



# Ruby 101

## Ruby Basics: Variable Scope Revisited

## Ruby Basics:

## Variable Scope

- 1) local: begin with a lowercase letter
- 2) instance: begin with @
- 3) class: begin with @@
- 4) global: begin with \$



Variables in Classes: Instance Variables  
Shared across all methods in an instance

```
class Square

  def initialize
    @length = 10
  end

  def printout
    puts "Length = #{@length}."
  end

end
```



Variables in Classes: Local Variables  
Accessed only within the methods that define them

```
class Square

  def initialize
    @length = 10
  end

  def printout
    length = @length * 2
    puts "Length = #{length}."
  end

end
```



Variables in Classes: Class Variables  
Accessed by all instances and methods.

```
class Square
  @@number_of_squares = 0
  def initialize
    @length = 10
    @@number_of_squares += 1
  end

  def printout
    puts "Length = #{@length}."
    puts "Total = #{@@number_of_squares}."
  end
end
```



Global Variables: Can be accessed anywhere.

```
$settings = {:border_width => 1}
```

```
class Square
  def initialize length = 10
    @length = length
    @border_width = $settings[:border_width]
  end
end
```

