An Introduction to Operators

In the following lesson, you will be given an overview of the operators provided by Dart.

Operators are symbols that perform *operations* used for modifying or manipulating data. Manipulating data is an essential part of any programming language, and Dart is no different, providing a rich set of operators for its basic types.

Types of Operators

In this chapter, we are going to cover the following built-in operators in Dart:

- Arithmetic Operators
- Equality and Relational Operators
- Type Test Operators
- Assignment Operators
- Logical Operators
- Bitwise and Shift Operators

Operators and Expressions

An **Expression** is a special type of statement that evaluates to some value. For instance, in mathematics, **1** + **1** is an expression because it evaluates to **2**.

Expressions are composed of two things; *operands* and *operators*.

Operators usually follow an infix notation. The **infix notation** is where the operator is situated between two operands.

OPERAND **OPERATOR** **OPERAND**

Operands are the data objects that the operator is performing an operation on. In other words, operators define how the operands are to be processed to produce a value.

Different operators perform different operations; hence, you need to know how you want your data to be processed and what each operator does to be able to choose the right one. That is the purpose of this chapter.

Let's now move onto the different types of operators, starting with arithmetic operators in the next lesson.