Jagged arrays

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- You've seen a multidimensional array where the size of each inner array is the same. There's another type of array called a jagged array. It's a little more flexible because its elements can be order different dimensions and sizes. Let's do a quick review. Here's a diagram of an array. With this, we have a one-dimensional array with three items. To make it two-dimensional array we add another dimension by adding another array, making this have two dimensions. Each array in this data structure has three columns or three slots. Each array is the same size. The length of the first row is the number of columns and the length of the two-dimensional array is the number of rows. The smaller pairs inside of each box indicate the indices used to access that slot. Now a jagged array would look something like this. Here, each array within the data structure can be of a different length. The first array or first row has three elements, the second has two elements, and so on. With a jagged array, the number of columns is not fixed, meaning the inner arrays can be any length we'd like. This means that if we're iterating through the array, we'll need to access the length of each individual array because their sizes can be different. We didn't have to do this for multidimensional arrays because each array inside of that data structure is the same size.