

# Collections

## Immutable Lists

An immutable list represents a group of elements with read-only operations.

It can be declared with the term `listOf`, followed by a pair of parentheses containing elements that are separated by commas.

```
var programmingLanguages = listOf("C#",  
"Java", "Kotlin", "Ruby")
```

## Mutable Lists

A mutable list represents a collection of ordered elements that possess read and write functionalities.

It can be declared with the term, `mutableListOf` followed by a pair of parentheses containing elements that are separated by commas.

```
var fruits = mutableListOf("Orange",  
"Apple", "Banana", "Mango")
```

## Accessing List Elements

In order to retrieve an element from a list, we can reference its numerical position or index using square bracket notation.

**Note:** Remember that the first element of a list starts at `0`.

```
var cars = listOf("BMW", "Ferrari",  
"Volvo", "Tesla")  
  
println(cars[2]) // Prints: Volvo
```

## The Size Property

The `size` property is used to determine the number of elements that exist in a collection.

```
var worldContinents = listOf("Asia",  
"Africa", "North America", "South  
America", "Antarctica", "Europe",  
"Australia")  
  
println(worldContinents.size) // Prints:  
7
```

## List Operations

The list collection supports various operations in the form of built-in functions that can be performed on its elements.

Some functions perform read and write operations, whereas others perform read-only operations.

The functions that perform read and write operations can only be used on mutable lists while read-only operations can be performed on both mutable and immutable lists.

```
var seas = listOf("Black Sea", "Caribbean Sea", "North Sea")
println(seas.contains("North Sea")) // Prints: true

// The contains() function performs a read operation on any list and determines if an element exists.

seas.add("Baltic Sea") // Error: Can't perform write operation on immutable list

// The add() function can only be called on a mutable list thus the code above throws an error.
```

## Immutable Sets

An immutable set represents a collection of unique elements in an unordered fashion whose contents cannot be altered throughout a program.

It is declared with the term, `setOf`, followed by a pair of parentheses holding unique values.

```
var primaryColors = setOf("Red", "Blue", "Yellow")
```

## Mutable Sets

A mutable set represents a collection of ordered elements that possess both read and write functionalities.

It is declared with the term, `mutableSetOf`, followed by a pair of parentheses holding unique values.

```
var womenInTech = mutableSetOf("Ada Lovelace", "Grace Hopper", "Radia Perlman", "Sister Mary Kenneth Keller")
```

## Accessing Set Elements

Elements in a set can be accessed using the `elementAt()` or `elementAtOrNull()` functions.

The `elementAt()` function gets appended onto a set name and returns the element at the specified position within the parentheses.

The `elementAtOrNull()` function is a safer variation of the `elementAt()` function and returns `null` if the position is out of bounds as opposed to throwing an error.

```
var companies = setOf("Facebook",
    "Apple", "Netflix", "Google")

println(companies.elementAt(3)) //
Prints: Google

println(companies.elementAt(4)) //
Returns and Error

println(companies.elementAtOrNull(4)) //
Prints: null
```

## Immutable Maps

An immutable Map represents a collection of entries that cannot be altered throughout a program.

It is declared with the term, `mapOf`, followed by a pair of parentheses. Within the parentheses, each key should be linked to its corresponding value with the `to` keyword, and each entry should be separated by a comma.

```
var averageTemp = mapOf("winter" to 35,
    "spring" to 60, "summer" to 85, "fall"
    to 55)
```

## Mutable Maps

A mutable map represents a collection of entries that possess read and write functionalities. Entries can be added, removed, or updated in a mutable map.

A mutable map can be declared with the term, `mutableMapOf`, followed by a pair of parentheses holding key-value pairs.

```
var europeanDomains =
    mutableMapOf("Germany" to "de",
        "Slovakia" to "sk", "Hungary" to "hu",
        "Norway" to "no")
```

## Retrieving Map Keys and Values

Keys and values within a map can be retrieved using the `.keys` and `.values` properties.

The `.keys` property returns a list of key elements, whereas the `.values` property returns a list of value elements.

To retrieve a single value associated with a key, the shorthand, `[key]`, syntax can be used.

```
var oscarWinners =  
    mutableMapOf("Parasite" to "Bong Joon-  
ho", "Green Book" to "Jim Burke", "The  
Shape Of Water" to "Guillermo del Toro")  
  
println(oscarWinners.keys)  
// Prints: [Parasite, Green Book, The  
Shape Of Water]  
  
println(oscarWinners.values)  
// Prints: [Bong Joon-ho, Jim Burke,  
Guillermo del Toro]  
  
println(oscarWinners["Parasite"])  
// Prints: Bong Joon-ho
```

## Adding and Removing Map Entries

An entry can be added to a mutable map using the `put()` function. Oppositely, an entry can be removed from a mutable map using the `remove()` function.

The `put()` function accepts a key and a value separated by a comma.

The `remove()` function accepts a key and removes the entry associated with that key.

```
var worldCapitals = mutableMapOf("United  
States" to "Washington D.C.", "Germany"  
to "Berlin", "Mexico" to "Mexico City",  
"France" to "Paris")  
  
worldCapitals.put("Brazil", "Brasilia")  
println(worldCapitals)  
// Prints: {United States=Washington  
D.C., Germany=Berlin, Mexico=Mexico City,  
France=Paris, Brazil=Brasilia}  
  
worldCapitals.remove("Germany")  
println(worldCapitals)  
// Prints: {United States=Washington  
D.C., Mexico=Mexico City, France=Paris,  
Brazil=Brasilia}
```