# **Data Structures**

How and when to use them

# Picking A Data Structure

What are you trying to do?

## Picking A Data Structure

"... I need to know if I have seen a value before..."

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"... I need to know if I have seen a value before..."

List

Map

Set

Queue

Stack

## Interface vs Implementation

#### Interface

Defines the "contract" for how the data structure can be used.

For example, a set's interface would have methods for "add", "remove", and "contains".

### **Implementation**

Provides the functionality behind the "contract". This determines the performance of the data structure.

For example, a hashset would implement the "add", "remove", and "contains" methods.

## Interface vs Implementation

```
Set<String> names = new HashSet<>();
names.add("Olivia");
names.add("Aaron");
names.add("Ryan");
```

Unless there is a specific reason, your code only needs the implementation when initializing the variable.

The interface can be used elsewhere. Why?

## Interface Hierarchy



