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Overview of Object-Oriented Programming Terminology in Python

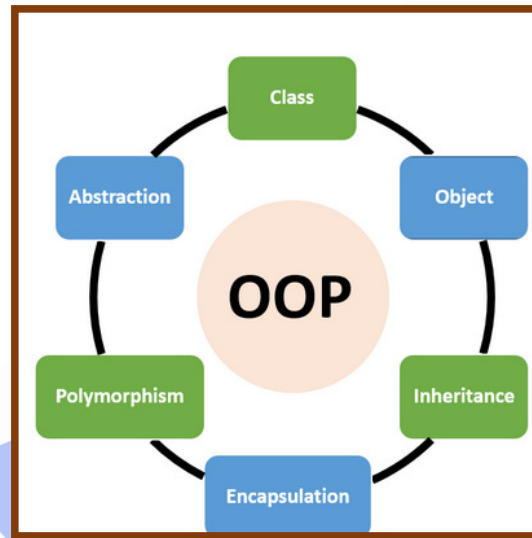
Overview of OOP (Object-Oriented Programming) terminology in Python

What is OOP (Object-Oriented Programming)?

OOP stands for Object-Oriented Programming, a programming approach where we design programs using objects that represent real-world entities. Python supports OOP principles such as classes, objects, inheritance, encapsulation, and polymorphism.

This approach makes your code:

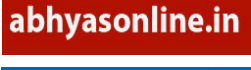
- Easier to manage
- More reusable
- Easier to understand and extend



Why Use OOP in Python?

- **Modularity:** Code is organized into classes and objects, making it easier to manage.
- **Reusability:** Inheritance allows for code reuse, reducing redundancy.
- **Maintainability:** Encapsulation and abstraction make the code easier to maintain and modify.
- **Flexibility:** Polymorphism allows for flexible and dynamic method implementations.

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Overview of Object-Oriented Programming Terminology in Python

Key OOP Terminologies in Python

Let's understand each one clearly:

1. Class

A class is like a **blueprint or template** for creating objects. It defines **attributes (data)** and **methods (functions)** that describe how the object behaves.

Example:

```
class Car:
    # attributes
    brand = "Tata"
    model = "Nexon"

    # method
    def show_details(self):
        print("Brand:", self.brand)
        print("Model:", self.model)
```

Here,

- Car is a **class**
- brand and model are **attributes**
- show_details() is a **method**

2. Object

An **object** is an **instance of a class**. Once the class is defined, you can create as many objects as you want.

Example:

```
# Creating an object of the class
my_car = Car()

# Accessing method
my_car.show_details()
```

Output:

Brand: Tata
Model: Nexon
Each object will have its own copy of the class data and can access its methods.

3. Method

A **method** is a function that belongs to a class. It operates on the **data (attributes)** that belong to the object. In Python, every method inside a class has at least one parameter – self, which refers to the **current object**.



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Example:

```
class Student:  
    def greet(self):  
        print("Hello, student!")
```

```
s1 = Student()  
s1.greet()
```

Output:

Hello, student!

4. Encapsulation (Hiding the Data)

Encapsulation means **keeping the data (variables) and the methods (functions) that work on that data together in one place – inside a class.**

It also means **restricting direct access to some details of an object to protect the data.**

Simple meaning:

It's like keeping your personal things in a locker – only you (or people with the key) can open it. Others can use the locker through you, but not open it directly.

In Python:

We use encapsulation to protect important information, such as passwords or account balances.

We usually make data private by adding **double underscores (_ _)**, so it can't be changed directly from outside the class.

Why it's useful:

- Keeps your data safe from unwanted modification.
- Makes your program more secure and controlled.
- Helps organize your code better.

5. Inheritance (Reusing Code)

Inheritance means **a class can borrow properties and behaviors (methods) from another class.**

The class that gives its features is called the **Parent (or Base) class**, and the one that receives them is the **Child (or Derived) class**.

Simple meaning:

It's like a child inheriting qualities from parents – such as habits, looks, or talents – but the child can also have their own unique qualities.

In Python:

It allows us to **reuse existing code** instead of writing it again.



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For example, if a Vehicle class has features like speed and color, a Car class can inherit them and add its own features like air conditioning or music system.

Why it's useful:

- Reduces code duplication.
- Makes maintenance easier.
- Builds logical relationships between classes.

6. Polymorphism (Many Forms of the Same Thing)

Polymorphism means the same function or method name can work in different ways depending on the object that uses it.

Simple meaning:

It's like the word "run" – a human runs on legs, a computer runs a program, and a car runs on petrol.

Same word, different meanings depending on the context.

In Python:

Different classes can have a method with the same name (like speak()), but each class defines it differently.

When you call that method, Python automatically uses the version that matches the object.

Why it's useful:

- Increases flexibility.
- Makes code cleaner and easier to understand.
- Allows one function to handle different types of objects.

7. Abstraction (Showing Only What's Needed)

Abstraction means hiding complex details and showing only the essential features to the user.

Simple meaning:

Think of a TV remote – you press a button to change the channel, but you don't know or need to know how the signals are processed inside.

You just use the simple interface provided.

In Python:

We use abstraction to make programs easier to use and understand.

The user only interacts with necessary parts – the rest is hidden inside the class.

Why it's useful:

- Reduces complexity.
- Makes the program easier to use and maintain.
- Helps focus on *what* an object does, not *how* it does it.

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