

Programming for **Everybody**

4. Arrays and Hashes



Arrays

a **collection** of Ruby data that stores a list of values (called **elements**) in a single variable

arrays can contain: **numbers** (in any order, repeated or not), **strings**, **booleans**, **symbols** and even... **other arrays!** :)
(arrays of arrays are called *multidimensional arrays*)

arrays are defined by specifying values between square brackets [], separated by commas

```
my_array = ["Bob", "Joe", "Zack"]
```



Arrays

each element in the array has what's called an **index** - > the first element is at index **0**, the next is at index 1, the following is at index 2, etc.

we can **access** elements of an array by putting the index within **square brackets**

```
array = [5, 7, 9, 2, 0]
```

```
array[1]
```

```
>_
```

(returns "7", since "7" is at index 1)



Arrays

we can **add** elements to an array

`.push(new element)` or `<< new element`

we can **delete** elements from an array

`.delete_at(index)`



Hashes

a **collection** of Ruby data that stores a list of **key-value pairs** in a single variable

we can use **any** Ruby object as a key or value

values are assigned to keys using =>

```
hash_name = {  
  key1 => value1,  
  key2 => value2,  
  key3 => value3  
}
```



Hashes

creating a new hash:

```
my_hash = {  
  "cat" => "Garfield",  
  "dog" => "Snoopy"  
}
```

or

```
my_hash = Hash.new  
my_hash["cat"] = "Garfield"  
my_hash["dog"] = "Snoopy"
```



Hashes

we can **access** a specific key-value pair like so:

```
my_hash = {  
  "cat" => "Garfield",  
  "dog" => "Snoopy"  
}
```

```
puts my_hash["cat"]
```

(will print out "Garfield")



Hashes

we can **add** key-value pairs to an hash

```
my_hash = {  
  "cat" => "Garfield",  
  "dog" => "Snoopy"  
}  
my_hash["mouse"] = "Mickey"
```

we can **delete** key-value pairs from a hash

```
my_hash.delete("dog")
```



Iterating... again!

we can loop over an array on a hash, in which case we say we're **iterating** over them



Iterating... again!

1. Iterating over an Array

```
my_array = ["Bob", "Joe", "Zack"]
```

```
my_array.each do | name |  
  puts name  
end
```

Is the same as:

```
my_array.each { | name | puts name }  
>_  
(both will print out Bob, Joe, Zack)
```



Iterating... again!

2. Iterating over a multidimensional array

```
my_array = [["Bob", "Joe", "Zack"], ["Zoe", "Nina", "Chloe"]]
```

```
my_array.each do | sub_array |  
  sub_array.each do | name |  
    puts name  
  end  
end
```

(prints out Bob, Joe, Zack, Zoe, Nina, Chloe)



Iterating... again!

3. Iterating over a Hash

we need **two placeholders** to represent each key/value pair:

```
students_grades = {  
  "Zack" => 7,  
  "Zoe" => 10  
}
```

```
students_grades.each do | student, grade |  
  puts "#{student}: #{grade}"  
end
```

```
> _
```

(prints out Zack: 7, Zoe: 10)



Thank you!

