: The Swift Programming Language 5.7 : Quick Reference Guide : Structures and Classes :

Structures and Enumerations Are Value Types

```
A value type sends a copy of a value
when assigned or passed to a function.
(Not a reference to the original value.)
```

Classes are Reference Types

Rather than a copy, a reference to the same existing Use dot syntax: instance is used when assigned or passed to a function.

Comparing Structures and Classes

Both have properties, methods, subscripts, initialization, extensions, and protocols.

Only Classes have inheritance, type casting, deinitializers, and automatic reference counting.

(This capitalization style is a common human

convention and not hard-coded into Swift.)

Definition Syntax

```
struct SomeStructure {
    // CODE
class SomeClass {
    // CODE
Structs and Classes are types.
Types start with a capital letter.
Properties and methods start with a
lower case letter.
```

For example:

```
struct Resolution {
    var width = 0
    var height = 0
class VideoMode {
    var resolution = Resolution()
    var interlaced = false
    var frameRate = 0.0
    var name: String?
```

Structure and Class Instances

```
let someResolution = Resolution()
let someVideoMode = VideoMode()
```

Accessing Properties

instanceName.propertyName

For example:

someResolution.width

Multiple dots can be used for a drill down into subproperties. For example:

someVideoMode.resolution.width

Assignment can also be used with dot notation. For example:

someVideomode.resolution.width = 1280

Memberwise Initializers for Structure Types

A Structure's memberwise initializer can receive values by name. For example:

```
let vga = Resolution(width: 640, height: 480)
```

Class instances don't receive a default memberwise initializer.

Identity Operators

```
classInstanceOne === classInstanceTwo
// Identical to. Refers to the same instance.
classInstanceOne !== classInstanceThree
// Not identical to. Does not refer to the same instance.
```

Pointers

A Class Reference is similar to a pointer, but is not a direct pointer to a memory address, and does not require an asterisk (*) to create a reference.