

Objective-C Wrap Up



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Almost all of the improvements to Objective-C in the last few years were to prepare for Swift.

Recent Objective-C Features



ARC



Binary Import



**Nullable
Attributes**



**Lightweight
Generics**



kindof



instancetype

ARC

Added to the LLVM compiler years ago

Helps with Reference Counting

Optional in Objective-C

Required in Swift (for class instances)

Binary Import

Added to the LLVM compiler years ago

@import to reference binary

Replaced #import for header files

Swift import keyword

Nullable

Obj-C references historically could be nil

No way to express that in the language

New attributes enable you to annotate Obj-C

Lightweight
Generics

NSArray and NSDictionary – no type info
Generics enables type description

kindof

Another attribute to discourage use of “id”
Specify the base class or protocol instead

instancetype

Replaces “id” as return type for initializers

Summary

New Objective-C features are useful

- Mostly there to improve the projection of Objective-C to the Swift Compiler
- Best practice - add to your code now even if you aren't using Swift yet