General Assembly

STUDY GUIDE

# LINKED LISTS

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## Key Terms

» **Linked Lists:** A foundational data structure used by many complex data structures. The key component is a node.

» **Null next node:** The very last node, also called "the tail."

» **Doubly Linked Lists:** First points in one direction but then allows us to traverse the list backward. Here, a *previous* property points to the previous item in the list

## Cheat Sheet

### What's in a node

» A *data* property that stores a value.

» A *next* property, sometimes called a "pointer," that points to the next item in the list.

### The challenges of a linked list

» They take up more space than arrays.

» It can take more time to access a linked list.

» You can’t access a particular node in a linked list without starting from the top and moving sequentially until you find it.

### Building a linked list:

» Start with a head property that references the first node.

» Add a next pointer and the new node with data.

» Find the last node by looking for the node with null as its next value.