

Possible but rejected approaches to dynamic dispatch:

- Cast in the caller
 - check type field in every function that needs to call a derived method (e.g., `calc_pts`)
 - cast the base pointer to the right derived type
 - call the method

```

1   int pts0;
2   if ( p0->get_type() == PAWN ) {
3       Pawn* pawn_p = (Pawn*) p0;
4       pts0 = pawn_p->get_pts();
5   }
6   else if ( p0->get_type() == ROOK ) {
7       Rook* rook_p = (Rook*) p0;
8       pts0 = rook_p->get_pts();
9   }

```

Works, but every caller must know all derived types and the logic duplicates everywhere.

- Cast in the base class (move the type-checking logic into a base class method)
 - (`Piece::get_pts`) checks its own type field
 - casts `this` to correct sub-type
 - calls the method

```

1   int get_pts() const
2   {
3       if ( m_type == PAWN ) {
4           Pawn* pawn_p = (Pawn*) this;
5           return pawn_p->get_pts();
6       }
7       else if ( m_type == ROOK ) {
8           Rook* rook_p = (Rook*) this;
9           return rook_p->get_pts();
10      }
11  }

```

Centralizes the dispatch, but the base class now has to know about all derived classes