

# Go from scratch: Beginners-Friendly Guide

by Denis Shchuka

Dive Deeper



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Dive Deeper.  
Arrays & Slices



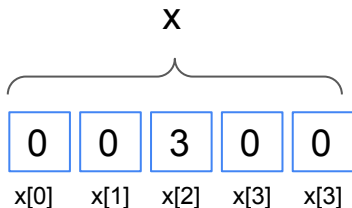
# Arrays and Slices

## Arrays

```
var x [5]int
```

- ❖ Fixed length
- ❖ Passed by value

```
x[2] = 3
```



## Slices

```
var names []string
```

- ★ Dynamically-sized
- ★ Passed by reference

```
names = make([]string, 3)  
names[2] = "three"
```



You will use slices much more often than arrays

Every slice has an underlying array. Basically, slice is reference to a part of underlying array.



# Arrays

## Example 1. Initialization

```
//array with 2 string elements
var x [2]string
x[0] = "Hello"
x[1] = "world"

//alternative way
x := [...]string{"Hello", "world"}
```

## Example 2. Access to elements

```
//print first element of the array
fmt.Println(x[0])

//print all array values
for _, v := range x {
    fmt.Println(v)
}
```

## Example 3. Copying

```
//copy all values to new array
x2 := x
fmt.Println(x[1]) // "world"
```



# Slices

## Example 1. Initialization

```
days := []string{"Monday", "Tuesday", "Wednesday", "Thursday", "Friday"}
```

## Example 2. Adding a new element

```
days = append(days, "Saturday",  
"Sunday")
```

## Example 3. Access to elements

```
//Print first 5 elements  
fmt.Println(days[:5])
```

```
//Print all elements after 5 first  
fmt.Println(days[5:])
```

\* You can also use **for** loop to iterate through slice elements



# Slices

## Example 4. Create reference

```
days2 := days
days2[0] = "X-day"
fmt.Println(days[0]) // "X-day" - now, both slices point out to the same array of elements!!!
```

## Example 4. Copying

```
days3 := make([]string, len(days))
copy(days3, days)
days3[0] = "Mon"
fmt.Println(days[0]) // "X-day" - days3 points out to new array of elements!!!
```



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Structures & Maps.



# Structures

**Struct** is a collection of field that can have different data types.

```
type Employee struct {  
    ID      int  
    Name    string  
    Salary  float64  
}
```

```
var developer Employee  
developer.Salary = 5000.0
```

```
//other way to declare variable  
//of Employee type  
boss := Employee{Name: "John", Salary: 20000.0}
```

- By default, fields of struct instance are **zero-valued**
- Two struct instances are equal when all their fields are equal
- Structs can be nested. It is a useful way to model more complex structures.





# Maps

**Map** is one of the most useful data structures

**Map** is the built-in representation of hash-table data structure in **Go**

**Map** is set of key-value pairs

**Map** offers fast lookups, adds, and deletes

`map` [KeyType] ValueType

```
type Coords struct {  
    Lat, Long float64  
}  
  
var m map[string]Coords  
m = make(map[string]Coords)  
  
m["New York"] = Coords {40.730610,  
-73.935242}  
m["Moscow"] = Coords {55.751244,  
37.618423}  
  
fmt.Println(m["Moscow"].Lat)
```



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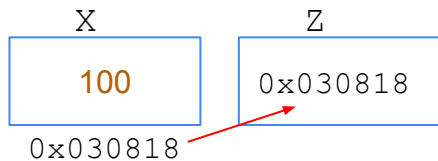
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Pointers.



# Pointers

**Pointer** in Go is a variable to store **memory address** of another variable

```
var X int = 100  
Z := &X
```



```
//get memory address  
fmt.Println(&X) //0x030818  
fmt.Println(Z)  //0x030818
```

```
//get underlying value  
fmt.Println(*Z) //100
```

```
//change underlying value via pointer  
*Z = 21  
fmt.Println(X) //21
```



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Packages & Modules.



# Packages & Modules

The main goal of using packages and modules - to structure your code for better **reusability**, **modularity** and **maintainability**

- **Package** is one or more **.go** source code files located in the same directory
- Package contains **logically related** code - types, functions, etc.

**non-main** (non-executable)  
package (library)

```
package employee

type Employee struct {
    ID    int
    Name string
}
```

`package main`

**main** (executable)  
package

```
import (
    "fmt"
    emp "example.com/employee"
)

func main() {
    var x emp.Employee
}
```



# Packages & Modules

- **Module** is a collection of Go packages in a directory tree

```
<workspace_home>/  
|-- employeepkg  
|-- hrservicepkg  
|-- hrapp
```

## To create a module:

1. Create workspace directory tree
2. `go mod init import_path`
3. Import required packages in main module
4. Redirect Go tools from its module path to the local directory:  
`go mod edit -replace =  
example.com/employeepkg =../employeepkg`

**!** Every package in module should be located at the same level in the hierarchy of directory tree

