



## Swift Language Quick Reference 5.9

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### Declare constant (at global or nested scope):

```
let x = 10; let y: Double = 11
```

### Rely on type inference mechanism if possible

Unicode as identifier: `let  $\pi$  = 3.14159`

Keyword as identifier: `let `if` = 5 (bad idea!)`

### Declare stored variable (global or nested scope):

```
var x = 10
```

If declared in class, we call it a (stored) property

### Computed variable/property has getter and optional setter:

```
var variable-name: type {
    get { ... }
    set(setter-name) { ... }
    // default setter-name is newValue
}
```

### Stored variable/property observers:

```
var variable-name: type = expression {
    willSet(setter-name) { ... }
    didSet(setter-name) { ... }
    // default setter-names are newValue
    // (in willSet) and oldValue (in didSet)
}
```

**lazy** modifier indicates initialize on first access

**weak** modifier indicates holds weak reference (*must be optional; could become nil any time*)

**Comments:** either `//` single-line

or `/*...*/` multi-line, which can nest `/*.../*...*/.../*...*/`

### Types

**Numeric types:** `Bool`, `Int`, `UInt`, `Double`; also `Float`, `Int8`, `Int16`, `Int32`, `Int64`, and `UInt8|16|32|64`

**Int and Double are preferred, but 32-bit Float and Int variants with indicated bit sizes are available**

Types have useful properties and methods like `.min` and `.max`

Numeric literals have infinite precision

Bases: `0b1111 == 0o17 == 0xf == 15`

```
let B = 1_000_000_000 // ignore _s
```

Scientific notation: `+48.0 == 4.8e1 == 0xCp2`

### String/character types:

Fully Unicode-compliant string/character types

Concatenation operators: `+`, `+=`

Repeat initializer: `let dotLead = String(count:4, repeatedValue: Character("."))`

Methods: `isEmpty()`, `hasPrefix()`, `hasSuffix()`, `toInt()`

**String** literal: `"hello"`

**Character** literal: `"A"`

**String** escapes: `\0`, `\\`, `\t`, `\n`, `\r`, `\'`, `\'`, `\u{n}`

**String** interpolation: `"Answer: \(result+5)"`

**Multiline string literal:** `"""`

```
The White Rabbit put on his spectacles. \
"Where shall I begin, please your Majesty?"
"""
```

Leading spaces at the indent level are removed, line break is

NOT inserted when backslash (`\`) ends a line

Extended delimiters turn off escaping: `#"line1\nline2"#`

**String** is a value type; use `let/var` to control mutability

**Boolean literals:** `true`, `false`

**Null reference:** `nil`

**Tuple:** `(name1:value1, name1:value2)`

**Void** is typealias for `()`, tuple with no elements

One-place tuple is same as its element type:

e.g. `(Int)` is the same as `Int`

Access tuple elements by label or position:

```
print("o: \(origin.x), \(origin.1)")
```

Decompose: `let (x, y) = (4, "abc")`

Ignore elements by `_`: `let (_, y) = (4, "abc")` or assign

```
(a, _, (b, c)) = ("x", 9.45, (12, 3))
```

// `a` is `"x"`, `b` is `12`, `c` is `3`, `9.45` ignored

Can compare tuples of same type with `==`, `!=`, `<`, `>`, `<=`, `>=`

if operator works on each element of the tuple

**Alias for type specification:**

```
 typealias Point = (x: Int, y: Int)
```

```
let origin: Point = (0, 0)
```

### Collection types:

`[T]` is syntactic sugar for `Array<T>`

`[K:V]` is syntactic sugar for `Dictionary<K, T>`

Also `Set<K>`

`K` must conform to `Hashable` protocol

Concatenate collections with `+`

Collections are value types; use `let/var` to control mutability

### Optionals:

`T?` is syntactic sugar for `Optional<T>`, an `enum` with two cases: `None` and `Some(T)`

Use `!` to unwrap optional, but runtime error if `nil`

`T!` stands for `ImplicitlyUnwrappedOptional<T>`

```
let possibleString: String? = "Optional string"
```

```
let assumedString: String! = "Impl. unwrapped"
```

Optional binding with `if let c = o { ... }`

Or `guard let c = o else { /* must exit scope */ }`

Can use `var` instead of `let` if you want a variable

Shorthand `if let x` is equivalent to `if let x = x`

### Special literals:

`#file` (`String`, name of file in which it appears)

`#fileID` (`String`, name of file and its module)

`#filePath` (`String`, path to file in which it appears)

`#line` (`Int`, line number on which it appears)

`#column` (`Int`, column # in which it begins)

`#function` (`String`, name of enclosing declaration)

`#dsohandle` (`String`, name of enclosing declaration)

### Array and dictionary literals: `[]` and `[:]`

Optional comma allowed after last item in the literal

`self` refers to instance or type based on context

In `mutating` method of a value type, you can assign a new

instance to `self`

`super` refers to base class instance or type

### class

Reference type; initializers (`init`), deinitializer (`deinit`)

Failable initializer marked `init?(...)` may return `nil`

Can use identity operators (`===`, `!==`) on references; no

universal base class; must write `override` to override a

method; `private` superclass members are not accessible;

`final` modifier prevents further overriding; `convenience`,

`required` initializers; subclass can override getters/setters

### struct

Value type; like class but without inheritance and pass by

value instead of pass by reference; often encapsulates a

few relatively simple data values (not reference types)

`mutating`, `nonmutating`, `unowned`, `unowned(safe)`,

`unowned(unsafe)`

### enum

Value type with distinct cases (*member values*)

```
enum WeekendDay { case Sunday, Saturday }
```

```
var day = WeekendDay.Sunday
```

```
day = .Saturday // shorthand if type known
```

`toRaw()`, `fromRaw()`

Recursive associated type uses `indirect case`

### Visibility modifiers:

`private` visible only to the current module, not subclasses

`private(set)` gives internal-level getter, `private` setter

`fileprivate` gives access to types within the same file

No modifier means `internal`, visible within current module

and subclasses (generally your whole app is a "module")

`public` visible to the world

`open` world can override (only applies to `class` types)

**Protocols:** (like Java interface: declares instance/type

methods/properties, operators, subscripts that must be

possessed by *conforming* types; can inherit from one or

more other protocols)

```
protocol Name: BaseProtocol1, BaseProtocol2 {
```

```
    var settable: Int { get set }
```

```
    optional var readable: Int { get }
```

```
    init(...)
```

```
    func random() -> Double
```

```
    class func someTypeMethod()
```

```
mutating func toggle()
```

```
}
```

Protocol composition: P1 & P2 &...

```
protocol Name: class {  
    // can only be adopted by class types  
}
```

Members marked **optional** need not be implemented

Swift provides synthesized implementations of **Equatable**,

**Hashable**, **Comparable** where possible

```
struct Vector: Equatable { var x = 0.0, y = 0.0 }
```

To enforce reference semantics, inherit from **AnyObject**  
**optional** is for Objective-C interoperability (mark protocol  
and **optional** members with **@objc**)

**Important protocols:**

**Equatable**, **Hashable**, **Comparable**, **Printable**

Types can be nested

**Metatype:** **name.Type** or **name.Protocol**

**Self** keyword

**typename.self** gets actual type object (e.g. class)

**name.dynamicType** gets **name's** runtime type

E.g. instead of **PlayingCard.validSuits()**,

**self.dynamicType.validSuits()** in case **self** is an  
instance of a subclass of **PlayingCard**

**Semicolons optional** after statements, but can be used to  
combine multiple statements on a line

**Loops:**

```
for item in collection { ... }
```

```
while condition { ... }
```

```
repeat { ... } while condition
```

Can use **case**, **let**, **var** in **for/while** statements

We use ranges often (e.g. closed range **1...5**, half-  
open range **0...<5**, one-sided ranges **.. or **0...)****

**Branching statements:**

```
if condition {  
    ...  
}
```

```
else if condition {  
    ...  
}
```

```
else {  
    ...  
}
```

```
guard condition else {  
    // Must either call noreturn function or  
    // use return/break/continue/throw to  
    // transfer control out of this scope  
}
```

```
switch control-expression {  
    case pattern1, pattern2:  
        ...  
}
```

```
case pattern3 where condition:  
    ...  
case ignore-this-pattern:  
    break  
default:  
    ...  
}
```

```
default case must appear in last position
```

Cases must be exhaustive w.r.t. control expression

Use **fallthrough** to fall through to next case

Can label **if/switch** statements with **name:** and use **break**  
or **continue** with those labels

Can use ranges in cases (**case 1...<5** or **case 5...100**)

For tuples, can use patterns like **case (\_, 0)** or value  
bindings like **case (let x, let y)**

```
switch point {  
    case let (x, y) where x == y:  
        println("Dimensions of point identical")  
}
```

```
defer {  
    // Execute this just before leaving scope  
    // E.g. close an open file  
}
```

**Error handling:**

```
func canThrowAnError() throws { ... }
```

```
do {  
    try condition  
    ...  
} catch pattern1 {  
    ...  
} catch pattern2 where condition {  
    ...  
}
```

```
try expression (evaluate expression, may throw)  
try? expression (return nil if expression throws)  
try! Expression (runtime error if expression throws)  
throw, throws, rethrows
```

**Postfix operators:** **++** and **--**

Postfix self: **expression.self** or type **.self**

**Dynamic type:** **expression.dynamicType** evaluates to  
runtime type of the expression

**Subscript expression:** **expr[index-expressions]**

Can provide **subscript(parameters) -> return-type** { ... }  
for a type to overload the **[]** operator

**Forced-value expression:** **expression!**

**Optional-chaining expression:** **expression?** interrupts  
evaluation of chain if expression is **nil**

**Nil-coalescing operator:** **a ?? b** is shorthand for  
**a != nil ? a! : b**

**import** [**import-kind**] **module[.symbol-name]**

Can import whole module or just a specific symbol

Import kinds: **typealias**, **struct**, **class**, **enum**, **protocol**,  
**var**, **func**

**Array operators & functions**

```
init(count:, repeatedValue:)  
subscript, append(), insert(, atIndex:),  
removeAtIndex(), removeLast(),  
removeAll(keepCapacity: = false),  
reserveCapacity(), count, isEmpty, capacity, sort(),  
sorted(), reverse(), filter(), map(), reduce(), +=
```

**Dictionary operators & functions**

```
subscript, updateValue(, forKey:),  
removeValueForKey(), removeAll(), count, keys,  
values, ==, !=
```

**Type checking and casting:**

**is** (true if **expression** can be cast to **type**)

**as** (cast **expression** at compile time)

**as?** (cast **expression** or return **nil**)

**as!** (cast or throw runtime error)

**Functional programming constructs:**

Closure:

```
{ capture-list (parameters) -> return-type in  
    ...  
}
```

Can infer types from context; implicit return from single-  
expression closures; shorthand argument names: **\$0**, **\$1**;  
operator functions; trailing closures; closures capture  
values in their context; are reference types

Optional **capture-list** [**a**] captures just **a**, not other variables  
[**weak self**] or [**unowned self**]  
(**elements**, ...) (**inout** **x**: **Int**, ...)  
**map**<**U**>(**\_**: **\_**) -> **Array**<**U**>  
**reduce**<**U**>(**\_**: **\_**, **combine**: (**U**, **T**) -> **U**) -> **U**  
**filter**(**\_**: **\_**) -> **Array**<**T**>  
**reverse**() -> **Array**<**U**>

Pass **inout** parameter by writing **f(&anInoutVar)**

Return tuple to return multiple values from function

Use external and internal names for parameters:  
**func** **size**(**for** **value**: **Int**, **\_** **value2**: **Int**)

Can give default value to parameters with **= expression**

Can use variadic parameters (i.e. lists of arbitrary length):  
**func** **average**(**\_** **numbers**: **Double**...) -> **Double**

Function types can be used as regular types

Functions can be nested

When closure can escape called function, mark **@escaping**

When type can be inferred, no need to specify the type name to access members

```
extension SomeType: Protocol1, Protocol2 {
  // new definitions go here
}
```

Can add default implementation of protocol requirements

```
extension Array where Element: Identifiable {...}
```

```
func myMax<T: Comparable>(_ x: T, _ y: T) -> T
{ return x < y ? y : x }
```

Can add type constraints in generic parameter list:

Protocol can specify unknown **associated type** that is defined by **type alias** or by when generic type implements conformance to the protocol:

An empty `extension` could also work if the type being extended already satisfies the protocol requirements and thus the compiler can infer the `associatedtype`, as with:

```
extension Array: Container {}
```

**Opaque types:** Let you hide the specific type(s) used to create a value, like the `body` of a `View`:

Protocol with `associatedtype` cannot be used as function return type, but function can return an opaque type

Some binary operators: (numbers indicate precedence level)

&x arithmetic operators truncate result without runtime exception on overflow/underflow, or return 0 instead of runtime error on &/ division by 0

Custom operators begin with /, =, -, +, !, \*, %, <, >, &, |, ^, ~ or certain Unicode ranges of characters

TBD

print(), println(), sort(), sorted()

**#selector(method name)**

```
#selector(getter: property name)
```

```
#selector(setter: property name)
```

```
#keyPath(expression)
```

```
#if compilation-condition-1
```

...

## #elseif *compilation-condition-2*

...

```
#else
```

...

```
#endif
```

Conditions:

```
os(macOS | iOS | watchOS | tvOS | Linux | Windows)
```

```
arch(i386 | x86_64 | arm | arm64)
```

```
swift(>=x.y|<x.y), e.g. swift(>=2.1)
```

`canImport(module-name)`

```
targetEnvironment(simulator | macCatalyst)
```

```
if #available(platform-name version, ..., *) {
```

...

```
} else {
```

...

}

Platform names: `iOS`, `iOSApplicationExtension`, `macOS`, `macOSApplicationExtension`, `macCatalyst`, `macCatalystApplicationExtension`, `watchOS`, `tvOS`

associatedtype, class, deinit, enum, extension, func,  
import, init, inout, internal, let, operator,  
private, protocol, public, static, struct,  
subscript, typealias, var

break, case, continue, default, defer, do, else, fallthrough, for, guard, if, in, repeat, return, switch, where, while

as, Any, catch, dynamicType, false, is, nil, rethrows,  
self, Self, super, throw, throws, true, try, \_

```
#available(), #colorLiteral(red:green:blue:alpha:),
#column, #dsohandle, #else, #elseif, #endif,
#error(), #file, #fileID, #filePath,
#fileLiteral(resourceName:), #function, #if,
#imageLiteral(resourceName:), #keyPath(), #line,
#selector(), #selector(getter:),
#selector(setter:), #sourceLocation(),
#sourceLocation(file:line:), #warning()
```

associativity, convenience, dynamic, didSet, final, get, indirect, infix, lazy, left, mutating, none, nonmutating, optional, override, postfix, precedence, precedencegroup, prefix, Protocol, required, right, set, Type, unowned, weak, willSet

( ) [ ] { } . , : ; = @ # & - > ` ? !

```
@autoclosure, available, objc, noescape, nonobjc,  
    noreturn, testable, convention, others
```

Special parameters include `_`, `type...`, and default argument value

```
unavailable, introduced: version, deprecated:
  version, obsoleted: version, *, message: message,
  renamed: new-name, discardableResult,
  GKInspectable, UIApplicationMain, NSCopying,
  NSManaged, UIApplicationMain, IBAction, IBOutlet,
  IBDesignable, IBInspectable, convention [swift |
  block | c]
```

#### Declaration modifiers:

dynamic, final, lazy, optional, required  
convenience, mutating, nonmutating, override  
infix, postfix, prefix, static

#### Automatic Reference Counting and memory allocation:

unowned, unowned(safe), unowned(unsafe), weak

Swift tracks references automatically via reference count

When reference count hits zero, Swift releases the object

There can be reference cycles preventing deallocation, so we  
introduce weak and unowned references

```
precondition(index > 0, "Index must be greater
than zero.")
preconditionFailure(_:_:file:line:)
fatalError(_:file:line:)
```

```
#error(diagnostic-message)
```

```
#warning(diagnostic-message)
```

Property wrappers: wrapped value, projected value

Access projected value with `$`

**Any type** (and `as Any` to assign optional to `Any`)

#### Concurrency:

`async`, `await`, `async let`, `Task`, `TaskGroup`, `actor`

TBD

#### Memory safety:

TBD

Playground literals: `#colorLiteral`, `#fileLiteral`, `#imageLiteral`  
`resultBuilder`

**NOTE: this is a work in progress—not done!**