In the 1990s Moy and Prasad revolutionized $p$-adic representation theory by showing how to use Bruhat-Tits theory to assign invariants to $p$-adic representations. The tools they introduced resulted in rapid advancements in both representation theory and harmonic analysis—areas of central importance in the Langlands program. A crucial ingredient for many results is an explicit construction of (types for) representations of $p$-adic groups. In this talk I will indicate why, survey what constructions are known (no knowledge about $p$-adic groups assumed) and present recent developments based on a refinement of Moy and Prasad’s invariants.