A Whirlwind Tour of Go Just the Cool Parts

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Steve Willoughby

The Point

- "What is Go?"
- "What is it actually good for?"
- "Why should I care?"

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- Includes direct experience with C from day 1 to now.



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 - ∴ Go's syntax is very much like C's
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- Dreamed up while waiting on a 45-minute C++ compile
 - Fast compilation
 - Native binary compiler with low overhead
 - Strong static typing
 - Extraordinarily spartan



- The usual suspects: int, int8, int16, int32, int64, uint, uint8, uint16, uint32, uint64, bool, byte, float32, float64, string.
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- Arrays: [10] int, [100] rune.
- Slices: []int, []byte, []string.
- Maps: map[string]int.
- Channels: chan int.



- Arithmetic: +, -, *, /, %.
- Relational: ==, !=, >, <, >=, <=.
- Logical: &&, ||, !.
- Bitwise: &, |, ^, <<, >>, &^.

$$// x &^ y == x & (^y)$$

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- Relational: ==, !=, >, <, >=, <=.
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- Bitwise: &, |, ^, <<, >>, &^. // x &^ y == x & (^y)
- Assignment: =, +=, -=, *=, /=, %=, &=, ^=, |=, <<=, >>=, :=.
- Reference/Dereference: &, *.
- Unary: +, -, ^. //
 - Increment/Decrement: ++, --. // x++ or x--
 - Channel I/O: <-. // channel <-x or <-channel
- Blank identifier: _.

Declarations

• Type declarations follow identifier names

```
var x int
var UserName string
```

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```
var x int
var UserName string

func AddNumbers(x, y int) int { ... }
func DivideNumbers(x, y int) (int, error) { ... }
```

Type declarations follow identifier names

```
var x int
var UserName string
func AddNumbers(x, y int) int { ... }
func DivideNumbers(x, y int) (int, error) { ... }
type Shape struct {
        int
       int
   Color ColorCode
```

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- Identifiers can be *public* or *private* w/r/t package boundaries.

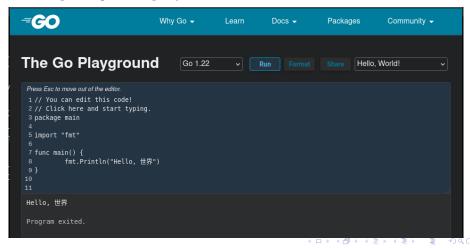
- Basic unit is a *package* (namespace boundary).
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- Import packages into the program using the import statement.
- Always prefix identifiers from imported packages with their package name.
- Identifiers can be *public* or *private* w/r/t package boundaries.
 - Identifier names starting with an uppercase letter are public.
 - All others are private.

Hello, World

```
https://go.dev/play/
/* Standard-issue "Hello, World" program in Go st/
package main
import "fmt"
func main() {
     fmt.Println("Hello, 世界")
```

The Playground

- Interactive playground to immediately try something in Go.
- https://go.dev/play/



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Importing Third-Party Packages

Standard library package names are simple names:

```
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import "encoding/json"
import "flag"
import "math"
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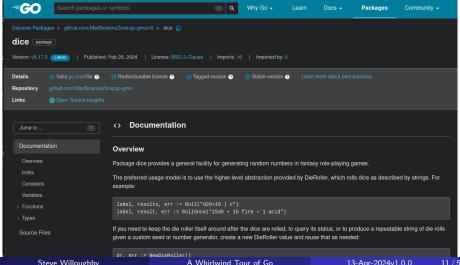
```
import "fmt"
import "encoding/json"
import "flag"
import "math"
```

• Getting packages from public repositories:

```
import "github.com/MadScienceZone/go-gma/v5/dice"
```

Automatic API Documentation

• https://pkg.go.dev/repository-url



"Factored" Notation

```
import "fmt"
import "encoding/json"
import "flag"
import "math"
```

"Factored" Notation

```
import "fmt"
import "encoding/json"
import "flag"
import "math"
import (
   "fmt"
   "encoding/json"
   "flag"
   "math"
```

"Factored" Notation

```
initialized
                 bool
var userNames
                 []string
var Greeting
                 string
                          = "Hello"
    TheAnswer
                          = 42
var
var (
    initialized bool
    userNames
                 []string
                          = "Hello"
    Greeting
                 string
    TheAnswer
                          = 42
```

```
const initialized
                     = false
const Greeting
                       = "Hello"
const TheAnswer byte = 42
const (
    initialized
                     = false
    Greeting
                     = "Hello"
   TheAnswer byte
                     = 42
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/LSHu1VKUz20
```

```
type MessageType byte
const (
    ServerCommand MessageType = 0
    ServerReply
                 MessageType = 1
    ServerError MessageType = 2
    UrgentMessage MessageType = 3
const
```

"Factored" Notation and iota

```
https://go.dev/play/p/LSHu1VKUz20
type MessageType byte
const
    ServerCommand MessageType =
    ServerReply
                 MessageType = 1
    ServerError
                 MessageType = 2
    UrgentMessage MessageType = 3
const
    ServerCommand MessageType =
                                iota
    ServerReply
                  MessageType = iota
    ServerError
                  MessageType = iota
    UrgentMessage MessageType =
                                iota
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/LSHu1VKUz20
```

```
type MessageType byte
const (
    ServerCommand MessageType = 0
    ServerReply
                 MessageType = 1
    ServerError MessageType = 2
    UrgentMessage MessageType = 3
const
    ServerCommand MessageType = iota
    ServerReply
    ServerError
    UrgentMessage
```

"Factored" Notation and iota Expressions

```
https://go.dev/play/p/LSHu1VKUz20
type MessageType byte
const (
    ServerCommand MessageType = 0x01
                  MessageType = 0x02
    ServerReply
    ServerError
                  MessageType = 0x04
    UrgentMessage MessageType = 0x08
const
    ServerCommand MessageType = 1 << iota
    ServerReply
    ServerError
    UrgentMessage
```

Conditionals

```
var x int
if x > 10 {
    fmt.Println("X exceeds 10.")
} else {
    fmt.Println("X is tiny.")
```

```
var x int
if x > 10 {
    fmt.Println("X exceeds 10.")
} else {
    fmt.Println("X is tiny.")
if x *= 2; x > 10 {
    fmt.Println("Now X is big.")
} else {
    fmt.Println("X is still small.")
```

Switches

```
var x int
switch x {
case 0:
    fmt.Println("X is nothing.")
case 1, 3, 5:
    fmt.Println("X is odd.")
case 2, 4, 6:
    fmt.Println("X is even.")
default:
    fmt.Println("X is bigger than I can count.")
}
```

Loops

```
// infinite loop
for {
// while loop
for thing.IsReady() {
// traditional 3-part for loop
for i := 0; i < 10; i++ {
```

```
// loop over interval [0,10)
for i := range 10 {
}
// loop over elements of a collection
for i, v := range []int{1, 4, -3, 153} {
// loop over data received from channel
for item := range channel {
```

Arrays

• The number of elements is part of the type ([10]int vs. [15]int).

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- Variables declared are initialized empty but ready for use

```
var things [5] string
things[0] = "raindrops on roses"
things[1] = "whiskers on kittens"
things[2] = "copper kettles"
things[3] = "woolen mittens"
things[4] = "wild geese"
fmt.Println("I like", things[2])
fmt.Println("I also like", things)
fmt.Println("I know", len(things), "things.")
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/rexZjp6SdKD
```

 Or you can specify an array literal value to use in an expression or assign to a variable

```
things := [5] string{
    "raindrops on roses",
    "whiskers on kittens".
    "copper kettles",
    "woolen mittens",
    "wild geese",
fmt.Println("I like", things[2])
fmt.Println("I also like", things)
fmt.Println("I know", len(things), "things.")
```

Slices

```
https://go.dev/play/p/rexZjp6SdKD
```

- Specify a range [n:m] as the index into an array to get a subset of the array values with indices from n to m-1.
- The value is a *slice*, not an *array*. It's a different type.
 - For [5] string, the value is [] string.

```
fmt.Println("Some things:", things[1:3])
fmt.Println("Some things:", things[:3])
fmt.Println("Some things:", things[1:])
fmt.Println("Some things:", things[:])
```

https://go.dev/play/p/rexZjp6SdKD

- Dimensionless "arrays": []int.
- Actually a "view" into an underlying array.
 - Go creates and manages the underlying array automatically for you.

```
var things []string
```

Slices

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- Dimensionless "arrays": []int.
- Actually a "view" into an underlying array.
 - Go creates and manages the underlying array automatically for you.

```
var things []string

things = append(things, "doorbells")
things = append(things, "sleighbells", "schnitzel")
fmt.Println(len(things), things)
// prints: 3 [doorbells sleighbells schnitzel]
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/rexZjp6SdKD
```

Can also specify a slice of values as a literal.

```
things := []string{
    "doorbells".
    "sleighbells",
    "schnitzel".
```

Slices

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```

• Can also specify a slice of values as a literal.

```
things := []string{
    "doorbells",
    "sleighbells",
    "schnitzel",
}

primes := []int{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13}
lowPrimes := slices.Delete(primes, 3, len(primes))
fmt.Println(lowPrimes)
// prints: [2 3 5]
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/Bfs6kEUKwve
```

```
var Ages map[string]int
Ages = make(map[string]int)
```

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```

```
var Ages map[string]int
Ages = make(map[string]int)
Ages["Alice"] = 14
Ages["Bob"] = 22
Ages["Charlie"] = 27
Ages["Daria"] = 42
fmt.Println(Ages)
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/Bfs6kEUKwve
```

```
Ages := map[string]int{
    "Alice": 14.
    "Bob": 22,
    "Charlie": 27,
    "Daria": 42.
fmt.Println(Ages)
for name, age := range Ages {
    if age >= 18 {
        fmt.Printf("%s may vote.\n", name)
    } else {
        fmt.Printf("%s is not eligible.\n", name)
    }
```

```
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```

```
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```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/Bfs6kEUKwve
aliceAge := Ages["Alice"]
                                // 14
eveAge := Ages["Eve"]
                                // 0
aliceAge, exists := Ages["Alice"]
                                     // 14, true
eveAge, exists := Ages["Eve"]
                                        // 0, false
Ages["Eve"] = 20
delete(Ages, "Bob")
if , exists := Ages[name]; exists {
    fmt.Prinln("We do know about", name)
```

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https://go.dev/play/p/Bfs6kEUKwve
aliceAge := Ages["Alice"]
                                // 14
eveAge := Ages["Eve"]
                                // 0
aliceAge, exists := Ages["Alice"]
                                     // 14, true
eveAge, exists := Ages["Eve"]
                                        // 0, false
Ages["Eve"] = 20
delete(Ages, "Bob")
if age, exists := Ages[name]; exists {
    fmt.Printf("We know %s's age is %d.\n", name, age)
} else {
    fmt.Println("We don't know", name)
```

}

```
https://go.dev/play/p/TClHUvPovi0

type Triangle struct {
    Base int
    Height int
    X int // Reference point
    Y int
}
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/TClHUvPovi0
type Triangle struct {
    Base
         int
    Height int
    X int // Reference point
           int
var t1 Triangle
t1.Base = 37
t1.Height = 15
t.1.X = 11
t1.Y = 22
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/TClHUvPovi0
type Triangle struct {
   Base
        int
   Height int
   X int // Reference point
           int
var t2 Triangle = Triangle{Base: 3, Height: 1}
fmt.Println("t2's base is", t2.Base)
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/TClHUvPoviO
type Triangle struct {
    Base
         int
    Height int
   Х
     int // Reference point
           int
t3 := Triangle{
    Base: 100,
   Height: 42,
   X: -3
   Y:
            14,
```

Method Functions

```
https://go.dev/play/p/TClHUvPovi0
func Area(t Triangle) float64 {
    return (float64(t.Base) *
            float64(t.Height)) / 2.0
func Translate(t Triangle, dx, dy int) Triangle {
    t.X += dx
    t.Y += dy
    return t
fmt.Println("t1 area =", Area(t1))
t2 = Translate(t2, +3, -2)
```

Method Functions

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func Area(t Triangle) float64 {
    return (float64(t.Base) *
            float64(t.Height)) / 2.0
func Translate(t *Triangle, dx, dy int) {
    t.X += dx
    t.Y += dy
fmt.Println("t1 area =", Area(t1))
Translate (\&t2, +3, -2)
```

Method Functions

```
https://go.dev/play/p/TClHUvPovi0
```

```
func (t Triangle) Area() float64 {
    return (float64(t.Base) *
            float64(t.Height)) / 2.0
}
func (t *Triangle) Translate(dx, dy int) {
    t.X += dx
   t.Y += dy
fmt.Println("t1 area =", t1.Area())
t2.Translate(+3, -2)
```

Composition |

```
https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr
type BaseShape struct {
    X int
    Y int
func (s BaseShape) ReferencePoint() (int, int) {
    return s.X, s.Y
// (We'll set aside the Translate method for now to
// keep the in-class example simple.)
```

Composition

```
https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr
type Triangle struct {
    BaseShape
    Base
           int
    Height int
}
func (t Triangle) Area() float64 {
    return (float64(t.Base) *
            float64(t.Height)) / 2.0
```

Composition

```
https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr
type Rectangle struct {
    BaseShape
    Width int
    Height int
}
func (r Rectangle) Area() float64 {
    return float64(r.Width * r.Height)
```

Composition

```
https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr
// Regular Polygons
type Polygon struct {
    BaseShape
    Sides int
   Length float64 // Length of each side
    Radius float64 // Radius of inscribed circle
}
func (p Polygon) Area() float64 {
    return (float64(p.Sides) / 2.0) *
            p.Length * p.Radius
```

Composition

```
https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr

type Circle struct {
    BaseShape
    Radius float64
}

func (c Circle) Area() float64 {
    return math.Pi * math.Pow(c.Radius, 2)
}
```

Polymorphism

```
https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr
```

```
shapes := []Shape{
    Triangle{BaseShape:BaseShape{X: 3, Y: 12},
             Base: 3, Height: 2},
    Circle{BaseShape:BaseShape{Y: 22}, Radius: 1.5},
    Rectangle { Height: 100, Width: 50 },
```

https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr

for i, shape := range shapes {

x, y := shape.ReferencePoint()

Polymorphism

i, x, y, shape.Area())

fmt.Printf("#%d at (%d,%d), area=%f\n",

Polymorphism via Interfaces

```
type Shape interface {
   Area() float64
   ReferencePoint() (int, int)
}
```

https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr

Polymorphism via Interfaces

```
https://go.dev/play/p/qp2nc6gywLr

type Shape interface {
    Area() float64
    ReferencePoint() (int, int)
}

func reportArea(s Shape) {
    fmt.Printf("The area is %f\n", s.Area()
}
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/dy952C3yZUX
f (42)
f(-2)
func f(mystery any) {     // any == interface{}
    var v int
    // we know it's an int, just treat it as one
    v = mystery + 15
    fmt.Println("int mystery is", v)
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/dy952C3yZUX
f (42)
f(-2)
func f(mystery any) {     // any == interface{}
    var v int
    x := mystery.(int)
    v = x + 15
    fmt.Println("int mystery is", v)
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/dy952C3yZUX
f (42)
f("hello")
func f(mystery any) {     // any == interface{}
    var v int
    x := mystery.(int)
    v = x + 15
    fmt.Println("int mystery is", v)
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/dy952C3yZUX
f (42)
f("hello")
func f(mystery any) {     // any == interface{}
    var v int
    x, ok := mystery.(int)
    v = x + 15
    fmt.Println("int mystery is", v)
```

Type Switch

```
https://go.dev/play/p/dy952C3yZUX
f(42)
f("hello")
func f(mystery any) {     // any == interface{}
    var v int
    switch x := mystery.(type) {
    case int:
        v = x + 15
    case string:
        fmt.Println("string", x)
    default:
        // handle the unknown type
```

Goroutines—Calling a Function in the "Background"

```
https://go.dev/play/p/FJNbOcNYI8-
```

```
func countdown() {
    for i := 10; i >= 0; i-- {
        fmt.Printf(">>> %d <<<\n", i)
        time.Sleep(1 * time.Second)
    }
}</pre>
```

Goroutines—Calling a Function in the "Background"

```
https://go.dev/play/p/FJNbOcNYI8-
func countdown() {
    for i := 10; i >= 0; i-- {
        fmt.Printf(">>> %d <<<\n", i)</pre>
        time.Sleep(1 * time.Second)
func main() {
    countdown()
    fmt.Println("Starting a long-running task...")
    time.Sleep(15 * time.Second)
    fmt.Println("Done. Exiting.")
```

Goroutines—Calling a Function in the "Background"

```
https://go.dev/play/p/FJNbOcNYI8-
func countdown() {
    for i := 10; i >= 0; i-- {
        fmt.Printf(">>> %d <<<\n", i)</pre>
        time.Sleep(1 * time.Second)
func main() {
    go countdown()
    fmt.Println("Starting a long-running task...")
    time.Sleep(15 * time.Second)
    fmt.Println("Done. Exiting.")
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/sFuhOuwVS6c
```

ch := make(chan byte)

```
https://go.dev/play/p/sFuhOuwVS6c
```

```
ch := make(chan byte)
fmt.Println("Writing to channel")
ch <- 42</pre>
```

```
ch := make(chan byte)
fmt.Println("Writing to channel")
ch <- 42
fmt.Println("Reading from channel")
x := \langle -ch \rangle
fmt.Println("Read", x, "from channel")
```

https://go.dev/play/p/sFuhOuwVS6c

https://go.dev/play/p/sFuhOuwVS6c

```
https://go.dev/play/p/sFuhOuwVS6c
```

```
ch := make(chan byte)
go func(c chan byte) {
    x := <-c
    fmt.Println("Read", x, "from channel")
}(ch)

fmt.Println("Writing to channel")
ch <- 42</pre>
```

Buffered Channels

```
https://go.dev/play/p/sFuhOuwVS6c
```

```
ch := make(chan byte, 1)
```



Buffered Channels

```
ch := make(chan byte, 1)
fmt.Println("Writing to channel")
ch <- 42
fmt.Println("Reading from channel")
```

fmt.Println("Read", x, "from channel")

https://go.dev/play/p/sFuhOuwVS6c

 $x := \langle -ch \rangle$

Error Values

```
func main() {
   var intval int
    var err
           error
    for i, arg := range os.Args[1:] {
        intval, err = strconv.Atoi(arg)
        if err != nil {
            fmt.Printf("Arg #%d (\"%s\"): %v.\n",
                       i, arg, err)
        } else {
            fmt.Printf("Arg #%d == %d\n", i, intval)
        }
```

Global ID Generation (Naïve)

```
https://go.dev/play/p/i0xsFX_TSaa

type GameState struct {
    NextMessageID int
}
```

Global ID Generation (Naïve)

```
https://go.dev/play/p/iOxsFX_TSaa

type GameState struct {
    NextMessageID int
}

var gameServer GameState

gameServer.NextMessageID++
client.ID = gameServer.NextMessageID
```

```
// in many random goroutines...

client.ID = gameServer.GetNextID()
```

https://go.dev/play/p/i0xsFX TSaa

```
type GameState struct {
    nextMessageID int
    lock
                  sync.Mutex
}
func (state *GameState) GetNextID() int {
    state.lock.Lock()
    state.nextMessageID++
    nextID := state.MessageID
    state.lock.Unlock()
    return nextID
   in many random goroutines...
client.ID = gameServer.GetNextID()
    Steve Willoughby
                        A Whirlwind Tour of Go
                                             13-Apr-2024v1.0.0
                                                         50 / 59
```

https://go.dev/play/p/i0xsFX TSaa

```
type GameState struct {
    nextMessageID int
    lock
                 sync.Mutex
}
func (state *GameState) GetNextID() int {
    state.lock.Lock()
    defer state.lock.Unlock()
    state.nextMessageID++
    return state.nextMessageID
   in many random goroutines...
client.ID = gameServer.GetNextID()
    Steve Willoughby
                      A Whirlwind Tour of Go
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/i0xsFX TSaa
func main() {
    var gameServer GameState
                    sync.WaitGroup
    var wg
    for i := range 100 {
        wg. Add (1)
        id := i
        go func() {
            defer wg.Done()
            fmt.Printf("Goroutine #%d, ID=%d\n", id,
                        gameServer.GetNextID())
        }()
    wg.Wait()
```

Global ID Generation (Channel)

```
https://go.dev/play/p/mRfglxbH-kI
func serveMessageIDs(c chan<- int) {
   var id int
   for {
        c <- id
        id++
   }
}</pre>
```

Global ID Generation (Channel)

```
https://go.dev/play/p/mRfglxbH-kI
func serveMessageIDs(c chan<- int) {</pre>
    var id int
    for {
        c < - id
        id++
// start up the service
IDSource := make(chan int)
go serveMessageIDs(IDSource)
```

Global ID Generation (Channel)

```
https://go.dev/play/p/mRfglxbH-kI
func serveMessageIDs(c chan<- int) {</pre>
    var id int
    for {
        c < - id
        id++
// start up the service
IDSource := make(chan int)
go serveMessageIDs(IDSource)
// In many random goroutines...
client.ID = <-IDSource
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/cPSNhVfS8r-
func collectData(stream <-chan string) error {</pre>
    for {
        data, ok := <-stream
        if !ok {
             return nil
        }
        if err := doSomething(data); err != nil {
             return err
// elsewhere
collectData(stream)
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/cPSNhVfS8r-
func collectData(ctx context.Context,
                  stream <-chan string) error {
    for {
        select {
        case <-ctx.Done():
            return nil
        case data, ok := <-stream:
            if !ok { return nil }
            if err := doSomething(data); err != nil {
                return err
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/cPSNhVfS8r-
// caller
ctx, cancel := context.WithTimeout(
    context.Background(), 5 * time.Second)
defer cancel()
if err := collectData(ctx, stream); err != nil {
    panic(err)
```

```
https://go.dev/play/p/cPSNhVfS8r-
func collectData(ctx context.Context,
                  stream <-chan string) error {
    for {
        select {
        case <-ctx.Done():</pre>
             return nil
        case <-time.After(2 * time.Second):</pre>
             log.Print("collectData taking too long")
        case data, ok := <-stream:
             if !ok { return nil }
             if err := doSomething(data); err != nil {
                 return err
             }
        }}}
```

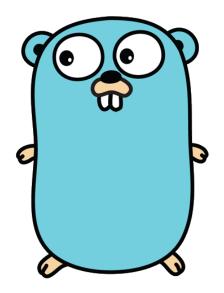
JSON

```
https://go.dev/play/p/_KcMkqhhzbZ
```

```
import "encoding/json"
type User struct {
   Name string `json:"name"`
              `json:",omitemptv"`
    ID int
   Attrs [] string `json: "attributes, omitempty"`
   Secret []byte `json:"-"`
}
data := User{
    Name: "steve",
    ID: 42,
    Attrs: []string{"foo","bar"},
    Secret: sdata
```

JSON

```
https://go.dev/play/p/ KcMkqhhzbZ
import "encoding/json"
type User struct {
   Name string `json:"name"`
             `json:",omitemptv"`
   ID int
   Attrs [] string `json: "attributes, omitempty"`
   }
encoded, err := json.Marshal(data)
// {"name": "steve", "ID": 42, "attributes": ["foo", "bar"]}
var inputData User
```



github.com/MadScienceZone/go-tour