



Dart Decoded: Unveiling the Basics with Control Flow, Functions, and OOP



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Outline

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- 3. **Control Flow** (conditional and loop)
- 4. **Functions** (function)
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Dart Overview

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Dart is a client-optimized and type-safe language for developing fast apps on any platforms.



Dart forms the foundation of Flutter

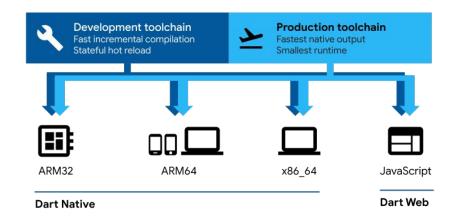
Dart's Compiler Technology

Native Platform:

- Development: Using just-in-time (JIT) compiler for faster development.
- Production: Using ahead-of-time (AOT)
 compiler to compile to native ARM or x86_64
 machine code.

Dart Web:

Compile Dart code into Javascript code which can run in a browser, such as Chromium and Firefox.



Dart's Compiler Technology

Curious about Dart sophisticated compiler? Let's do some experiment...

Please write the codes in the right side to the file named hello world.dart.

Open new terminal, then run these command to compile dart to executable native machine code and to Javascript:

```
dart compile exe hello_world.dart
dart compile js hello_world.dart
```

```
void main(List<String> args) {
print("Hello World");
}
```

Then, you can execute the compiled code with these command:

```
./hello_world.exe
node hello_world.js (if nodejs is installed)
But, for convenience reason, we will use
dart run hello_world.dart
to run Dart file with JIT compiler.
```



Variable and Data Types

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Variable and Data Types

Variable is a **container to store a value** in a computer program.

Data types **define** what **kind of value** a variable can store.

```
String communityName = "GDSC ITTelkom Surabaya";
int currentMember = 100;
int maxMember = 200;
bool isActive = true;
List<String> availableDivisions = [
    "Event Organizer",
    "Public Relations",
    "Media and Creative",
    "Tech and Curriculum",
];
```

Dart language has a special supports for the following types:

- Numbers (int, double)
- Strings (String)
- Booleans (bool)
- Records ((value1, value2))
- Lists (List, also known as arrays)
- Sets (Set)
- Maps (Map)
- Runes (Runes; often replaced by the characters API)
- Symbols (Symbol)
- The value null (Null)

Type Inference and Dynamic Type

Variable types can also **inferred** by Dart runtime using var keyword:

```
var str = "This is type inference";
```

Even though Dart is a typesafe language, we can also **disable type-checking** by using dynamic keyword:

```
dynamic str = "This is string";
str = 2023; // can store value with different type at runtime
```

Null Safety Feature

Null safety means that a variable can't be null, unless we defined for it to be nullable. This feature prevents errors that result from unintentional access of variables set to null.

```
void main(List<String> args) {
    List<String> divisions; // this is not nullable
    print(divisions); // gives compile-time error
}

If you really want to have a nullable variable, just define it:)

void main(List<String> args) {
    List<String>? greetings; // define as nullable
    print(greetings ?? ["Hello", "Hi"]); // do a null check
}
```

Note: This feature is a largest change from Dart 2 to Dart 3



Control Flow

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Control Flow

Control flow **decides the order** your program takes. It makes your program "smarter", by making decisions or **looping** through certain instructions. There are 2 types of control flow:

- Branches
- Loops



Branches

Branches is used to execute your code conditionally. In Dart, use if, else if, and else statements to execute specific code blocks based on whether a condition evaluates to true or false.

```
if (isActive && currentMember >= maxMember) {
    print("$communityName is active but not accepting new members");
} else if (isActive && currentMember < maxMember) {
    print("$communityName is active and still accepting new members");
} else {
    print("$communityName is not active");
}</pre>
```

Alternatively, you can define branches with ternary operation if not really complex.

```
print(isActive ? "$communityName is active" : "$communityName is not active");
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```

Loops (for-loop)

Loops let you **repeat code until a condition is met**. This kind of control flow is mainly used to **performs repetitive task**.

```
// iterate from i = 0; while i < availableDivisions, with 1 step
each iteration
for(int i = 0; i < availableDivisions.length; i++) {
    // for each iteration, print division
    print("${availableDivisions[i]} is available");
}</pre>
```

But for more **readability**, you can run above code as follow (depends on the use case).

```
for (String division in availableDivisions) {
    print("$division is available");
}
```

There are generally 2 types of loops, that is *for-loop* and *while-loop*.

For-loop is used when we are certain when will our loops stop iterating. It is used to iterate over a range of an object.

While-loop is used when the looping condition is not certain, usually if the condition is quite complex. It is used to iterate while boolean condition is met.

Loops (while-loop)

While-loop is another type of loops where it is **iterating by boolean condition**. While condition is evaluated as **true**, it will **continue iterating**. Otherwise, it will stop the iterations.

Note: while-loop is **more flexible** than for-loop, because it is not limited in a range of an objects. But for-loop is **easier to use**.

```
String searchedDivision = "Tech";
bool foundDivision = false:
int index = 0:
while(index < availableDivisions.length) {</pre>
      String division = availableDivisions[index];
      if (division.contains(searchedDivision)) {
            foundDivision = true;
           break:
      index++;
print(foundDivision ? "Division found" : "Division
not found");
```



Functions

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Function (void function)

A function is a **block** of **organized**, **reusable code** that is used to **perform a single**, **related action**. For the most basic function, we can make a single void function with no parameter.

A function can take no parameters. But, in this example we take a single parameter, the list of divisions.

```
// declare a function outside the main function
void printAllDivisions(List<String> divisions) {
     for (String division in divisions) {
           print("$division is available");
void main(List<String> arguments) {
     /**
      * other codes...
     // call the function
     printAllDivisions(availableDivisions);
```

Function (non-void function & named parameter)

```
String getRecruitmentStatus({
     required String communityName,
     required bool isActive,
     required int currentMember,
     required int maxMember,
}) {
     if (isActive && currentMember >= maxMember) {
           return "$communityName is active but not
accepting new members";
     } else if (isActive && currentMember < maxMember) {</pre>
           return "$communityName is active and still
accepting new members";
     return "$communityName is not active";
```

Note: required keyword in the function parameter means that the argument must be defined in the function call. You can't remove those requirements unless you provides the default/fallback value.

Is there any other task in our main function that can be defined into a function?

Is your code getting cleaner?

But, can we get cleaner code?

But, a **new problem** arised... What if we have **more community data**?



Object-Oriented Programming

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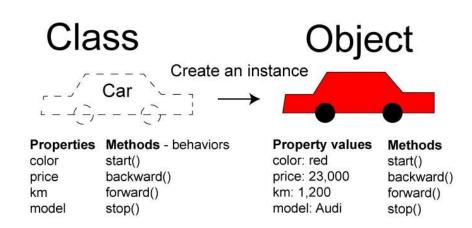
Object-Oriented Programming

Object-Oriented Programming is a **programming** paradigm based on the **concept of object**.

An object can contain data and code, where:

- Data in the form of properties
- Code in the form of methods

These object is instantiated from a **object blueprint** called **class**.



So, let's define community as an object

Define Community Class (properties and constructor)

Class is created as a blueprint to an object.

Here, the blueprint define that **every object instantiated** from Community class, **will have such properties**.

Properties defines "What is this object have".

Then, we can define a **constructor** to **create an object** from given arguments assigned to its properties.

```
class Community {
      // define the properties of the object created by
Community class
      final String name;
      final int currentMember:
      final int maxMember:
      final bool isActive;
      final List<String> divisions;
      // constructor: used to instantiate the object
from specified arguments/data
      const Community({
             required this.name,
             required this.currentMember,
             required this.maxMember,
             required this.isActive,
             required this.divisions,
      });
```

Define Community Class (methods)

Methods is a functions that defines "What this object can do". These functions can be executed by object instantiated from this class.

A method of an object can access its object properties.

```
// method to print all divisions
void printAllDivisions() {
  for (String division in divisions) {
    print("$division is available");
// Dart built-in getter method
String get recruitmentStatus {
  if (isActive && currentMember >= maxMember) {
    return "$name is active but not accepting new members,"
  } else if (isActive && currentMember < maxMember) {</pre>
    return "$name is active and still accepting new members,"
  return "$name is not active";
```

So, let's define the remaining method

Instantiate Object from Class

We can instantiate object to "realize" your class.

Those object will have your assigned properties and defined methods!

And, we can instantiate another Community from our class easily!

```
void main(List<String> arguments) {
 Community gdsc = Community(
   name: "GDSC Institut Teknologi Telkom Surabaya,"
  currentMember: 150,
   maxMember: 200,
  isActive: true,
  divisions: <String>[
     "Event Organizer",
     "Public Relations",
     "Media and Creative",
     "Tech and Curriculum",
 );
 gdsc.printAllDivisions();
 print(gdsc.recruitmentStatus);
 gdsc.searchDivision(searchedDivision: "Tech");
```

Yay, we have solved our problems!



Now, our code getting even cleaner!

Let's **experiment**!

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