Object Models: Strategies, Patterns, and Applications (2nd Edition)

By Peter Coad, David North, Mark Mayfield

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This new edition of a best-seller gives object programmers the latest information on getting faster, better results with strategies and templates. This book delivers up-to-the-minute guidance on object modeling, from three of the world's leading experts. This book presents 177 strategies and 31 patterns (templates) for achieving the best possible results with object modeling in all three leading methodologies: Coad, OMT and Unified.

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Editorial Review

From the Publisher
Object programmers can now learn how to get faster results using the strategies and patterns (templates) uncovered in this book. Without them, however, the much-needed expertise is only acquired by trail-and-error. Using sufficiently detailed, real-life examples, this book/disk package shows how to build effective object models--using applications that occur in nearly every industry. Presents six chapter- length application examples of how effective, real-life object-models are build--e.g., point-of-sale, warehousing, order-processing, data acquisition and control, and sensors and diverters. Each application reveals specific "how-to" strategies (101 total) and patterns (22 total) that will help readers develop an intuitive feel for building object models. The diskette features an on-line verison of the strategies and patterns summary (in the form of a Windows help file); as well as C++ course files, illustrating a reasonable (but not the only way) to implement each pattern.

About the Author
David North is a writer and editor who has been promoting sustainability and ethical trade for many years. In 2007 he created the first handbook of sustainable procurement for schools, then went on to co-create Sustained magazine and edit the Ethical Junction website and newsletter. He is passionate about cycling, once working as a cycle courier, then commuting to work by bicycle over two decades. He has also undertaken several trans-European cycle tours.

JILL NICOLA is an independent software consultant in Houston, TX who has worked in object-oriented software for over 15 years as a programmer, mentor, modeler, and architect. She specializes in helping organizations apply object techniques to develop strategies and model business processes, and co-authored "Object-Oriented Programming" with Peter Coad.

MARK MAYFIELD is the Object Guru at Chelsea Market Systems in Houston, TX. A leading authority on object modeling patterns, he has created hundreds of object models in a wide range of commercial environments, and co-authored "Object Models: Strategies, Patterns, & Applications" and "Java Design" with Peter Coad.

MIKE ABNEY is a Senior Java Developer at Chelsea Market Systems in Houston, TX who has performed many roles in software development, including analysis, user interface and software architecture design, coding, and project management.

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PREFACE Strategies, Patterns, and Applications APPLICATIONS How do people really learn? A proverb in Latin says it best: "The example educates."
Truly, the example educates. It's a wonder if anything else ever does. Educating by example is what true education is all about.
An elementary education innovator startled us with these words:
"Educate right at the moment someone can apply it with success."

This book is a book of education by example.

You won't find the obligatory 125 pages about object philosophy. You won't find page after page of icons

and adornments. Why? Because the purpose of this book is to communicate how to build effective object models. And the only way to do that is to give you good examples, presenting key "lessons" right at the moment you can apply them with success.

The best shortcut to building effective object models is to study real-life examples of building effective object models. ThatÕs why this book presents applications—along with strategies and patterns, applied along the way.

The core of this book is its six application chapters. Each example is a real-life example of building an object model. Each application has enough detail in it, so that you might read it and say, "Yes, I get it. I can build real systems this way." Moreover, each application is one that, by analogy, is applicable to most businesses and industries. For example, "point of sale" and warehouse are applications that nearly every business needs. Chapters 1 to 6 present the applications, delivering new strategies and patterns at the moment you can apply them with success. **Chapter 1,** "Connie's Convenience Store," presents a point-of-sale application (nearly every business has one, in one form or another). **Chapter 2,** "Wally's Warehouse," presents a warehousing application (again, nearly every business has one). **Chapter 3,** "Ollie's Order Center," presents an order processing application (nearly every business has one). **Chapter 4,** "Dani's Diverters," presents a soft real-time application: a sensor-and-diverter system (nearly every manufacturing or shipping business has one). **Chapter 5,** "Andi's Autopilot," presents a hard real-time application: an autopilot system (many hard real-time systems have similar needs). **Chapter 6,** "All Five Applications, At High Speed," presents instructions for building initial object models entirely with patterns, resulting in object models that are ready for subsequent refinement with strategic Strategies and Patterns.

As you read through the applications, you'll also discover specific strategies and patterns, practical and repeatable "how to" advice that will help you develop an intuitive feel for building object models. Strategies and patterns are nuggets of wisdom about building object models. In this book, you'll learn 148 strategies and 31 patterns, which appear in sequence in **Chapter 7.**

A strategy is a plan of action intended to accomplish a specific objective.

A pattern is a template, one worthy of emulation. "Pattern" can apply to the plans for a product rather than to the creations made from its specifications. The word often suggests blueprints or templates to be followed in constructing the product. More generally, the word indicates the design or configuration that something takes in actuality. But the word can also refer to the perfect representative of a type, or to any example thought worthy of emulation" (Use the Right Word). Observe that:

A pattern is a plan, rather than a specific implementation.
A pattern is a template, to be followed during construction.
A pattern is something observed from something in actuality.
A pattern is an example worthy of emulation.1
An object-model pattern is a template of objects with stereotypical responsibilities and interactions; the template may be applied again and again, by analogy.
Object patterns are repetitive forms, just like those in music. They occur again and again and again. You'll learn how to use them to your advantage, in building effective object models.
Strategies and **patterns** express examples of good practice, ones that can be used to help object modelers develop more effective results. Both help developers gain an intuitive understanding, a "gut feel," for good object models.
Strategies and **patterns** make it possible to communicate object-modeling expertise effectively. Without such patterns, that much-needed expertise is only acquired by trial-and-error. Where did these strategies and patterns come from? From continual introspection, while building hundreds of object models over a five-year period.

Through time, strategies and patterns join the language of analysts and designers, even when discussing the

architectural aspects of an object model. For example, as soon s someone on the team describes a pair of objects as "participant-transaction," others on the team immediately know what kinds of objects and stereotypical responsibilities are involved.

Strategies and **patterns** move object-model building to something more than just "one object a time."

Chapter 7 is a strategy and pattern handbook. The appendices address supporting issues: notation, patterns in other fields, data management, the executive decision to adopt object technology, and a histogram of initial object modeling. A glossary defines key terms.

Why **READ** This Book?

What makes this book unique? In other words, why read this book?

It teaches a software method by example—entirely by example.

This is the world's first software method book to do so. It's about time!

It presents applications that occur in nearly every industry.

You'll find it easy to relate to the applications.

You'll find it easier to transfer what you learn to your own software development projects.

It uses real-world applications, with a depth that readers can say, "Yes, it can be done."

The book selectively explores specific aspects of each application, to expose you to specific strategies and patterns.

No trivial examples!

No rambling case studies, either (the applications expose strategies and patterns, not mind-numbing minutia).

It delivers 148 strategies and 31 patterns—practical, ready-to-use insights for building effective object models.

This is the world's first (and only) methods book to do so.

It's a no-BS guide that really helps.

It delivers tangible chunks of "how to" advice, designed to help you more quickly develop an intuitive sense in building effective object models.

It offers practical insights into how to build better object models, no matter what notation you use.

It presents four activities and four object model components—not steps and phased models.

You're free to follow the development path that best suits your customer, your company, your project—and your time-to-market needs.

You apply four activities—purposes and features, objects, responsibilities, and scenariosÑfollowing whatever path best fits your project needs.

You work with objects in four model components—problem domain, human interaction, data management, and system interaction—as you see fit, on your project. You get the "separation of concerns" benefit of :analysis and design" approaches—without forcing people to work with those considerations in separate phases or steps.

It presents the Coad notation, fully integrating class diagrams, object interaction diagrams, and object timing diagram—one model, from concept to code.

Such a unified notation is an essential ingredient, an absolute must:

for delivering frequent, tangible, working results—and corresponding risk reduction.

for acquiring and using tools that support continuously up-to-date object models and object-oriented programming.

Chapter 1 describes the notation, right when you need it. In addition, **Appendix A** summarizes it.

All six application chapters present object model results in all three leading notations: Coad, OMT, and Unified. Here's why:

To communicate better with those readers already familiar with any of these notations.

To facilitate multinotation literacy, for all readers.

To demonstrate that the heart and soul of effective object models is its strategies and patterns (not the shape of an icon or the number of adornments).

Automated Tool, Included on diskette.

This book comes with automated tool support, called Playground[a].

Playground is a low-cost, easy-to-use tool for building objects models. It's shareware. And you can use it free, while working through the examples in this book.

Playground is especially suited for teams of domain experts and object modelers, working together during the early stages of a new project. It's a great way to get started with building effective object models.

Features: Drag-and-drop classes, attributes, services, connections; multiple views, always in-sync; view management, with view categories, selective hiding/showing, and view update options; full control over connections, including routing points, right-angled or diagonal connections, and more; and extensive customization with preferences.

Requirements. Windows with Win32s, 486-33 or better, 8 MB RAM, 4 MB disk space. Maximum recommended model size: 50 classes.

Tech support for Playground is provided by e-mail (playground@oi.com) or regular mail only.

Try it out for free. Use Playground for free, while working out examples in this book or using it in a classroom. The "Classroom and Personal Study ONLY" version is included with this book on diskette (the newest version is at ftp://ftp.oi.com/pub/oi/playground).

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Andrew Wilson:

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Raymond Crandall:

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