



Technical College of Zakho

Computer Information Systems

Mobile Application Development I

2. Class and object

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2025-2026

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2. pure Dart classes and Flutter-specific classes (Widgets)

2.1. What is a Class in Dart?

A **class** is a blueprint for creating objects.

It groups **data (fields)** and **behavior (methods)** together.

Think:

Class = Design

Object = Real thing created from that design

◆ Basic Dart Class

```
class Person {  
  String name;  
  int age;  
  
  void introduce() {  
    print('Hi, my name is $name and I am $age years old.');  }  
}
```

- **Create an object**

```
void main() {  
  Person p = Person();  
  p.name = 'Sipan';  
  p.age = 22;  
  
  p.introduce();  
}
```

 **Output:**

```
Hi, my name is Sipan and I am 22 years old.
```

2.2. 2 Constructors in Dart Classes

- ◆ **Default Constructor**

```
class Person {  
  String name;  
  int age;  
  
  Person(this.name, this.age);  
}  
void main() {  
  Person p = Person('Sipan', 22);  
}
```

✓ `this.name` automatically assigns values

- ◆ **Named Constructors**

```
Used when you want multiple ways to create objects  
class Person {  
  String name;  
  int age;  
  
  Person(this.name, this.age);  
  
  Person.child(this.name) : age = 0;  
}  
void main() {  
  Person baby = Person.child('Ali');  
}
```

2.3. 3 final vs const in Classes

- ♦ final

Value assigned **once**, at runtime

- ♦ const

Compile-time constant

```
class Car {  
    final String model;  
    final int year;  
  
    Car(this.model, this.year);  
}
```

2.4. 4 Private Fields & Methods (Encapsulation)

In Dart, **underscore _** means private to file

```
class BankAccount {  
    double _balance = 0;  
  
    void deposit(double amount) {  
        _balance += amount;  
    }  
  
    double get balance => _balance;  
}  
  
void main() {  
    var acc = BankAccount();  
    acc.deposit(100);  
    print(acc.balance); // ✓ allowed  
    // acc._balance ✗ not allowed  
}
```

2.5. 5 Getters and Setters

```
class Temperature {
    double _celsius = 0;

    double get fahrenheit => _celsius * 9 / 5 + 32;

    set celsius(double value) {
        if (value >= -273.15) {
            _celsius = value;
        }
    }
}
```

2.6. 6 Inheritance (extends)

```
class Animal {
    void sound() {
        print('Animal sound');
    }
}

class Dog extends Animal {
    @override
    void sound() {
        print('Bark');
    }
}

void main() {
    Dog d = Dog();
    d.sound(); // Bark
}
```

2.7. 7 Abstract Classes

Used when a class **must be implemented**

```
abstract class Shape {
    double area();
}

class Circle extends Shape {
    double radius;

    Circle(this.radius);

    @override
    double area() => 3.14 * radius * radius;
}
```

2.8. 8 Interfaces in Dart

Dart doesn't have interface keyword.

Every class can be used as an interface using implements.

```
class Flyable {  
  void fly() {}  
}  
  
class Bird implements Flyable {  
  @override  
  void fly() {  
    print('Bird is flying');  
  }  
}
```

✦ Difference:

- extends → inherit code
 - implements → must re-write everything
-

2.9. 9 Static Members

Belong to the **class**, not object

```
class MathUtils {  
  static int add(int a, int b) => a + b;  
}  
  
void main() {  
  print(MathUtils.add(2, 3));  
}
```

2.10. Mixins (Very Important in Flutter)

Used to **reuse behavior without inheritance**

```
mixin Logger {  
  void log(String msg) {  
    print('LOG: $msg');  
  }  
}  
  
class User with Logger {  
  void save() {  
    log('User saved');  
  }  
}
```

Now: Flutter Classes (Widgets)

This mixin:

- **is not a class**
- **just contains reusable methods or variables**

In Flutter, **EVERYTHING IS A CLASS.**

2.11. StatelessWidget

Used when **UI does NOT change**

```
class MyText extends StatelessWidget {  
  const MyText({super.key});  
  
  @override  
  Widget build(BuildContext context) {  
    return Text('Hello Flutter');  
  }  
}
```

- ✓ No state
- ✓ Faster
- ✓ Immutable

2.12. 2 StatefulWidget (VERY IMPORTANT)

Used when UI **changes over time**

- **Step 1: Widget class**

```
class Counter extends StatefulWidget {  
  const Counter({super.key});  
  
  @override  
  State<Counter> createState() => _CounterState();  
}
```

Step 2: State class

```
class _CounterState extends State<Counter> {  
  int count = 0;  
  
  void increment() {  
    setState(() {  
      count++;  
    });  
  }  
  
  @override  
  Widget build(BuildContext context) {  
    return Column(  
      children: [  
        Text('Count: $count'),  
        ElevatedButton(  
          onPressed: increment,  
          child: Text('Add'),  
        ),  
      ],  
    );  
  }  
}
```

🔴 `setState()` → tells Flutter **rebuild UI**

2.13. 3 Why Two Classes in StatefulWidget?

Class	Role
StatefulWidget	Configuration
State	Mutable data & logic

This separation improves **performance**.

2.14. Flutter Constructor + Key

```
class MyButton extends StatelessWidget {
  final String title;

  const MyButton({super.key, required this.title});

  @override
  Widget build(BuildContext context) {
    return ElevatedButton(
      onPressed: () {},
      child: Text(title),
    );
  }
}
```

2.15. Inheritance in Flutter Widgets

```
class CustomText extends Text {
  CustomText(String data)
    : super(
      data,
      style: TextStyle(fontSize: 20, color: Colors.blue),
    );
}
```

2.16. Abstract Classes in Flutter

Example: Repository Pattern

```
abstract class UserRepository {
  Future<String> getUsername();
}

class ApiUserRepository implements UserRepository {
  @override
  Future<String> getUsername() async {
    return 'Sipan';
  }
}
```

2.17. Lifecycle Methods (StatefulWidget)

```
@override
void initState() {
  super.initState();
}

@override
void dispose() {
  super.dispose();
}
```

Method	When
initState	Once when widget created
build	Every UI update
dispose	Cleanup

Key Takeaways

- ✓ Dart classes = logic & data
- ✓ Flutter widgets = UI classes
- ✓ StatelessWidget → no change
- ✓ StatefulWidget → dynamic UI
- ✓ mixin, abstract, implements = architecture tools
- ✓ Flutter heavily relies on **OOP**