

# Actors

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# Opening Discussion

- Minute essay comments:
  - What are the limits of actors?
  - What are problems with actors?
- IcP solutions.

# Short Version

- There is a helper method in the Actor object that takes a function for the body of the act method.
- You should import `scala.actors.Actor`, then you can call `actor { body }`.

# Receive

- To make an actor deal with a message use `receive`. The argument is a partial function with cases you want that `receive` to deal with.
- Most likely this needs to happen multiple times so you put it in a loop.
- `Receive` is always handled in the actor's thread.

# Code

- Let's make some actors that utilize receive.

# React

- You only want so many threads, so applications with lots of actors need an alternate approach.
- The react method works like receive, but allows thread sharing and doesn't return.
- To make it happen multiple times embed in a call to loop.
- The actor framework balanced threads and actors share threads.

# Code Again

- Let's come up with a fairly large actor program to write and implement it.

# Minute Essay

- Questions?
- Have a good weekend.
- The last quiz will be on Monday.