

Collections in Business Central

AL supports three types of collections. A collection is a complex type that contains multiple values in one variable. All of these collections are strongly typed, which means you can't have values with different types in the same collection.

AL supports:

Arrays, List, Dictionary

Arrays

```
var EmployeeAmount: array[3] of Integer;
```

Identifier

datatype

keyword for declaring array

10	20	30
----	----	----

1

2

3

```
var EmployeeAmount: array[2,3] of Integer;
```

Identifier

datatype

keyword for declaring array

1	10	20	30
2	20	40	60
	1	2	3

Array can also be used with complex types

Lists

The list data type can be compared to an array. The List type can only be used with fundamental types and represents a strongly types of values that can be accessed by an index. The list data type doesn't require you to define how many elements you can to store upfront.

```
EmpleyeeNames: List of [Text];
```

Dictionaries

This data type is a collection of keys and values. Every key in the dictionary should be unique. The main benefit is that you can immediately get the value for a specific key.

EmployeeCountries: Dictionary of [Text[100], Text[100]]

The diagram illustrates the components of a dictionary type signature. Two upward-pointing arrows are positioned below the square brackets of the type signature. The left arrow points to 'Text[100]' and is labeled 'Key'. The right arrow points to the second 'Text[100]' and is labeled 'Value'.