

iOS 7 & Objective C

Lecture 2

Objective-C

- New language to learn!

 - Strict superset of C

 - Adds syntax for classes, methods, etc.

 - A few things to “think differently” about (e.g. properties, dynamic binding)

- Most important concept to understand today: Properties

 - Usually we do not access instance variables directly in Objective-C.

 - Instead, we use “properties.”

 - A “property” is just the combination of a getter method and a setter method in a class.

 - The getter (usually) has the name of the property (e.g. “myValue”)

 - The setter’s name is “set” plus capitalized property name (e.g. “setMyValue:”)

 - (To make this look nice, we always use a lowercase letter as the first letter of a property name.)

 - We just call the setter to store the value we want and the getter to get it. Simple.

- This is just your first glimpse of this language!

 - We’ll go much more into the details next week.

 - Don’t get too freaked out by the syntax at this point.

2 Files For Every Class

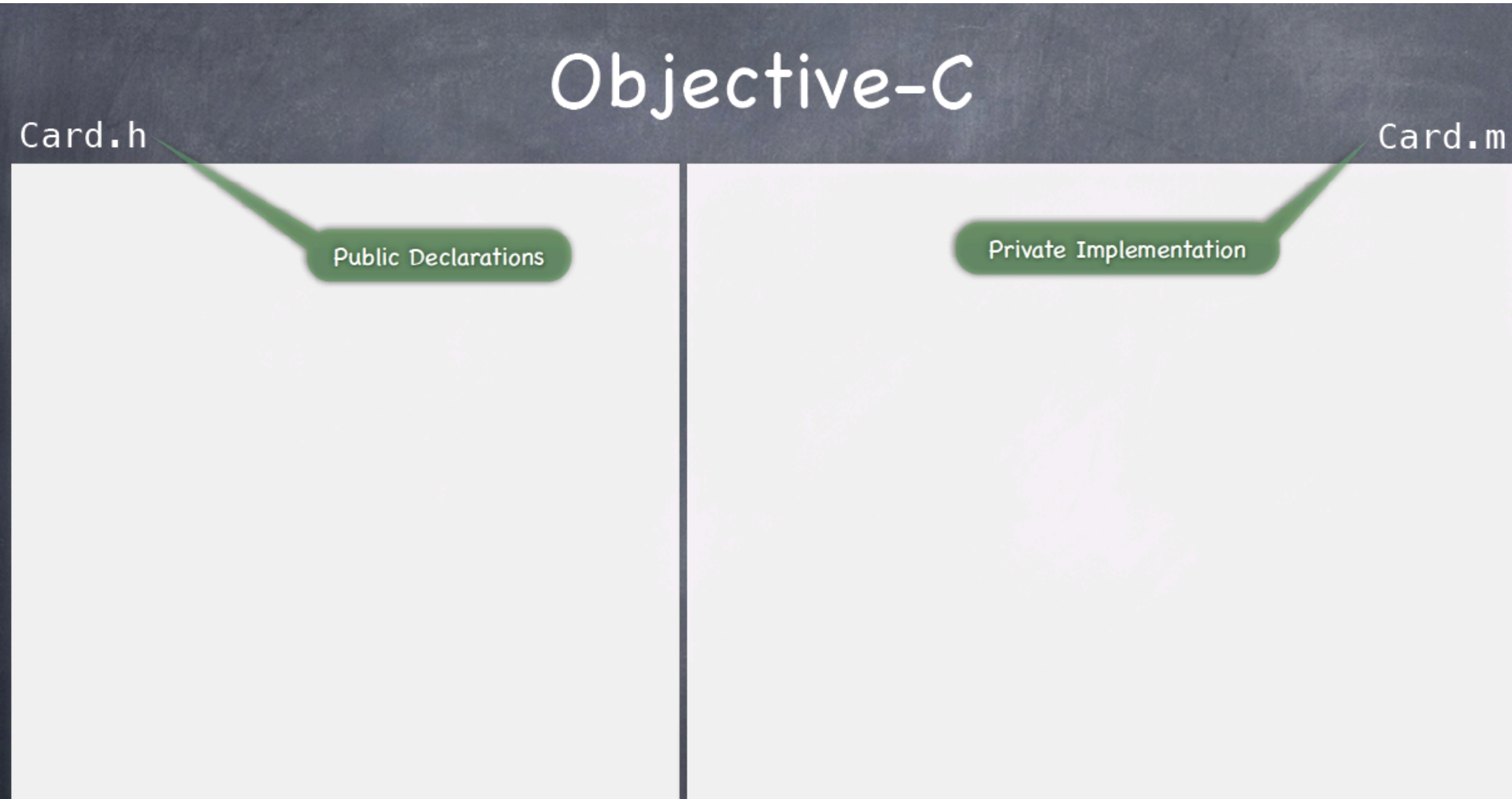
Objective-C

Card.h

Public Declarations

Card.m

Private Implementation



Header File “.h”

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

Its superclass.

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

The name
of this class.

`NSObject` is the root class from which pretty
much all iOS classes inherit
(including the classes you author yourself).

Don't forget this!

```
@end
```

Implementation File “.m”

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@implementation Card
```

Note, superclass is not specified here.

```
@end
```

```
@end
```

#import

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/NSObject.h>
```

Superclass's header file.

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@implementation Card
```

@end

@end

Superclass in iOS

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@implementation Card
```

If the superclass is in iOS itself, we import the entire “framework” that includes the superclass.
In this case, Foundation, which contains basic non-UI objects like `NSObject`.

@end

@end

@import

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
@import Foundation;
```

In fact, in iOS 7 (only), there is special syntax for importing an entire framework called `@import`.

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@implementation Card
```

@end

@end

Must Import Our Own Header File

Objective-C

Card.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

@end

Card.m

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@implementation Card
```

@end

Our own header file must be imported into our implementation file.

Private Declarations

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@end
```

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

```
@end
```

Private declarations can go here.

Our First Property

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong) NSString *contents;
```

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

In iOS, we don't access instance variables directly. Instead, we use an `@property` which declares two methods: a "setter" and a "getter". It is with those two methods that the `@property`'s instance variable is accessed (both publicly and privately).

This particular `@property` is a pointer. Specifically, a pointer to an object whose class is (or inherits from) `NSString`.

ALL objects live in the heap (i.e. are pointed to) in Objective-C! Thus you would never have a property of type "`NSString`" (rather, "`NSString *`").

Because this `@property` is in this class's header file, it is public. Its setter and getter can be called from outside this class's `@implementation` block.

@end

@end

strong or weak

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong) NSString *contents;
```

strong means:

“keep the object that this property points to in memory until I set this property to **nil** (zero) (and it will stay in memory until everyone who has a **strong** pointer to it sets their property to **nil** too)”

weak would mean:

“if no one else has a **strong** pointer to this object, then you can throw it out of memory and set this property to **nil** (this can happen at any time)”

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

```
@end
```

atomic or nonatomic

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

nonatomic means:

“access to this property is not thread-safe”.

We will always specify this for object pointers in this course.

If you do not, then the compiler will generate locking code that will complicate your code elsewhere.

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

@end

@end

synthesize

Objective-C

Card.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

This is the `@property` implementation that the compiler generates automatically for you (behind the scenes).

You are welcome to write the setter or getter yourself, but this would only be necessary if you needed to do something in addition to simply setting or getting the value of the property.

```
@end
```

Card.m

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

```
@synthesize contents = _contents;
```

```
- (NSString *)contents  
{  
    return _contents;  
}
```

```
- (void)setContents:(NSString *)contents  
{  
    _contents = contents;  
}
```

```
@end
```

This `@synthesize` is the line of code that actually creates the backing instance variable that is set and gotten. Notice that by default the backing variable's name is the same as the property's name but with an underbar in front.

Hidden Getter & Setter

Objective-C

Card.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

```
@end
```

Card.m

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

Because the compiler takes care of everything you need to implement a property, it's usually only one line of code (the `@property` declaration) to add one to your class.

```
@end
```

Primitive Properties

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

```
@property (nonatomic) BOOL chosen;  
@property (nonatomic) BOOL matched;
```

Notice no **strong** or **weak** here.

Primitive types are not stored in the heap, so there's no need to

specify how the storage for them in the heap is treated.

Let's look at some more properties.
These are not pointers.
They are simple **BOOL**s.

Properties can be
any C type.
That includes **int**,
float, etc., even C
structs.

C does not define a "boolean" type.
This **BOOL** is an Objective-C typedef.
It's values are **YES** or **NO**.

@end

@end

Behind The Scenes

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>

@interface Card : NSObject

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;

@property (nonatomic) BOOL chosen;
@property (nonatomic) BOOL matched;

@end
```

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface Card()

@end

@implementation Card

@synthesize chosen = _chosen;
@synthesize matched = _matched;

- (BOOL)chosen
{
    return _chosen;
}

- (void)setChosen:(BOOL)chosen
{
    _chosen = chosen;
}

- (BOOL)matched
{
    return _matched;
}

- (void)setMatched:(BOOL)matched
{
    _matched = matched;
}

@end
```

Here's what the compiler is doing behind the scenes for these two properties.

Change Getter Name

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

```
@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;
```

```
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;
```

This is done simply to make the code “read” a little bit nicer. You’ll see this in action later.

It is actually possible to change the name of the getter that is generated. The only time you’ll ever see that done in this class (or anywhere probably) is boolean getters.

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@implementation Card
```

```
@synthesize chosen = _chosen;
```

```
@synthesize matched = _matched;
```

```
– (BOOL)isChosen
```

```
{  
    return _chosen;  
}
```

```
– (void)setChosen:(BOOL)chosen
```

```
{  
    _chosen = chosen;  
}
```

```
– (BOOL)isMatched
```

```
{  
    return _matched;  
}
```

```
– (void)setMatched:(BOOL)matched
```

```
{  
    _matched = matched;  
}
```

Note change in getter method.

Note change in getter method.

@end

@end

Getter & Setter Still Hidden

Objective-C

Card.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>

@interface Card : NSObject

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;

@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;

@end
```

Card.m

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface Card()

@end

@implementation Card
```

Remember, unless you need to do something besides setting or getting when a property is being set or gotten, the implementation side of this will all happen automatically for you.

@end

@end

Public Method Declaration

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

Enough properties for now.

```
@property (nonatomic) BOOL chosen;
```

```
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;
```

```
- (int)match:(Card *)card;
```

Here's the declaration of a public method called match: which takes one argument (a pointer to a Card) and returns an integer.

What makes this method public?
Because we've declared it in the header file.

@end

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

@end

Public Method Implementation

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>

@interface Card : NSObject

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;

@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;

- (int)match:(Card *)card;
```

Here's the declaration of a public method called `match:` which takes one argument (a pointer to a `Card`) and returns an integer.

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface Card()

@end

@implementation Card

- (int)match:(Card *)card
{
    int score = 0;

    match: is going to return a "score" which says how good a match the passed card is to the Card that is receiving this message. 0 means "no match", higher numbers mean a better match.

    return score;
}
```

@end

Call A Method With [] or .

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>

@interface Card : NSObject

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;

@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;

- (int)match:(Card *)card;
```

@end

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface Card()

@end

@implementation Card

- (int)match:(Card *)card
{
    int score = 0;

    if ([card.contents isEqualToString:self.contents]) {
        score = 1;
    }

    return score;
}
```

@end

There's a lot going on here!
For the first time, we are seeing the
“calling” side of properties (and methods).

For this example, we'll return 1 if the passed card has
the same contents as we do or 0 otherwise
(you could imagine more complex scoring).

“.” Notation For Getters and Setters Only

Objective-C

Card.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>

@interface Card : NSObject

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;

@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;

- (int)match:(Card *)card;
```

@end

Card.m

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface Card()

@end

@implementation Card

- (int)match:(Card *)card
{
    int score = 0;

    if ([card.contents isEqualToString:self.contents]) {
        score = 1;
    }

    return score;
}
```

@end

Notice that we are calling the “getter” for the contents @property (both on our self and on the passed card). This calling syntax is called “dot notation.” It’s only for setters and getters.

“[]” Notation For Everything Else

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

Recall that the contents property is an NSString.

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

```
@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;  
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;
```

```
- (int)match:(Card *)card;
```

```
@end
```

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

```
- (int)match:(Card *)card  
{  
    int score = 0;
```

isEqualToString: is an NSString method which takes another NSString as an argument and returns a BOOL (YES if the 2 strings are the same).

```
    if ([card.contents isEqualToString:self.contents]) {  
        score = 1;  
    }
```

Also, we see the “square bracket” notation we use to return score; send a message to an object.
In this case, the message isEqualToString: is being sent to the NSString returned by the contents getter.

```
@end
```

Match Multiple Cards Declaration

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>

@interface Card : NSObject

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;

@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;

- (int)match:(NSArray *)otherCards;
```

We could make match: even more powerful by allowing it to match against multiple cards by passing an array of cards using the `NSArray` class in Foundation.

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface Card()

@end

@implementation Card

- (int)match:(NSArray *)otherCards
{
    int score = 0;

    if ([card.contents isEqualToString:self.contents]) {
        score = 1;
    }

    return score;
}
```

@end

@end

Match Multiple Cards Implementation

Objective-C

Card.h

Card.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Card : NSObject
```

```
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *contents;
```

```
@property (nonatomic, getter=isChosen) BOOL chosen;  
@property (nonatomic, getter=isMatched) BOOL matched;
```

```
- (int)match:(NSArray *)otherCards;
```

```
@end
```

```
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Card()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Card
```

We'll implement a very simple match scoring system here which is to score 1 point if ANY of the passed otherCards' contents match the receiving Card's contents.
(You could imagine giving more points if multiple cards match.)

```
- (int)match:(NSArray *)otherCards  
{
```

```
    int score = 0;
```

```
    for (Card *card in otherCards) {  
        if ([card.contents isEqualToString:self.contents]) {  
            score = 1;  
        }  
    }
```

```
    return score;
```

```
}
```

```
@end
```

Note the `for-in` looping syntax here.
This is called "fast enumeration."
It works on arrays, dictionaries, etc.

Deck Class

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
@end
```

Let's look at another class.
This one represents a deck of cards.

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
@end
```

Methods With Multiple Arguments

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

Note that this method has 2 arguments
(and returns nothing).
It's called "addCard:atTop:".

And this one takes no arguments and returns a Card
(i.e. a pointer to an instance of a Card in the heap).

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
```

```
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
@end
```


Must Import Card.h

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

We must `#import` the header file for any class we use in this file (e.g. Card).

```
@interface Deck : NSObject

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;

@end
```

Deck.m

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface Deck()

@end

@implementation Deck
```

@end

Define Methods in Deck.m

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"

@interface Deck : NSObject

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;

@end
```

Deck.m

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface Deck()

@end

@implementation Deck

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{

}

- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }

@end
```

No Optional Arguments

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

Arguments to methods
(like the atTop: argument)
are never "optional."

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop  
{
```

```
}
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```

Can Define A New addCard Method With One Argument

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

However, if we want an addCard: method without atTop:, we can define it separately.

Arguments to methods (like the atTop: argument) are never "optional."

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{
```

```
}
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```

Implement New AddCard Method

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

However, if we want an addCard: method without atTop:, we can define it separately.

And then simply implement it in terms of the the other method.

Arguments to methods (like the atTop: argument) are never "optional."

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{
```

```
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```

Deck.m

Need Storage To Hold Cards

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"

@interface Deck : NSObject

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;

@end
```

A deck of cards obviously needs some storage to keep the cards in. We need an `@property` for that. But we don't want it to be public (since it's part of our private, internal implementation).

Deck.m

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface Deck()

@end

@implementation Deck

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{

}

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}

- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }

@end
```

Define The Cards Array As Private Property

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"

@interface Deck : NSObject

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;

@end
```

A deck of cards obviously needs some storage to keep the cards in. We need an `@property` for that. But we don't want it to be public (since it's part of our private, internal implementation).

Deck.m

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end

@implementation Deck

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{

}

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}

- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }

@end
```

So we put the `@property` declaration we need here in our `@implementation`.

Implement addCard:atTop:

Objective-C

Deck.m

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

Now that we have a property to store our cards in, let's take a look at a sample implementation of the addCard:atTop: method.

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{
    if (atTop) {
        [self.cards insertObject:card atIndex:0];
    } else {
        [self.cards addObject:card];
    }
}
```

self.cards is an NSMutableArray ...

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}

- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```

...and these are NSMutableArray methods. (insertObject:atIndex: and addObject:).

When Does (cards *) Property Get Allocated?

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

But there's a problem here.
When does the object pointed to by the pointer
returned by `self.cards` ever get created?

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{
    if (atTop) {
        [self.cards insertObject:card atIndex:0];
    } else {
        [self.cards addObject:card];
    }
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```

Declaring a `@property` makes
space in the instance for the
pointer itself, but not does not
allocate space in the heap for the
object the pointer points to.

Getter For (cards *) Property

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

The place to put this needed heap allocation is in the getter for the cards @property.

Deck.m

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (NSMutableArray *)cards
{
    return _cards;
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{
    if (atTop) {
        [self.cards insertObject:card atIndex:0];
    } else {
        [self.cards addObject:card];
    }
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```


Lazy Instantiation In Getter

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

The place to put this needed heap allocation is in the getter for the cards @property.

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (NSMutableArray *)cards
{
    if (!_cards) _cards = [[NSMutableArray alloc] init];
    return _cards;
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{
```

```
    if (atTop) {
        [self.cards insertObject:card atIndex:0];
    } else {
        [self.cards addObject:card];
    }
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```

We'll talk about allocating and initializing objects more later, but here's a simple way to do it.

All properties start out with a value of 0 (called **nil** for pointers to objects). So all we need to do is allocate and initialize the object if the pointer to it is **nil**. This is called "lazy instantiation". Now you can start to see the usefulness of a **@property**.

Now addCard:atTop: Will Work

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

Now the cards property will always at least be an empty mutable array, so this code will always do what we want.

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (NSMutableArray *)cards
{
    if (!_cards) _cards = [[NSMutableArray alloc] init];
    return _cards;
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop
{
    if (atTop) {
        [self.cards insertObject:card atIndex:0];
    } else {
        [self.cards addObject:card];
    }
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card
{
    [self addCard:card atTop:NO];
}
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard { }
```

```
@end
```

Collapse Code To Make Room

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"

@interface Deck : NSObject

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;

@end
```

Let's collapse the code we've written so far to make some space.

Deck.m

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end

@implementation Deck

- (NSMutableArray *)cards
{
    if (!_cards) _cards = [[NSMutableArray alloc] init];
    return _cards;
}

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop { ... }
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card { ... }

- (Card *)drawRandomCard
{

}

@end
```

drawRandomCard: Returns A (Card *)

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"

@interface Deck : NSObject

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;

@end
```

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end

@implementation Deck

- (NSMutableArray *)cards
{
    if (!_cards) _cards = [[NSMutableArray alloc] init];
    return _cards;
}

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop { ... }
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card { ... }

- (Card *)drawRandomCard
{
    Card *randomCard = nil;

    drawRandomCard simply grabs a card from a
    random spot in our self.cards array.

    return randomCard;
}

@end
```


Implement drawRandomCard:

Objective-C

Deck.h

Deck.m

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"
```

```
@interface Deck : NSObject
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;
```

```
@end
```

```
#import "Deck.h"
```

```
@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end
```

```
@implementation Deck
```

```
- (NSMutableArray *)cards
{
    if (!_cards) _cards = [[NSMutableArray alloc] init];
    return _cards;
}
```

```
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop { ... }
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card { ... }
```

```
- (Card *)drawRandomCard
{
```

arc4random() returns a random integer.

```
    unsigned index = arc4random() % [self.cards count];
    randomCard = self.cards[index];
    [self.cards removeObjectAtIndex:index];
```

This is the C modulo operator.

```
    return randomCard;
```

```
}
```

```
@end
```

These square brackets actually are the equivalent of sending the message objectAtIndexedSubscript: to the array.

Protect Against An Empty Array

Objective-C

Deck.h

```
#import <Foundation/Foundation.h>
#import "Card.h"

@interface Deck : NSObject

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop;
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card;

- (Card *)drawRandomCard;

@end
```

Calling objectAtIndexedSubscript: with an argument of zero on an empty array will **crash** (array index out of bounds)!

So let's protect against that case.

Deck.m

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface Deck()
@property (strong, nonatomic) NSMutableArray *cards; // of Card
@end

@implementation Deck

- (NSMutableArray *)cards
{
    if (!_cards) _cards = [[NSMutableArray alloc] init];
    return _cards;
}

- (void)addCard:(Card *)card atTop:(BOOL)atTop { ... }
- (void)addCard:(Card *)card { ... }

- (Card *)drawRandomCard
{
    Card *randomCard = nil;

    if ([self.cards count]) {
        unsigned index = arc4random() % [self.cards count];
        randomCard = self.cards[index];
        [self.cards removeObjectAtIndex:index];
    }

    return randomCard;
}

@end
```

Create A Subclass of Card

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

PlayingCard.m

Let's see what it's like to make a subclass of one of our own classes.
In this example, a subclass of Card specific to a playing card (e.g. A♠).

Make Sure To Have Correct Imports

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"  
  
@interface PlayingCard : Card
```

Of course we must `#import` our superclass.

And `#import` our own header file in our implementation file.

```
@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"  
  
@implementation PlayingCard
```

```
@end
```

Define The Properties

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard
```

A PlayingCard has some properties that a vanilla Card doesn't have. Namely, the PlayingCard's suit and rank.

```
@end
```

More About PlayingCard Properties

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

`NSUInteger` is a typedef for an unsigned integer.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard
```

We'll represent the suit as an `NSString` that simply contains a single character corresponding to the suit (i.e. one of these characters: ♠ ♣ ♥ ♦). If this property is `nil`, it'll mean "suit not set".

We'll represent the rank as an integer from 0 (rank not set) to 13 (a King).

We could just use the C type `unsigned int` here. It's mostly a style choice. Many people like to use `NSUInteger` and `NSInteger` in public API and `unsigned int` and `int` inside implementation. But be careful, `int` is 32 bits, `NSInteger` might be 64 bits. If you have an `NSInteger` that is really big (i.e. > 32 bits worth) it could get truncated if you assign it to an `int`. Probably safer to use one or the other everywhere.

```
@end
```


Override The Getter For contents Property

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

Users of our PlayingCard class might well simply access suit and rank properties directly. But we can also support our superclass's contents property by overriding the getter to return a suitable (no pun intended) NSString.

Even though we are overriding the implementation of the contents method, we are not re-declaring the contents property in our header file. We'll just inherit that declaration from our superclass.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    return [NSString stringWithFormat:@"%d%@", self.rank, self.suit];
}
```

@end

stringWithFormat Method

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

Users of our PlayingCard class might well simply access suit and rank properties directly. But we can also support our superclass's contents property by overriding the getter to return a suitable (no pun intended) NSString.

Even though we are overriding the implementation of the contents method, we are not re-declaring the contents property in our header file. We'll just inherit that declaration from our superclass.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    return [NSString stringWithFormat:@"%d%@", self.rank, self.suit];
}
```

The method stringWithFormat: is an NSString method that's sort of like using the C function printf to create the string.

Note we are creating an NSString here in a different way than alloc/init. We'll see more about "class methods" like stringWithFormat: a little later.

@end

Limitation of Current Implementation

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    return [NSString stringWithFormat:@"%d%@", self.rank, self.suit];
}
```

Calling the getters of our two properties (rank and suit) on our `self`.

But this is a pretty bad representation of the card (e.g., it would say 11♣ instead of J♣ and 1♥ instead of A♥).

@end

A Fix To The Problem

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}
```

We'll create an `NSArray` of `NSString`s, each of which corresponds to a given rank.
Again, 0 will be "rank not set" (so we'll use ?).
11, 12 and 13 will be J Q K and 1 will be A.

Then we'll create our "J♠" string by appending (with the `stringByAppendingString:` method) the suit onto the end of the string we get by looking in the array.

@end

More About @

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}
```

Notice the `@[]` notation to create an array.

Here's the array-accessing `[]` notation again
(like we used with `self.cards[index]` earlier).

Also note the `@""` notation to create a (constant) `NSString`.

All of these notations are converted into normal message-sends by the compiler.
For example, `@[...]` is `[NSArray alloc] initWithObjects:...]`.
`rankStrings[self.rank]` is `[rankStrings objectAtIndexedSubscript:self.rank]`.

@end

Modify suit Getter To Return “?” When Not Set

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}
```

This is nice because a “not yet set” rank shows up as ?.

But what about a “not yet set” suit?
Let’s override the getter for suit to make a suit of `nil` return ?.

Yet another nice use for properties versus direct instance variables.

```
- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

Modify suit Setter To Protect Against Invalid Content

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"] containsObject:suit) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

Let's take this a little further and override the setter for suit to have it check to be sure no one tries to set a suit to something invalid.

Sending Message To An NSArray Created by @[]

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([@[@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"] containsObject:suit]) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

Notice that we can embed the array creation as the target of this message send. We're simply sending `containsObject:` to the array created by the `@[]`.

`containsObject:` is an `NSArray` method.

Problem With Implementing BOTH The Setter And The Getter For A Property

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;
```

@end

But there's a problem here now.
A compiler warning will be generated
if we do this.

Why?

Because if you implement BOTH the
setter and the getter for a property,
then you have to create the instance
variable for the property yourself.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣" containsObject:suit]) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```


Must Synthesize The suit Property

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

But there's a problem here now.
A compiler warning will be generated
if we do this.

Why?

Because if you implement BOTH the
setter and the getter for a property,
then you have to create the instance
variable for the property yourself.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter
```

Luckily, the compiler can help with this
using the `@synthesize` directive.

If you implement only the setter OR
the getter (or neither), the compiler
adds this `@synthesize` for you.

```
- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣" containsObject:suit]) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```


Only Access _PropertyName From Setter & Getter

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([@"♥", @"♦", @"♣", @"♠"] containsObject:suit) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

You should only ever access the instance variable directly ...

... in the property's setter ...

... in its getter ...

... or in an initializer (more on this later).

Class Methods

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

All of the methods we've seen so far are "instance methods". They are methods sent to instances of a class. But it is also possible to create methods that are sent to the class itself. Usually these are either creation methods (like `alloc` or `stringWithFormat:`) or utility methods.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([@[@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"] containsObject:suit]) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

Our First Class Method

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;
```

Class methods start with +
Instance methods start with -

```
@end
```

Here's an example of a class utility method which returns an NSArray of the NSStrings which are valid suits (e.g. ♠, ♣, ♥, and ♦).

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter

+ (NSArray *)validSuits
{
    return

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"] containsObject:suit) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

Since a class method is not sent to an instance, we cannot reference our properties in here (since properties represent per-instance storage).

Move The NSArray To The validSuits Method

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

Here's an example of a class utility method which returns an NSArray of the NSStrings which are valid suits (e.g. ♠, ♣, ♥, and ♦).

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter

+ (NSArray *)validSuits
{
    return @[@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"];
}

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([
        _suit = suit;
    ]) {
        containsObject:suit]) {
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

We actually already have the array of valid suits, so let's just move that up into our new class method.

Call validSuits From The Setter

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

Now let's invoke our new class method here.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter

+ (NSArray *)validSuits
{
    return @[@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"];
}

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([[PlayingCard validSuits] containsObject:suit]) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

See how the name of the class appears in the place you'd normally see a pointer to an instance of an object?

Notice How A Class Method Is Invoked

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

@end
```

Now let's invoke our new class method here.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter

+ (NSArray *)validSuits
{
    return @[@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"];
}

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([[PlayingCard validSuits] containsObject:suit]) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

See how the name of the class appears in the place you'd normally see a pointer to an instance of an object?

It'd probably be instructive to go back and look at the invocation of the `NSString` class method `stringWithFormat:` a few slides ago.

Also, make sure you understand that `stringByAppendingString:` above is not a class method, it is an instance method.

You Can Make A Class Method Public

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

+ (NSArray *)validSuits;

@end
```

The `validSuits` class method might be useful to users of our `PlayingCard` class, so let's make it public.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter

+ (NSArray *)validSuits
{
    return @[@"♥", @"♦", @"♠", @"♣"];
}

- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit
{
    if ([[PlayingCard validSuits] containsObject:suit]) {
        _suit = suit;
    }
}

- (NSString *)suit
{
    return _suit ? _suit : @"?";
}

@end
```

Collapse Methods To Make Room

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

+ (NSArray *)validSuits;

@end
```

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter
+ (NSArray *)validSuits { ... }
- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit { ... }
- (NSString *)suit { ... }
```

@end

Our Second Class Method

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

+ (NSArray *)validSuits;

@end
```

Let's move our other array
(the strings of the ranks)
into a class method too.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings =
        return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter
+ (NSArray *)validSuits { ... }
- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit { ... }
- (NSString *)suit { ... }

+ (NSArray *)rankStrings
{
    return [@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
}

@end
```


Invoke Our New Class Method

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

+ (NSArray *)validSuits;

@end
```

We'll leave this one private because the public API for the rank is purely numeric.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = [PlayingCard rankStrings];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter
+ (NSArray *)validSuits { ... }
- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit { ... }
- (NSString *)suit { ... }

+ (NSArray *)rankStrings
{
    return @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
}

@end
```

And now let's call that class method.

Note that we are not required to declare this earlier in the file than we use it.

Our Third Class Method Is Also Public

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

+ (NSArray *)validSuits;
+ (NSUInteger)maxRank;

@end
```

But here's another class method that might be good to make public.

So we'll add it to the header file.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = [PlayingCard rankStrings];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter
+ (NSArray *)validSuits { ... }
- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit { ... }
- (NSString *)suit { ... }

+ (NSArray *)rankStrings
{
    return @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
}

+ (NSUInteger)maxRank { return [[self rankStrings] count]-1; }
```

@end

Use Our New Class Method In The rank Setter

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

+ (NSArray *)validSuits;
+ (NSUInteger)maxRank;

@end
```

And, finally, let's use maxRank inside the setter for the rank @property to make sure the rank is never set to an improper value.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = [PlayingCard rankStrings];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter
+ (NSArray *)validSuits { ... }
- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit { ... }
- (NSString *)suit { ... }

+ (NSArray *)rankStrings
{
    return @"?","A","2","3",...,"10","J","Q","K";
}

+ (NSUInteger)maxRank { return [[self rankStrings] count]-1; }

- (void)setRank:(NSUInteger)rank
{
    if (rank <= [PlayingCard maxRank]) {
        _rank = rank;
    }
}

@end
```

That's It For PlayingCard

Objective-C

PlayingCard.h

```
#import "Card.h"

@interface PlayingCard : Card

@property (strong, nonatomic) NSString *suit;
@property (nonatomic) NSUInteger rank;

+ (NSArray *)validSuits;
+ (NSUInteger)maxRank;

@end
```

That's it for our PlayingCard.
It's a good example of array notation, @synthesize, class methods, and using getters and setters for validation.

PlayingCard.m

```
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCard

- (NSString *)contents
{
    NSArray *rankStrings = [PlayingCard rankStrings];
    return [rankStrings[self.rank] stringByAppendingString:self.suit];
}

@synthesize suit = _suit; // because we provide setter AND getter
+ (NSArray *)validSuits { ... }
- (void)setSuit:(NSString *)suit { ... }
- (NSString *)suit { ... }

+ (NSArray *)rankStrings
{
    return @[@"?", @"A", @"2", @"3", ..., @"10", @"J", @"Q", @"K"];
}

+ (NSUInteger)maxRank { return [[self rankStrings] count]-1; }

- (void)setRank:(NSUInteger)rank
{
    if (rank <= [PlayingCard maxRank]) {
        _rank = rank;
    }
}

@end
```

PlayingCardDeck Inherits From Deck

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

Let's look at one last class.
This one is a subclass of Deck and
represents a full 52-card deck of
PlayingCards.

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

@end
```


PlayingCardDeck Overrides init

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

It appears to have no public API, but it is going to override a method that Deck inherits from NSObject called `init`.

`init` will contain everything necessary to initialize a `PlayingCardDeck`.

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

@end
```


init

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{

}

@end
```

Initialization in Objective-C happens immediately after allocation.
We always nest a call to `init` around a call to `alloc`.
e.g. `Deck *myDeck = [[PlayingCardDeck alloc] init]`
or `NSMutableArray *cards = [[NSMutableArray alloc] init]`

Classes can have more complicated initializers than just plain “init”
(e.g. `initWithCapacity:` or some such).
We'll talk more about that next week as well.

Only call an `init` method immediately after calling `alloc` to make space in the heap for that new object.
And never call `alloc` without immediately calling some `init` method on the newly allocated object.

instancetype

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{

}

@end
```

Notice this weird “return type” of `instancetype`. It basically tells the compiler that this method returns an object which will be the same type as the object that this message was sent to.

We will pretty much only use it for `init` methods. Don't worry about it too much for now. But always use this return type for your `init` methods.

Only Time You Assign To self

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{
    self = [super init];

    if (self) {

    }

    return self;
}

@end
```

This sequence of code might also seem weird.
Especially an assignment to `self`!
This is the **ONLY** time you would ever assign something to `self`.
The idea here is to return `nil` if you cannot initialize this object.
But we have to check to see if our `superclass` can initialize itself.
The assignment to `self` is a bit of protection against our trying to continue to initialize ourselves if our `superclass` couldn't initialize.
Just always do this and don't worry about it too much.

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{
    self = [super init];

    if (self) {

    }

    return self;
}

@end
```

Sending a message to `super` is how we send a message to ourselves, but use our superclass's implementation instead of our own. Standard object-oriented stuff.

Iterate Through Suits & Ranks

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

The implementation of `init` is quite simple. We'll just iterate through all the suits and then through all the ranks in that suit ...

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{
    self = [super init];

    if (self) {
        for (NSString *suit in [PlayingCard validSuits]) {
            for (NSUInteger rank = 1; rank <= [PlayingCard maxRank]; rank++) {

            }
        }
    }

    return self;
}

@end
```


alloc & init A PlayingCard

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

Then we will allocate and initialize a PlayingCard and then set its suit and rank.

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{
    self = [super init];

    if (self) {
        for (NSString *suit in [PlayingCard validSuits]) {
            for (NSUInteger rank = 1; rank <= [PlayingCard maxRank]; rank++) {
                PlayingCard *card = [[PlayingCard alloc] init];
                card.rank = rank;
                card.suit = suit;
            }
        }

        return self;
    }
}

@end
```

We never implemented an `init` method in `PlayingCard`, so it just inherits the one from `NSObject`. Even so, we must always call an `init` method after `alloc`.

Add The Card To The Deck

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

Finally we just add each PlayingCard we create to our **self** (we are a Deck, remember).

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{
    self = [super init];

    if (self) {
        for (NSString *suit in [PlayingCard validSuits]) {
            for (NSUInteger rank = 1; rank <= [PlayingCard maxRank]; rank++) {
                PlayingCard *card = [[PlayingCard alloc] init];
                card.rank = rank;
                card.suit = suit;
                [self addCard:card];
            }
        }

        return self;
    }
}

@end
```

That's It For PlayingCardDeck

Objective-C

PlayingCardDeck.h

```
#import "Deck.h"

@interface PlayingCardDeck : Deck

@end
```

PlayingCardDeck.m

```
#import "PlayingCardDeck.h"
#import "PlayingCard.h"

@implementation PlayingCardDeck

- (instancetype)init
{
    self = [super init];

    if (self) {
        for (NSString *suit in [PlayingCard validSuits]) {
            for (NSUInteger rank = 1; rank <= [PlayingCard maxRank]; rank++) {
                PlayingCard *card = [[PlayingCard alloc] init];
                card.rank = rank;
                card.suit = suit;
                [self addCard:card];
            }
        }
    }

    return self;
}

@end
```

And that's it!
We inherit everything else we need to
be a Deck of cards
(like the ability to drawRandomCard)
from our superclass.

Key References

All slides in this presentation were imported from:

CS193P: iPhone Application Development.

This course was taught at Stanford University, Fall 2013, by Paul Hegarty.

The course and all of its accompanying material is available on [iTunes U](#).