

The Object Type

A brief overview for the Object data type

An object is data structure with String keys and arbitrary values. Imagine it like a machine that accepts a key, and gives you a value. Some people call this data structure *associative array*, others call it *hashmap*. These names may sound fancy, but essentially we mean the same damn thing.

*Side note: **Symbol** keys are also allowed for strings. This is an advanced topic, you will learn it later.*

```
let author = {  
  name: null,  
  website: "zsoltnagy.eu",  
  age: 35  
}  
  
author.name = "Zsolt";  
console.log( author.name, author[ "website" ] )  
// Prints: Zsolt zsoltnagy.eu  
  
delete author.name  
console.log( "Author name: ", author.name )  
// Prints: Author name: undefined
```



A *field* in an object can be referenced in the following ways:

- dot notation: `object_name.member_name`
- bracket (associative array) notation: `object_name[string_or_symbol_value]`

The **delete** operator deletes a field from an object.

If a field in an object is deleted or not even declared, the value of this field is **undefined**.

We will learn a lot more about objects later.