

Discussion Questions for “Overriding Methods”

1. Can you think of a couple of examples where overriding methods would be useful? Explain your example, and why method override helps.
2. Can you think of a couple of examples where preventing overrides using the “final” keyword would be useful? Explain your example and why preventing override is useful.
3. Java, and many object-oriented languages, use the concept of dynamic dispatch to determine which method to invoke. Another choice would be to use static dispatch – to determine which method to invoke based on the static type rather than the dynamic type of the object. Would static dispatch be simpler or more complicated than dynamic dispatch? Are there things you can do with dynamic dispatch that would not be possible using static dispatch?
4. The fact that private methods do not respect dynamic dispatch significantly complicates explaining how overrides work. What are the benefits of preventing dynamic dispatch for private methods?