Code Complete Ch. 6
Writing High-Quality Classes

• Just like for routines, the following principles apply to writing classes
  – Modularity - black box with simple, easy to use interface
  – Cohesion - all methods on a class are highly related
  – Coupling - dependencies between classes are minimized as much as possible

• These principles also apply to organizing classes into packages
Information Hiding

- Classes should hide as much of their internal implementation as possible
- Classes are like icebergs: seven-eighths is under water, only one-eighth is visible to the outside
- This helps minimize dependencies between classes and provides maximum freedom to change the class implementation
- All variables and many methods should be private
  - E.g., a class might have 25 methods, only 5 of which are public
- This also applies to package design. Do not expose classes outside the package unnecessarily