

Defining Messages



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```
message Customer {  
    uint64 id = 1;  
    string username = 2;  
    bool is_active = 3;  
}
```

Messages

Fields

Other message members



Field Elements

```
repeated uint64 vals = 1;
```

rule

type

name

tag



Field Rule

proto2

required

optional

repeated

proto3

{none}

repeated



Field Type

Scalar

Enumeration

Message Type



Scalar Types

string

bool

bytes

float

double

int32 /
int64

uint32 /
uint64

sint32 /
sint64

fixed32 /
fixed64

sfixed32 /
sfixed64



Enumerations

```
message Customer {  
    enum Type {  
        REGULAR = 0;  
        MEMBER = 1;  
        SPONSOR = 2;  
    }  
    Type type = 1;  
}
```

```
var customer = new Customer();  
  
customer.setType(  
    Customer.Type.REGULAR);
```



```
message Customer {  
    string first_name = 1;  
}
```

Field Name

- lower case
- use underscore (_) as separator
- converted to correct style for each language



Field Tags

unique

integer

$[1, 2^{29} - 1]$

reserved

$[19000, 19999]$

smaller values are more
efficient



Default Values

proto2

**Normally the zero
value**

proto3

Always the zero value

```
optional int32 results_per_page = 1 [default = 25];
```



Nested Message Types

```
message Customer {  
    message Address {  
        . . .  
    }  
    repeated Address addresses = 1;  
}
```

```
var address = new Customer.Address()
```



Other Message Members

oneof

map

the 'Any' type



```
message Customer {  
    oneof access_type {  
        string email = 1;  
        string username = 2;  
    }  
}
```

oneof

- Only one field can hold value
- Setting one field clears others
- More efficient memory usage (when possible)

maps

```
message Customer {  
    map<string, string> email_addresses = 1;  
}
```

**keys must be strings or integer
types**



The 'Any' Type

```
import "google/protobuf/any.proto";

message Customer {
    int32 id = 1;
    string username = 2;
    repeated google.protobuf.Any details = 3;
}
```



Summary



Fields

- Rules
- Types
- Name
- Tag

Enumerations

Nested Messages

Oneof

Map

The 'Any' Type

