

**Data types listed here apply only for personal GDBs**

Name	Specific range, length, or Size (Bytes)	Applications
Short integer	-32,768 to 32,767	2
Long integer	-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647	4
Single precision floating point number (Float)	-3.4E38 to 1.2E38	4
Double precision floating point number (Double)	-2.2E308 to 1.8E308	8
Text	Up to 64,000 characters	Varies
Date	mm/dd/yyyy	
hh:mm:ss A/PM		8

**Choosing a data type**  
**Numeric**

In choosing a numeric data type, first consider the need for **whole numbers versus fractional numbers**. For whole numbers, specify a short or long integer. For numbers with decimal places, specify a float or a double.

Secondly, when choosing between a short or long integer, or between a float and double, choose the data type that takes up the **least storage space** required. This will not only minimize the amount of storage required but will also improve performance. If you need to store integers between -32,768 and 32,767 only, specify the short integer data type, because it takes up only 2 bytes, whereas the long integer data type takes up 4. If you need to store fractional numbers between -3.4E-38 and 1.2E38 only, specify the float data type, because it takes up 4 bytes, whereas the double data type takes up 8.

### **Text**

A text field represents a series of alphanumeric symbols. A numeric value i.e. 123 can be entered but as text it is no longer quantitative and cannot be used in mathematical calculations.

### **Date**

When a date field is assigned to an attribute in the table for a feature class this is passed along to ArcPad for the data entry form in the form of a calendar. To accept the current data put a check in the box beside the date. To change the date tap on the date field and you will see the calendar.