

UML : CLASS DIAGRAM

The class diagram can be used to illustrate the structural parts of a business system, meaning the relationships between individual employees, business objects, and outside parties. We significantly simplify class diagrams on the business-model level and use only very few elements. It still holds true: less is often more!

When the manifold options of class diagrams are used, these diagrams are no longer easy to read. On the business-system level we have to act on the assumption that involved parties have little or no IT expertise and know nothing about class terminology and class diagrams. The expected advantage of UML, namely easier communication between the various involved parties, would be significantly impaired. For a deeper explanation of class diagrams, refer to [Modeling IT Systems](#):

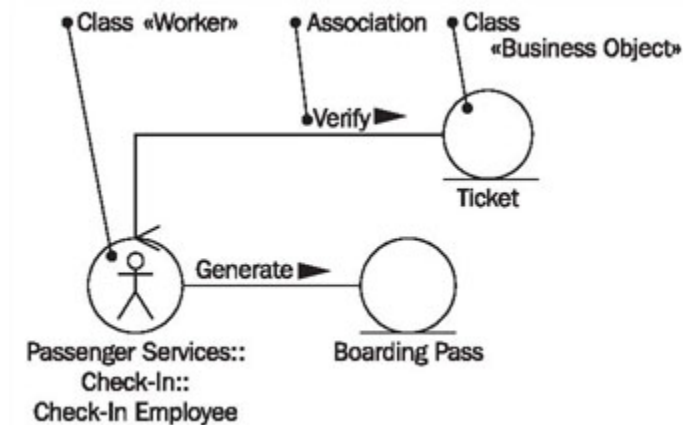


Figure 3.34 Class diagram

In class diagrams we work with only a few elements:

Class «Worker»

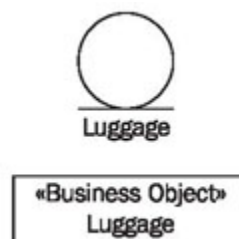
We have already described the class *worker* in [Package Diagram](#). Those are exactly the same classes as the ones we use here in the class diagram; just as in the package diagram, they can be depicted with the worker symbol or the class symbol:



As you can see in Figure 3.34, you can state the entire path name of a class to illustrate membership of a package. In our example, the entire path signifies that the class *check-in employee* belongs to the package *check-in*, and that the package *check-in* belongs to the package *passenger services*, each divided by a double colon. The class *worker* is used in the class diagram to illustrate relationships with other employees, actors, and business objects.

Class «Business Object»

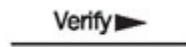
We have already described the class *business object* in [Package Diagram](#). Those are exactly the same classes as the ones we use here in the class diagram:



Just as in the package diagram, they can be depicted with the business object symbol or the class symbol.

Association

An association represents a relationship that has a precisely defined meaning. The association can be labeled with the name of the association. If you want to assign a direction to the association's name, you can insert a triangle that points to the direction in which the name is supposed to be read:



In addition to the above-mentioned elements, we would like to mention the generalization. However, we do not think that the use of this element is mandatory.

Source : <http://sourcemaking.com/uml/modeling-business-systems/internal-view/class-diagram>