Integers

Integers are whole numbers with no fractional component, such as 42 and -23. Integers are either signed (positive, zero, or negative) or unsigned (positive or zero).

Swift provides signed and unsigned integers in 8, 16, 32, and 64 bit forms. These integers follow a naming convention similar to C in that an 8-bit unsigned integer is of type UInt8, and a 32-bit signed integer is of type Int32. Like all types in Swift these integer types have capitalized names.

Integer Bounds

You can access the minimum and maximum values of each integer type with its min and max properties:

```
1 let minValue = UInt8.min // minValue is equal to 0 and is of type UInt8
2 let maxValue = UInt8.max // maxValue is equal to 255 and is of type UInt8
```

The values of these properties are of the appropriate-sized number type (such as UInt8 in the example above) and can therefore be used in expressions alongside other values of the same type.

Int

In most cases, you don't need to pick a specific size of integer to use in your code. Swift provides an additional integer type Int which has the same size as the current platform's native word size:

- On a 32-bit platform Int is the same size as Int32.
- On a 64-bit platform, Int is the same size as Int64.

Unless you need to work with a specific size of integer always use Int for integer values in your code. This aids code consistency and interoperability. Even on 32-bit platforms Int can store any value between -2,147,483,648 and 2,147,483,647, and is large enough for many integer ranges.

UInt

Swift also provides an unsigned integer type UInt/which has the same size as the current platform's native word size:

- On a 32-bit platform, UInt is the same size as UInt32.
- On a 64-bit platform, UInt is the same size as UInt64.

NOTE

Use UInt only when you specifically need an unsigned integer type with the same size as the platform's native word size. If this isn't the case, Int is preferred, even when the values to be stored are known to be nonnegative. A consistent use of Int for integer values aids code interoperability, avoids the need to convert between different number types, and matches integer type inference, as described in Type Safety and Type Inference.