

Functions in Dart

A **function** is a **block of reusable code** that performs a specific task.

Instead of writing the same code multiple times, we can **define it once** and **call it whenever needed**.

Syntax of a Function

```
returnType functionName(parameters) {  
    // code block  
    return value;  
}
```

Example:

```
void greet() {  
    print("Welcome to Dart!");  
}
```

Explanation:

- void → means this function does **not return** any value.
- greet → function name.
- {} → block of code to execute when the function is called.

Calling the Function:

```
void main() {  
    greet(); // function call  
}
```

Output:

Welcome to Dart!

Types of Functions in Dart

There are mainly **four types of functions** based on **parameters** and **return type**.

Parameters	Return Value	Example
Without Parameters, Without Return		void greet()
With Parameters, Without Return	params, return	void display(String name)
Without Parameters, With Return	params, return	int getNumber()
With Parameters, With Return	params, return	int add(int a, int b)

Let's understand each type clearly

1. Function without Parameters and without Return Type

Example:

```
void sayHello() {  
    print("Hello User!");  
}  
  
void main() {  
    sayHello();  
}
```

Output:

Hello User!

Explanation:

No parameters and no value is returned. It only performs an action.

2. Function with Parameters and without Return Type

Example:

```
void display(String name, int age) {  
    print("Name: $name");  
    print("Age: $age");  
}  
  
void main() {  
    display("Neeraj", 23);  
}
```

Output:

Name: Neeraj
Age: 23

Explanation:

Here, we **pass values** (arguments) while calling the function.

3. Function without Parameters but with Return Type

Example:

```
int getLuckyNumber() {  
    return 7;  
}  
  
void main() {  
    int number = getLuckyNumber();  
    print("Your lucky number is $number");  
}
```

Output:

Your lucky number is 7

Explanation:

No parameter is passed, but the function **returns** a value.

4. Function with Parameters and with Return Type

Example:

```
int add(int a, int b) {  
    return a + b;  
}  
  
void main() {  
    int result = add(10, 20);  
    print("Sum: $result");  
}
```

Output:

Sum: 30

Explanation:

This is the most common type of function — it takes inputs and returns an output.

Why Use Functions?

Improves **code reusability**

Increases **readability**

Easier to **test and maintain**

Helps in **modular programming**

Parameters in Dart Functions

Dart supports **different types of parameters** for flexibility.

- **Positional parameters**
- **Optional parameters**
- **Named parameters**
- **Default parameter values**
- **Anonymous functions**
- **Arrow functions (short-hand syntax)**

In Dart, functions can have **different types of parameters** depending on how you want to pass values.

1. Required Parameters

These are **must** be passed when calling a function.

```
void greet(String name) {  
    print("Hello, $name!");  
}
```

```
void main() {
  greet("Neeraj"); // Works
  // greet(); Error: Missing argument
}
```

2. Optional Positional Parameters

Use **square brackets []**.

If you don't pass a value, Dart uses `null` or a default value (if provided).

```
void greet(String name, [String? message]) {
  print("Hello, $name!");
  if (message != null) print(message);
}

void main() {
  greet("Neeraj"); // Only name
  greet("Neeraj", "Welcome back!"); // Both
}
```

3. Optional Named Parameters

Use **curly braces { }** — you can pass parameters by **name**, in any order.

```
void showInfo({String? name, int? age}) {
  print("Name: $name, Age: $age");
}

void main() {
  showInfo(name: "Neeraj", age: 23);
  showInfo(age: 25, name: "Ravi"); // Order doesn't matter
}
```

4. Required Named Parameters

Add **required** keyword to make named parameters mandatory.

```
void showDetails({required String name, required int age}) {
  print("Name: $name, Age: $age");
}

void main() {
  showDetails(name: "Neeraj", age: 23); //
  // showDetails(name: "Neeraj"); Error: missing age
}
```

5. Default Parameter Values

You can set default values so if no argument is passed, Dart uses that default.

```
void greet(String name, {String message = "Welcome!"}) {
  print("Hello, $name! $message");
}
```

```

void main() {
  greet("Neeraj"); // Uses default message
  greet("Neeraj", message: "Good Morning!"); // Custom message
}

```

6. Combining Types

You can mix positional + named parameters.

```

void registerUser(String username, {int age = 18, String country =
"India"}) {
  print("Username: $username, Age: $age, Country: $country");
}

void main() {
  registerUser("Neeraj");
  registerUser("Ravi", age: 21, country: "USA");
}

```

Anonymous & Arrow Functions in Dart

An **anonymous function** (also called **lambda** or **closure**) is a function **without a name**. It can be **stored in a variable**, **passed as an argument**, or **used inline**.

Syntax:

```
(parameters) {
  // code
};
```

Example 1 — Assigning an Anonymous Function to a Variable

```

void main() {
  var greet = (String name) {
    print("Hello, $name!");
  };

  greet("Neeraj"); // Output: Hello, Neeraj!
}

```

Here:

- `greet` is a variable that stores an **unnamed function**.
- You can call it just like a normal function.

Example 2 — Passing Anonymous Function as an Argument

```

void performAction(Function action) {
  action();
}

void main() {
  performAction(() {
    print("This is an anonymous function!");
  });
}

```

```
}
```

Anonymous functions are often used in Flutter widgets, like in buttons:

```
ElevatedButton(  
    onPressed: () {  
        print("Button Clicked!");  
    },  
    child: Text("Click Me"),  
) ;
```

Arrow Functions (Short-hand Syntax)

Arrow functions are **a shorter way** to write simple one-line functions.
They use the `=>` symbol instead of `{ }`.

Syntax:

```
returnType functionName(parameters) => expression;
```

The `=>` means “*return this expression*” automatically.

Example 1 — Simple Arrow Function

```
int add(int a, int b) => a + b;  
  
void main() {  
    print(add(5, 3)); // Output: 8  
}
```

This is same as:

```
int add(int a, int b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

Example 2 — Arrow Function in Variable

```
void main() {  
    var greet = (String name) => print("Hello, $name!");  
    greet("Neeraj"); // Output: Hello, Neeraj!  
}
```

Example 3 — Using Arrow Function with List Methods

```
void main() {  
    var numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4];  
    var squared = numbers.map((n) => n * n).toList();  
    print(squared); // Output: [1, 4, 9, 16]  
}
```

Example — Combine Both

```
void main() {
```

```
var fruits = ["apple", "banana", "mango"];

// Using anonymous + arrow function
fruits.forEach((fruit) => print(fruit.toUpperCase()));
}
```

Output:

```
APPLE
BANANA
MANGO
```

Comments in Dart

Comments are notes in your code that help explain what it does.
They are **ignored by the Dart compiler**.

Types of Comments

► Single-line Comment

```
// This is a single-line comment
print("Hello World");
```

► Multi-line Comment

```
/*
This is a multi-line comment.
It can cover multiple lines.
*/
print("Hello Dart");
```

► Documentation Comment

Used for explaining functions, classes, or variables.
They start with `///` and are used for generating docs.

```
/// This function adds two numbers.
int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
}
```

Input / Output in Dart

1. `stdin.readLineSync()` — Taking Input in Dart

`stdin.readLineSync()` is used to **take input from the user** in the console.
It comes from the **dart:io** library.

Syntax:

```
String? variableName = stdin.readLineSync();
```

Example:

```
import 'dart:io';

void main() {
    print("Enter your name:");
    String? name = stdin.readLineSync(); // takes input as string
    print("Hello, $name!");
}
```

Notes:

- It **always returns a String? (nullable)** value.
- You can use ! (null assertion) or check null before using it.

2. stdout.write() — Writing Output Without New Line

print() always moves to a **new line** after printing.
But stdout.write() prints output **without going to a new line**.
It is also from dart:io.

Example:

```
import 'dart:io';

void main() {
    stdout.write("Enter your name: "); // stays on same line
    String? name = stdin.readLineSync();
    print("Hello, $name!");
}
```

Difference:

Method	Moves to next line?	Example Output
print()	Yes	Enter your name: Neeraj
stdout.write()	No	Enter your name: Neeraj

Notes:

- int.parse() converts String → Integer.
- The ! means "I am sure it's not null".

Basic CLI Input Handling

CLI = Command Line Interface

Dart supports reading input and writing output through the console (terminal).

Example with multiple inputs:

```

import 'dart:io';

void main() {
    print("Enter first number:");
    int num1 = int.parse(stdin.readLineSync()!);

    print("Enter second number:");
    int num2 = int.parse(stdin.readLineSync()!);

    print("Sum: ${num1 + num2}");
}

```

Spread Operator (...) in Dart

The **spread operator** is used to **expand elements of a list, set, or map** into another list or map.

It's very useful when merging or combining collections.

Example 1 — Merging Lists

```

void main() {
    var list1 = [1, 2, 3];
    var list2 = [4, 5, 6];
    var combined = [...list1, ...list2];
    print(combined); // Output: [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6]
}

```

Here `...list1` means: “spread all items of `list1` here.”

Example 2 — Adding Items Dynamically

```

void main() {
    var baseList = [1, 2];
    var newList = [0, ...baseList, 3];
    print(newList); // [0, 1, 2, 3]
}

```

Null-Aware Spread Operator (...?)

If you use a normal spread (...) on a **null list**, it causes an error.
To prevent that, use `...?` — it only spreads if the list is not null.

Without Null-Aware Operator (Error)

```

void main() {
    List<int>? numbers;
    var list = [0, ...numbers]; // Error: numbers is null
}

```

With Null-Aware Spread (Safe)

```

void main() {
    List<int>? numbers;
    var list = [0, ...?numbers];
}

```

```
    print(list); // Output: [0]
}
```

Tip:

- Use `...?` when your list or map might be null.
- It avoids runtime exceptions safely.

Program: Check Even or Odd Number

Now let's combine everything — input + output + logic.

Example:

```
import 'dart:io';

void main() {
    stdout.write("Enter a number: "); // input prompt
    int number = int.parse(stdin.readLineSync()!); // convert string to int

    if (number % 2 == 0) {
        print("$number is Even");
    } else {
        print("$number is Odd");
    }
}
```

Sample Output:

```
Enter a number: 7
7 is Odd
Enter a number: 12
12 is Even
```