }  
};
```

Static Member Declared



```
int Tree::count = 0;
```

Static Member Defined



Static Members of Classes

```
class Tree {
    private:
        static int count;
    public:
        Tree() {
            count++;
        }
        ~Tree() {
            count--;
        }
        int getCount() const { return count; }
};

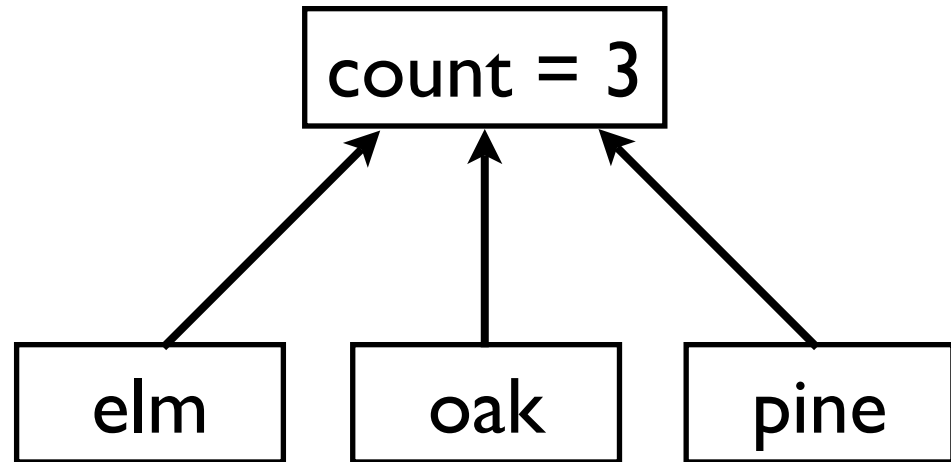
int Tree::count = 0;

int main() {
    Tree elm;
    Tree oak;
    Tree pine;

    cout << "Trees so far: " << elm.getCount() << endl;
}
```

Static Members of Classes

```
class Tree {  
    private:  
        static int count;  
    public:  
        Tree() {  
            count++;  
        }  
        ~Tree() {  
            count--;  
        }  
        int getCount() const { return count; }  
};  
int Tree::count = 0;
```



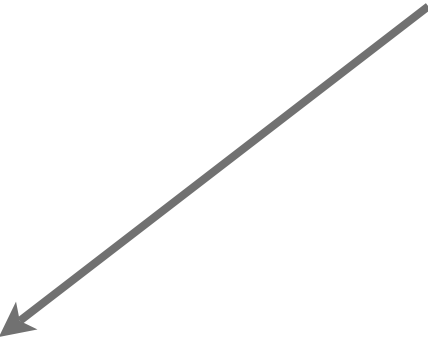
Trees so far: 3

```
int main() {  
    Tree elm;  
    Tree oak;  
    Tree pine;  
  
    cout << "Trees so far: " << elm.getCount() << endl;  
}
```


Member Functions can be static as well.

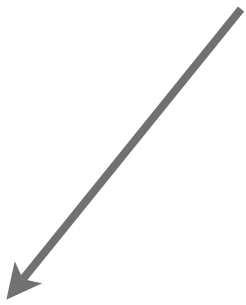
```
class Tree {  
    private:  
        static int count;  
    public:  
        Tree() {  
            count++;  
        }  
        ~Tree() {  
            count--;  
        }  
        static int getCount() const { return count; }  
};  
int Tree::count = 0;
```

Can be accessed
without an object
instance.



```
int main() {  
    Tree elm;  
    Tree oak;  
    Tree pine;  
  
    cout << "Trees so far: " << Tree::getCount() << endl;  
}
```

Accessed with the ::
scope operator



Static Functions can only access Static Members

```
class Tree {  
    private:  
        static int count;  
    public:  
        Tree() {  
            count++;  
        }  
        ~Tree() {  
            count--;  
        }  
        static int getCount() const { return count; }  
};  
  
int Tree::count = 0;  
  
int main() {  
    cout << "Trees so far: " << Tree::getCount() << endl;  
}
```

What is returned in this case?

Static Functions can only access Static Members

```
class Tree {  
    private:  
        static int count;  
    public:  
        Tree() {  
            count++;  
        }  
        ~Tree() {  
            count--;  
        }  
        static int getCount() const { return count; }  
};  
  
int Tree::count = 0;  
  
int main() {  
    cout << "Trees so far: " << Tree::getCount() << endl;  
}
```

0

Midterm Review on Thursday.