

C# Fundamentals

Overview

C# is a modern, general-purpose, object-oriented programming language developed by Microsoft and approved by European Computer Manufacturers Association (ECMA) and International Standards Organization (ISO).

C# was developed by Anders Hejlsberg and his team during the development of .NET Framework.

C# is designed for Common Language Infrastructure (CLI), which consists of the executable code and runtime environment that allows use of various high-level languages on different computer platforms and architectures.

The following reasons make C# a widely used professional language:

- It is a modern, general-purpose programming language
- It is object oriented.
- It is component oriented.
- It is easy to learn.
- It is a structured language.
- It produces efficient programs.
- It can be compiled on a variety of computer platforms.
- It is a part of .NET Framework.

Strong Programming Features of C#

Although C# constructs closely follow traditional high-level languages, C and C++ and being an object-oriented programming language. It has strong resemblance with Java, it has numerous strong programming features that make it endearing to a number of programmers worldwide.

Following is the list of few important features of C#:

- Boolean Conditions
- Automatic Garbage Collection
- Standard Library
- Assembly Versioning
- Properties and Events
- Delegates and Events Management
- Easy-to-use Generics
- Indexers

- Conditional Compilation
- Simple Multithreading
- LINQ and Lambda Expressions
- Integration with Windows

Environment

We have set up the C# Programming environment online, so that you can compile and execute all the available examples online. It gives you confidence in what you are reading and enables you to verify the programs with different options. Feel free to modify any example and execute it online.

Try the following example using any C# IDE:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace HelloWorldApplication {</code>
4	<code> class HelloWorld {</code>
5	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code> /* my first program in C# */</code>
7	<code> Console.WriteLine("Hello World");</code>
8	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
9	<code> }</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	<code>}</code>

In this chapter, we will discuss the tools required for creating C# programming. We have already mentioned that C# is part of .NET framework and is used for writing .NET applications. Therefore, before discussing the available tools for running a C# program, let us understand how C# relates to the .NET framework.

The .NET Framework

The .NET framework is a revolutionary platform that helps you to write the following types of applications:

- Windows applications
- Web applications
- Web services

The .NET framework applications are multi-platform applications. The framework has been designed in such a way that it can be used from any of the following languages: C#, C++, Visual Basic, Jscript, COBOL, etc. All these languages can access the framework as well as communicate with each other.

The .NET framework consists of an enormous library of codes used by the client languages such as C#. Following are some of the components of the .NET framework:

- Common Language Runtime (CLR)
- The .NET Framework Class Library
- Common Language Specification
- Common Type System
- Metadata and Assemblies
- Windows Forms

- ASP.NET and ASP.NET AJAX
- ADO.NET
- Windows Workflow Foundation (WF)
- Windows Presentation Foundation
- Windows Communication Foundation (WCF)
- LINQ

For the jobs each of these components perform, please see ASP.NET - Introduction, and for details of each component, please consult Microsoft's documentation.

Integrated Development Environment (IDE) for C#

Microsoft provides the following development tools for C# programming:

- Visual Studio 2019 (VS)
- Visual Web Developer

The last two are freely available from Microsoft official website. Using these tools, you can write all kinds of C# programs from simple command-line applications to more complex applications. You can also write C# source code files using a basic text editor, like Notepad, and compile the code into assemblies using the command-line compiler, which is again a part of the .NET Framework.

Visual C# Express and Visual Web Developer Express edition are trimmed down versions of Visual Studio and has the same appearance. They retain most features of Visual Stud

You can download it from Microsoft Visual Studio. It gets installed automatically on your machine.

Writing C# Programs on Linux or Mac OS

Although the .NET Framework runs on the Windows operating system, there are some alternative versions that work on other operating systems. **Mono** is an open-source version of the .NET Framework which includes a C# compiler and runs on several operating systems, including various flavors of Linux and Mac OS. Kindly check Go Mono.

The stated purpose of Mono is not only to be able to run Microsoft .NET applications cross-platform, but also to bring better development tools for Linux developers. Mono can be run on many operating systems including Android, BSD, iOS, Linux, OS X, Windows, Solaris, and UNIX.

Program Structure

Before we study basic building blocks of the C# programming language, let us look at a bare minimum C# program structure so that we can take it as a reference in upcoming chapters.

Creating Hello World Program

A C# program consists of the following parts:

- Namespace declaration
- A class
- Class methods
- Class attributes
- A Main method
- Statements and Expressions
- Comments

Let us look at a simple code that prints the words "Hello World":

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace HelloWorldApplication {</code>
4	<code> class HelloWorld {</code>
5	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code> /* my first program in C# */</code>
7	<code> Console.WriteLine("Hello World");</code>
8	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
9	<code> }</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	<code>}</code>

When this code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Hello World

Let us look at the various parts of the given program:

- The first line of the program **using System;** - the **using** keyword is used to include the **System** namespace in the program. A program generally has multiple **using** statements.
- The next line has the **namespace** declaration. A **namespace** is a collection of classes. The *HelloWorldApplication* namespace contains the class *HelloWorld*.
- The next line has a **class** declaration, the class *HelloWorld* contains the data and method definitions that your program uses. Classes generally contain multiple methods. Methods define the behavior of the class. However, the *HelloWorld* class has only one method **Main**.

- The next line defines the **Main** method, which is the **entry point** for all C# programs. The **Main** method states what the class does when executed.
- The next line */*...*/* is ignored by the compiler and it is put to add **comments** in the program.
- The **Main** method specifies its behavior with the statement **Console.WriteLine("Hello World");**
WriteLine is a method of the *Console* class defined in the *System* namespace. This statement causes the message "Hello, World!" to be displayed on the screen.
- The last line **Console.ReadKey();** is for the VS.NET Users. This makes the program wait for a key press and it prevents the screen from running and closing quickly when the program is launched from Visual Studio .NET.

It is worth to note the following points:

- C# is case sensitive.
- All statements and expression must end with a semicolon (;).
- The program execution starts at the Main method.
- Unlike Java, program file name could be different from the class name.

Compiling and Executing the Program

If you are using Visual Studio.NET for compiling and executing C# programs, take the following steps:

- Start Visual Studio.
- On the menu bar, choose File -> New -> Project.
- Choose Visual C# from templates, and then choose Windows.
- Choose Console Application.
- Specify a name for your project and click OK button.
- This creates a new project in Solution Explorer.
- Write code in the Code Editor.
- Click the Run button or press F5 key to execute the project. A Command Prompt window appears that contains the line Hello World.

You can compile a C# program by using the command-line instead of the Visual Studio IDE:

- Open a text editor and add the above-mentioned code.
- Save the file as **helloworld.cs**
- Open the command prompt tool and go to the directory where you saved the file.
- Type **csc helloworld.cs** and press enter to compile your code.

- If there are no errors in your code, the command prompt takes you to the next line and generates **helloworld.exe** executable file.
- Type **helloworld** to execute your program.
- You can see the output Hello World printed on the screen.

Basic Syntax

C# is an object-oriented programming language. In Object-Oriented Programming methodology, a program consists of various objects that interact with each other by means of actions. The actions that an object may take are called methods. Objects of the same kind are said to have the same type or, are said to be in the same class.

For example, let us consider a Rectangle object. It has attributes such as length and width. Depending upon the design, it may need ways for accepting the values of these attributes, calculating the area, and displaying details.

Let us look at implementation of a Rectangle class and discuss C# basic syntax:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace RectangleApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Rectangle {</code>
5	<code> // member variables</code>
6	<code> double length;</code>
7	<code> double width;</code>
8	
9	<code> public void Acceptdetails() {</code>
10	<code> length = 4.5;</code>
11	<code> width = 3.5;</code>
12	<code> }</code>
13	
14	<code> public double GetArea() {</code>
15	<code> return length * width;</code>
16	<code> }</code>
17	
18	<code> public void Display() {</code>
19	<code> Console.WriteLine("Length: {0}", length);</code>
20	<code> Console.WriteLine("Width: {0}", width);</code>
21	<code> Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", GetArea());</code>
22	<code> }</code>
23	<code>}</code>
24	
25	<code>class ExecuteRectangle {</code>
26	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
27	<code> Rectangle r = new Rectangle();</code>
28	<code> r.Acceptdetails();</code>
29	<code> r.Display();</code>
30	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
31	<code> }</code>
32	<code>}</code>
33	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Length: 4.5
Width: 3.5
Area: 15.75
```


The *using* Keyword

The first statement in any C# program is

```
using System;
```

The **using** keyword is used for including the namespaces in the program. A program can include multiple using statements.

The *class* Keyword

The **class** keyword is used for declaring a class.

Comments in C#

Comments are used for explaining code. Compilers ignore the comment entries. The multiline comments in C# programs start with */** and terminates with the characters **/* as shown below:

```
/* This program demonstrates  
The basic syntax of C# programming  
Language */
```

Single-line comments are indicated by the *//* symbol. For example,

```
//end class Rectangle
```

Member Variables

Variables are attributes or data members of a class, used for storing data. In the preceding program, the *Rectangle* class has two member variables named *length* and *width*.

Member Functions

Functions are set of statements that perform a specific task. The member functions of a class are declared within the class. Our sample class *Rectangle* contains three member functions: *AcceptDetails*, *GetArea* and *Display*.

Instantiating a Class

In the preceding program, the class *ExecuteRectangle* contains the *Main()* method and instantiates the *Rectangle* class.

Identifiers

An identifier is a name used to identify a class, variable, function, or any other user-defined item. The basic rules for naming classes in C# are as follows:

- A name must begin with a letter that could be followed by a sequence of letters, digits (0 - 9) or underscore. The first character in an identifier cannot be a digit.
- It must not contain any embedded space or symbol such as? - + ! @ # % ^ & * () [] { } . ; : " ' / and \. However, an underscore (_) can be used.
- It should not be a C# keyword.

C# Keywords

Keywords are reserved words predefined to the C# compiler. These keywords cannot be used as identifiers. However, if you want to use these keywords as identifiers, you may prefix the keyword with the @ character.

In C#, some identifiers have special meaning in context of code, such as get and set are called contextual keywords.

The following table lists the reserved keywords and contextual keywords in C#:

Reserved Keywords						
abstract	as	base	bool	break	byte	case
catch	char	checked	class	const	continue	decimal
default	delegate	do	double	else	enum	event
explicit	extern	false	finally	fixed	float	for
foreach	goto	if	implicit	in	in (generic modifier)	int
interface	internal	is	lock	long	namespace	new
null	object	operator	out	out (generic modifier)	override	params
private	protected	public	readonly	ref	return	sbyte
sealed	short	sizeof	stackalloc	static	string	struct
switch	this	throw	true	try	typeof	uint
ulong	unchecked	unsafe	ushort	using	virtual	void

volatile	while					
Contextual Keywords						
add	alias	ascending	descending	dynamic	from	get
global	group	into	join	let	orderby	partial (type)
partial (method)	remove	select	set			

Data Types

The variables in C#, are categorized into the following types:

- Value types
- Reference types
- Pointer types

Value Type

Types can be assigned a value directly and derived from the class **System.ValueType**.

The value types directly contain data. Some examples are **int**, **char**, and **float**, which stores numbers, alphabets, and floating point numbers, respectively. When you declare an **int** type, the system allocates memory to store the value.

The following table lists the available value types in C# 2010:

Type	Represents	Range	Default Value
bool	Boolean value	true or false	False
byte	8-bit unsigned integer	0 to 255	0
char	16-bit Unicode character	U +0000 to U +ffff	'\0'
decimal	128-bit precise decimal values with 28-29 significant digits	$(-7.9 \times 10^{28}$ to $7.9 \times 10^{28}) / 10^0$ to 28	0.0M
double	64-bit double-precision floating point type	$(+/-)5.0 \times 10^{-324}$ to $(+/-)1.7 \times 10^{308}$	0.0D
float	32-bit single-precision floating point type	-3.4×10^{38} to $+ 3.4 \times 10^{38}$	0.0F
int	32-bit signed integer type	-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647	0
long	64-bit signed integer type	-9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807	0L
sbyte	8-bit signed integer type	-128 to 127	0
short	16-bit signed integer type	-32,768 to 32,767	0
uint	32-bit unsigned integer type	0 to 4,294,967,295	0
ulong	64-bit unsigned integer type	0 to 18,446,744,073,709,551,615	0
ushort	16-bit unsigned integer type	0 to 65,535	0

To get the exact size of a type or a variable on a particular platform, you can use the **sizeof** method. The expression *sizeof(type)* yields the storage size of the object or type in bytes. Following is an example to get the size of *int* type on any machine:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace DataTypeApplication {</code>
4	<code> class Program {</code>
5	
6	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code> Console.WriteLine("Size of int: {0}", sizeof(int));</code>
8	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
9	<code> }</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Size of int: 4
```

Reference Type

The reference types do not contain the actual data stored in a variable, but they contain a reference to the variables.

In other words, they refer to a memory location. Using multiple variables, the reference types can refer to a memory location. If the data in the memory location is changed by one of the variables, the other variable automatically reflects this change in value. Example of **built-in** reference types are: **object**, **dynamic**, and **string**.

Object Type

The **Object Type** is the ultimate base class for all data types in C# Common Type System (CTS). Object is an alias for System.Object class. The object types can be assigned values of any other types, value types, reference types, predefined or user-defined types. However, before assigning values, it needs type conversion.

When a value type is converted to object type, it is called **boxing** and on the other hand, when an object type is converted to a value type, it is called **unboxing**.

```
object obj;  
obj = 100; // this is boxing
```

Dynamic Type

You can store any type of value in the dynamic data type variable. Type checking for these types of variables takes place at run-time.

Syntax for declaring a dynamic type is:

```
dynamic <variable_name> = value;
```

For example,

```
dynamic d = 20;
```

Dynamic types are similar to object types except that type checking for object type variables takes place at compile time, whereas that for the dynamic type variables takes place at run time.

String Type

The **String Type** allows you to assign any string values to a variable. The string type is an alias for the System.String class. It is derived from object type. The value for a string type can be assigned using string literals in two forms: quoted and @quoted.

For example,

```
String str = "C# Fundamentals";
```

A @quoted string literal looks as follows:

```
@"C# Fundamentals";
```

The user-defined reference types are: class, interface, or delegate. We will discuss these types in later chapter.

Pointer Type

Pointer type variables store the memory address of another type. Pointers in C# have the same capabilities as the pointers in C or C++.

Syntax for declaring a pointer type is:

```
type* identifier;
```

For example,

```
char* cptr;  
int* iptr;
```

We will discuss pointer types in the chapter 'Unsafe Codes'.

Type Conversion

Type conversion is converting one type of data to another type. It is also known as Type Casting. In C#, type casting has two forms:

- **Implicit type conversion** – These conversions are performed by C# in a type-safe manner. For example, are conversions from smaller to larger integral types and conversions from derived classes to base classes.
- **Explicit type conversion** – These conversions are done explicitly by users using the pre-defined functions. Explicit conversions require a cast operator.

The following example shows an explicit type conversion:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace TypeConversionApplication {</code>
4	<code> class ExplicitConversion {</code>
5	
6	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code> double d = 5673.74;</code>
8	<code> int i;</code>
9	
10	<code> // cast double to int.</code>
11	<code> i = (int)d;</code>
12	<code> Console.WriteLine(i);</code>
13	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	<code> }</code>
16	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

5673

C# Type Conversion Methods

C# provides the following built-in type conversion methods:

No.	Methods & Description
1	ToBoolean Converts a type to a Boolean value, where possible.
2	ToByte Converts a type to a byte.
3	ToChar Converts a type to a single Unicode character, where possible.
4	ToDateTime Converts a type (integer or string type) to date-time structures.
5	ToDecimal Converts a floating point or integer type to a decimal type.
6	ToDouble Converts a type to a double type.
7	ToInt16 Converts a type to a 16-bit integer.
8	ToInt32 Converts a type to a 32-bit integer.
9	ToInt64 Converts a type to a 64-bit integer.
10	ToSbyte Converts a type to a signed byte type.
11	ToSingle Converts a type to a small floating point number.
12	ToString Converts a type to a string.
13	ToType Converts a type to a specified type.
14	ToUInt16 Converts a type to an unsigned int type.

15	ToUInt32 Converts a type to an unsigned long type.
16	ToUInt64 Converts a type to an unsigned big integer.

The following example converts various value types to string type:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace TypeConversionApplication {</code>
4	<code>class StringConversion {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>int i = 75;</code>
7	<code>float f = 53.005f;</code>
8	<code>double d = 2345.7652;</code>
9	<code>bool b = true;</code>
10	
11	<code>Console.WriteLine(i.ToString());</code>
12	<code>Console.WriteLine(f.ToString());</code>
13	<code>Console.WriteLine(d.ToString());</code>
14	<code>Console.WriteLine(b.ToString());</code>
15	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
75
53.005
2345.7652
True
```

Variables

A variable is nothing but a name given to a storage area that our programs can manipulate. Each variable in C# has a specific type, which determines the size and layout of the variable's memory the range of values that can be stored within that memory and the set of operations that can be applied to the variable.

The basic value types provided in C# can be categorized as:

Type	Example
Integral types	sbyte, byte, short, ushort, int, uint, long, ulong, and char
Floating point types	float and double
Decimal types	decimal
Boolean types	true or false values, as assigned
Nullable types	Nullable data types

C# also allows defining other value types of variable such as **enum** and reference types of variables such as **class**, which we will cover in subsequent chapters.

Defining Variables

Syntax for variable definition in C# is:

```
<data_type> <variable_list>;
```

Here, data_type must be a valid C# data type including char, int, float, double, or any user-defined data type, and variable_list may consist of one or more identifier names separated by commas.

Some valid variable definitions are shown here:

```
int i, j, k;  
char c, ch;  
float f, salary;  
double d;
```

You can initialize a variable at the time of definition as:

```
int i = 100;
```

Initializing Variables

Variables are initialized (assigned a value) with an equal sign followed by a constant expression. The general form of initialization is:

```
variable_name = value;
```

Variables can be initialized in their declaration. The initializer consists of an equal sign followed by a constant expression as:

```
<data_type> <variable_name> = value;
```

Some examples are –

```
int d = 3, f = 5;    /* initializing d and f. */
byte z = 22;        /* initializes z. */
double pi = 3.14159; /* declares an approximation of pi. */
char x = 'x';       /* the variable x has the value 'x'. */
```

It is a good programming practice to initialize variables properly, otherwise sometimes program may produce unexpected result.

The following example uses various types of variables:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace VariableDefinition {</code>
4	<code>class Program {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>short a;</code>
7	<code>int b ;</code>
8	<code>double c;</code>
9	
10	<code>/* actual initialization */</code>
11	<code>a = 10;</code>
12	<code>b = 20;</code>
13	<code>c = a + b;</code>
14	<code>Console.WriteLine("a = {0}, b = {1}, c = {2}", a, b, c);</code>
15	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
a = 10, b = 20, c = 30
```

Accepting Values from User

The **Console** class in the **System** namespace provides a function **ReadLine()** for accepting input from the user and store it into a variable.

For example,

```
int num;  
num = Convert.ToInt32(Console.ReadLine());
```

The function **Convert.ToInt32()** converts the data entered by the user to int data type, because **Console.ReadLine()** accepts the data in string format.

Lvalue and Rvalue Expressions in C#

There are two kinds of expressions in C#:

- **lvalue** – An expression that is an lvalue may appear as either the left-hand or right-hand side of an assignment.
- **rvalue** – An expression that is an rvalue may appear on the right- but not left-hand side of an assignment.

Variables are lvalues and hence they may appear on the left-hand side of an assignment. Numeric literals are rvalues and hence they may not be assigned and cannot appear on the left-hand side. Following is a valid C# statement:

```
int g = 20;
```

But following is not a valid statement and would generate compile-time error:

```
10 = 20;
```

Constants and Literals

The constants refer to fixed values that the program may not alter during its execution. These fixed values are also called literals. Constants can be of any of the basic data types like an integer constant, a floating constant, a character constant, or a string literal. There are also enumeration constants as well.

The constants are treated just like regular variables except that their values cannot be modified after their definition.

Integer Literals

An integer literal can be a decimal, or hexadecimal constant. A prefix specifies the base or radix: 0x or 0X for hexadecimal, and there is no prefix id for decimal.

An integer literal can also have a suffix that is a combination of U and L, for unsigned and long, respectively. The suffix can be uppercase or lowercase and can be in any order.

Here are some examples of integer literals:

```
212          /* Legal */
215u         /* Legal */
0xFeeL      /* Legal */
```

Following are other examples of various types of Integer literals:

```
85          /* decimal */
0x4b        /* hexadecimal */
30          /* int */
30u         /* unsigned int */
30l         /* long */
30ul        /* unsigned long */
```

Floating-point Literals

A floating-point literal has an integer part, a decimal point, a fractional part, and an exponent part. You can represent floating point literals either in decimal form or exponential form.

Here are some examples of floating-point literals:

```
3.14159     /* Legal */
314159E-5F  /* Legal */
510E        /* Illegal: incomplete exponent */
210f        /* Illegal: no decimal or exponent */
.e55        /* Illegal: missing integer or fraction */
```

While representing in decimal form, you must include the decimal point, the exponent, or both; and while representing using exponential form you must include the integer part, the fractional part, or both. The signed exponent is introduced by e or E.

Character Constants

Character literals are enclosed in single quotes. For example, 'x' and can be stored in a simple variable of char type. A character literal can be a plain character (such as 'x'), an escape sequence (such as '\t'), or a universal character (such as '\u02C0').

There are certain characters in C# when they are preceded by a backslash. They have special meaning and they are used to represent like newline (\n) or tab (\t). Here, is a list of some of such escape sequence codes:

Escape sequence	Meaning
\\	\ character
\'	' character
\"	" character
\?	? character
\a	Alert or bell
\b	Backspace
\f	Form feed
\n	Newline
\r	Carriage return
\t	Horizontal tab
\v	Vertical tab
\xhh . . .	Hexadecimal number of one or more digits

Following is the example to show few escape sequence characters:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>namespace EscapeChar {</code>
3	<code>class Program {</code>
4	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
5	<code>Console.WriteLine("Hello\tWorld\n\n");</code>
6	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
7	<code>}</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Hello World

String Literals

String literals or constants are enclosed in double quotes "" or with @"". A string contains characters that are similar to character literals: plain characters, escape sequences, and universal characters.

You can break a long line into multiple lines using string literals and separating the parts using whitespaces.

Here are some examples of string literals. All the three forms are identical strings.

```
"hello, dear"  
"hello, \  
dear"  
"hello, " "d" "ear"  
@"hello dear"
```

Defining Constants

Constants are defined using the **const** keyword. Syntax for defining a constant is:

```
const <data_type> <constant_name> = value;
```

The following program demonstrates defining and using a constant in your program:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace DeclaringConstants {</code>
4	<code>class Program {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>const double pi = 3.14159;</code>
7	
8	<code>// constant declaration</code>
9	<code>double r;</code>
10	<code>Console.WriteLine("Enter Radius: ");</code>
11	<code>r = Convert.ToDouble(Console.ReadLine());</code>
12	<code>double areaCircle = pi * r * r;</code>
13	<code>Console.WriteLine("Radius: {0}, Area: {1}", r, areaCircle);</code>
14	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
15	<code>}</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Enter Radius:

3

Radius: 3, Area: 28.27431

Operators

An operator is a symbol that tells the compiler to perform specific mathematical or logical manipulations. C# has rich set of built-in operators and provides the following type of operators:

- Arithmetic Operators
- Relational Operators
- Logical Operators
- Bitwise Operators
- Assignment Operators
- Misc Operators

This training explains the arithmetic, relational, logical, bitwise, assignment, and other operators one by one.

Arithmetic Operators

Following table shows all the arithmetic operators supported by C#. Assume variable **A** holds 10 and variable **B** holds 20 then:

Operator	Description	Example	Result
+	Adds two operands	A + B	30
-	Subtracts second operand from the first	A - B	-10
*	Multiplies both operands	A * B	200
/	Divides numerator by de-numerator	B / A	2
%	Modulus Operator and remainder of after an integer division	B % A	0
++	Increment operator increases integer value by one	A++	A holds 11
--	Decrement operator decreases integer value by one	A--	A holds 9

Relational Operators

Following table shows all the relational operators supported by C#. Assume variable **A** holds 10 and variable **B** holds 20, then:

Operator	Description	Example
==	Checks if the values of two operands are equal or not, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A == B) is not true.
!=	Checks if the values of two operands are equal or not, if values are not equal then condition becomes true.	(A != B) is true.
>	Checks if the value of left operand is greater than the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A > B) is not true.
<	Checks if the value of left operand is less than the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A < B) is true.
>=	Checks if the value of left operand is greater than or equal to the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A >= B) is not true.
<=	Checks if the value of left operand is less than or equal to the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	(A <= B) is true.

Logical Operators

Following table shows all the logical operators supported by C#. Assume variable **A** holds Boolean value true and variable **B** holds Boolean value false, then:

Operator	Description	Example
&&	Called Logical AND operator. If both the operands are non zero then condition becomes true.	(A && B) is false.
	Called Logical OR Operator. If any of the two operands is non zero then condition becomes true.	(A B) is true.
!	Called Logical NOT Operator. Use to reverses the logical state of its operand. If a condition is true then Logical NOT operator will make false.	!(A && B) is true.

Bitwise Operators

Bitwise operator works on bits and perform bit by bit operation. The truth tables for $\&$, $|$, and \wedge are as follows:

p	q	p & q	p q	p ^ q
0	0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1	1
1	1	1	1	0
1	0	0	1	1

Assume if $A = 60$; and $B = 13$; then in the binary format they are as follows:

$A = 0011\ 1100$

$B = 0000\ 1101$

$A\&B = 0000\ 1100$

$A|B = 0011\ 1101$

$A\wedge B = 0011\ 0001$

$\sim A = 1100\ 0011$

The Bitwise operators supported by C# are listed in the following table. Assume variable A holds 60 and variable B holds 13, then:

Operator	Description	Example
$\&$	Binary AND Operator copies a bit to the result if it exists in both operands.	$(A \& B) = 12$, which is 0000 1100
$ $	Binary OR Operator copies a bit if it exists in either operand.	$(A B) = 61$, which is 0011 1101
\wedge	Binary XOR Operator copies the bit if it is set in one operand but not both.	$(A \wedge B) = 49$, which is 0011 0001
\sim	Binary Ones Complement Operator is unary and has the effect of 'flipping' bits.	$(\sim A) = -61$, which is 1100 0011 in 2's complement due to a signed binary number.

<<	Binary Left Shift Operator. The left operands value is moved left by the number of bits specified by the right operand.	$A \ll 2 = 240$, which is 1111 0000
>>	Binary Right Shift Operator. The left operands value is moved right by the number of bits specified by the right operand.	$A \gg 2 = 15$, which is 0000 1111

Assignment Operators

There are following assignment operators supported by C#:

Operator	Description	Example
=	Simple assignment operator, Assigns values from right side operands to left side operand	$C = A + B$ assigns value of $A + B$ into C
+=	Add AND assignment operator, It adds right operand to the left operand and assign the result to left operand	$C += A$ is equivalent to $C = C + A$
-=	Subtract AND assignment operator, It subtracts right operand from the left operand and assign the result to left operand	$C -= A$ is equivalent to $C = C - A$
*=	Multiply AND assignment operator, It multiplies right operand with the left operand and assign the result to left operand	$C *= A$ is equivalent to $C = C * A$
/=	Divide AND assignment operator, It divides left operand with the right operand and assign the result to left operand	$C /= A$ is equivalent to $C = C / A$
%=	Modulus AND assignment operator, It takes modulus using two operands and assign the result to left operand	$C \% = A$ is equivalent to $C = C \% A$
<<=	Left shift AND assignment operator	$C \ll = 2$ is same as $C = C \ll 2$
>>=	Right shift AND assignment operator	$C \gg = 2$ is same as $C = C \gg 2$
&=	Bitwise AND assignment operator	$C \& = 2$ is same as $C = C \& 2$

<code>^=</code>	bitwise exclusive OR and assignment operator	<code>C ^= 2</code> is same as <code>C = C ^ 2</code>
<code> =</code>	bitwise inclusive OR and assignment operator	<code>C = 2</code> is same as <code>C = C 2</code>

Miscellaneous Operators

There are few other important operators including **sizeof**, **typeof** and **? :** supported by C#.

Operator	Description	Example
<code>sizeof()</code>	Returns the size of a data type.	<code>sizeof(int)</code> , returns 4.
<code>typeof()</code>	Returns the type of a class.	<code>typeof(StreamReader)</code> ;
<code>&</code>	Returns the address of an variable.	<code>&a</code> ; returns actual address of the variable.
<code>*</code>	Pointer to a variable.	<code>*a</code> ; creates pointer named 'a' to a variable.
<code>? :</code>	Conditional Expression	If Condition is true ? Then value X : Otherwise value Y
<code>is</code>	Determines whether an object is of a certain type.	<code>If(Ford is Car) // checks if Ford is an object of the Car class.</code>
<code>as</code>	Cast without raising an exception if the cast fails.	Object obj = new StreamReader("Hello"); StreamReader r = obj as StreamReader;

Operator Precedence in C#

Operator precedence determines the grouping of terms in an expression. This affects evaluation of an expression. Certain operators have higher precedence than others; for example, the multiplication operator has higher precedence than the addition operator.

For example $x = 7 + 3 * 2$; here, x is assigned 13, not 20 because operator $*$ has higher precedence than $+$, so the first evaluation takes place for $3*2$ and then 7 is added into it.

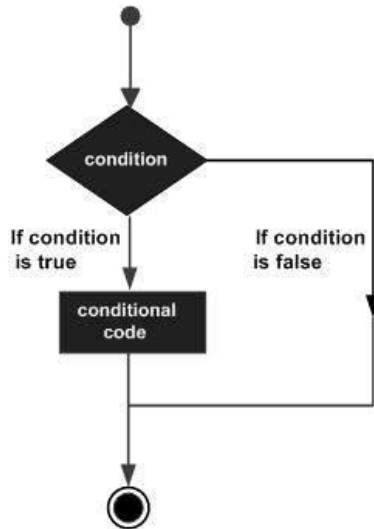
Here, operators with the highest precedence appear at the top of the table, those with the lowest appear at the bottom. Within an expression, higher precedence operators are evaluated first.

Category	Operator	Associativity
Postfix	() [] -> . ++ --	Left to right
Unary	+ - ! ~ ++ -- (type)* & sizeof	Right to left
Multiplicative	* / %	Left to right
Additive	+ -	Left to right
Shift	<< >>	Left to right
Relational	< <= > >=	Left to right
Equality	== !=	Left to right
Bitwise AND	&	Left to right
Bitwise XOR	^	Left to right
Bitwise OR		Left to right
Logical AND	&&	Left to right
Logical OR		Left to right
Conditional	?:	Right to left
Assignment	= += -= *= /= %= >>= <<= &= ^= =	Right to left
Comma	,	Left to right

Decision Making

Decision making structures requires the programmer to specify one or more conditions to be evaluated or tested by the program, along with a statement or statements to be executed if the condition is determined to be true, and optionally, other statements to be executed if the condition is determined to be false.

Following is the general form of a typical decision making structure found in most of the programming languages –



C# provides following types of decision making statements. Click the following links to check their detail.

No.	Statement & Description
1	if statement An if statement consists of a boolean expression followed by one or more statements.
2	if...else statement An if statement can be followed by an optional else statement , which executes when the boolean expression is false.
3	nested if statements You can use one if or else if statement inside another if or else if statement(s).
4	switch statement A switch statement allows a variable to be tested for equality against a list of values.
5	nested switch statements You can use one switch statement inside another switch statement(s).

The ? : Operator

We have covered **conditional operator ? :** in previous chapter which can be used to replace **if...else** statements. It has the following general form –

`Exp1 ? Exp2 : Exp3;`

Where Exp1, Exp2, and Exp3 are expressions. Notice the use and placement of the colon.

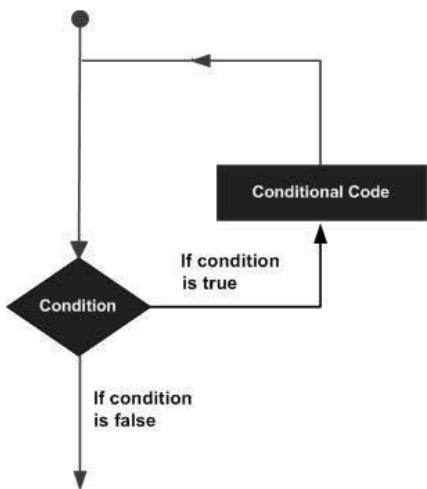
The value of a ? expression is determined as follows: Exp1 is evaluated. If it is true, then Exp2 is evaluated and becomes the value of the entire ? expression. If Exp1 is false, then Exp3 is evaluated and its value becomes the value of the expression.

Loops

There may be a situation, when you need to execute a block of code several number of times. In general, the statements are executed sequentially: The first statement in a function is executed first, followed by the second, and so on.

Programming languages provide various control structures that allow for more complicated execution paths.

A loop statement allows us to execute a statement or a group of statements multiple times and following is the general form of a loop statement in most of the programming languages –



C# provides following types of loop to handle looping requirements. Click the following links to check their detail.

No.	Loop Type & Description
1	while loop It repeats a statement or a group of statements while a given condition is true. It tests the condition before executing the loop body.
2	for loop It executes a sequence of statements multiple times and abbreviates the code that manages the loop variable.
3	do...while loop It is similar to a while statement, except that it tests the condition at the end of the loop body
4	nested loops You can use one or more loop inside any another while, for or do..while loop.

Loop Control Statements

Loop control statements change execution from its normal sequence. When execution leaves a scope, all automatic objects that were created in that scope are destroyed.

C# provides the following control statements. Click the following links to check their details.

No.	Control Statement & Description
1	break statement Terminates the loop or switch statement and transfers execution to the statement immediately following the loop or switch.
2	continue statement Causes the loop to skip the remainder of its body and immediately retest its condition prior to reiterating.

Infinite Loop

A loop becomes infinite loop if a condition never becomes false. The **for** loop is traditionally used for this purpose. Since none of the three expressions that form the for loop are required, you can make an endless loop by leaving the conditional expression empty.

Example

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace Loops {</code>
4	<code>class Program {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>for (; ;) {</code>
7	<code>Console.WriteLine("Hey! I am Trapped");</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	<code>}</code>
11	<code>}</code>

When the conditional expression is absent, it is assumed to be true. You may have an initialization and increment expression, but programmers more commonly use the `for(;;)` construct to signify an infinite loop.

Encapsulation

Encapsulation is defined 'as the process of enclosing one or more items within a physical or logical package'. Encapsulation, in object oriented programming methodology, prevents access to implementation details.

Abstraction and encapsulation are related features in object oriented programming. Abstraction allows making relevant information visible and encapsulation enables a programmer to *implement the desired level of abstraction*.

Encapsulation is implemented by using **access specifiers**. An **access specifier** defines the scope and visibility of a class member. C# supports the following access specifiers:

- Public
- Private
- Protected
- Internal
- Protected internal

Public Access Specifier

Public access specifier allows a class to expose its member variables and member functions to other functions and objects. Any public member can be accessed from outside the class.

The following example illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace RectangleApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Rectangle {</code>
5	<code> //member variables</code>
6	<code> public double length;</code>
7	<code> public double width;</code>
8	
9	<code> public double GetArea() {</code>
10	<code> return length * width;</code>
11	<code> }</code>
12	
13	<code> public void Display() {</code>
14	<code> Console.WriteLine("Length: {0}", length);</code>
15	<code> Console.WriteLine("Width: {0}", width);</code>
16	<code> Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", GetArea());</code>
17	<code> }</code>
18	<code>}//end class Rectangle</code>
19	
20	<code>class ExecuteRectangle {</code>
21	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
22	<code> Rectangle r = new Rectangle();</code>

23	r.length = 4.5;
24	r.width = 3.5;
25	r.Display();
26	Console.ReadKey();
27	}
28	}
29	}

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Length: 4.5
Width: 3.5
Area: 15.75
```

In the preceding example, the member variables `length` and `width` are declared **public**, so they can be accessed from the function `Main()` using an instance of the `Rectangle` class, named `r`.

The member function `Display()` and `GetArea()` can also access these variables directly without using any instance of the class.

The member function `Display()` is also declared **public**, so it can also be accessed from `Main()` using an instance of the `Rectangle` class, named `r`.

Private Access Specifier

Private access specifier allows a class to hide its member variables and member functions from other functions and objects. Only functions of the same class can access its private members. Even an instance of a class cannot access its private members.

The following example illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace RectangleApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Rectangle {</code>
5	<code> //member variables</code>
6	<code> private double length;</code>
7	<code> private double width;</code>
8	
9	<code> public void Acceptdetails() {</code>
10	<code> Console.WriteLine("Enter Length: ");</code>
11	<code> length = Convert.ToDouble(Console.ReadLine());</code>
12	<code> Console.WriteLine("Enter Width: ");</code>
13	<code> width = Convert.ToDouble(Console.ReadLine());</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	
16	<code> public double GetArea() {</code>
17	<code> return length * width;</code>
18	<code> }</code>
19	
20	<code> public void Display() {</code>
21	<code> Console.WriteLine("Length: {0}", length);</code>
22	<code> Console.WriteLine("Width: {0}", width);</code>

```

23     Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", GetArea());
24     }
25 } //end class Rectangle
26
27 class ExecuteRectangle {
28     static void Main(string[] args) {
29         Rectangle r = new Rectangle();
30         r.Acceptdetails();
31         r.Display();
32         Console.ReadKey();
33     }
34 }
35 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Enter Length:
4.4
Enter Width:
3.3
Length: 4.4
Width: 3.3
Area: 14.52

```

In the preceding example, the member variables `length` and `width` are declared **private**, so they cannot be accessed from the function `Main()`. The member functions `AcceptDetails()` and `Display()` can access these variables. Since the member functions `AcceptDetails()` and `Display()` are declared **public**, they can be accessed from `Main()` using an instance of the `Rectangle` class, named `r`.

Protected Access Specifier

Protected access specifier allows a child class to access the member variables and member functions of its base class. This way it helps in implementing inheritance. We will discuss this in more details in the inheritance chapter.

Internal Access Specifier

Internal access specifier allows a class to expose its member variables and member functions to other functions and objects in the current assembly. In other words, any member with internal access specifier can be accessed from any class or method defined within the application in which the member is defined.

The following program illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace RectangleApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Rectangle {</code>
5	<code> //member variables</code>
6	<code> internal double length;</code>

```

7     internal double width;
8
9     double GetArea() {
10        return length * width;
11    }
12
13    public void Display() {
14        Console.WriteLine("Length: {0}", length);
15        Console.WriteLine("Width: {0}", width);
16        Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", GetArea());
17    }
18 }//end class Rectangle
19
20 class ExecuteRectangle {
21     static void Main(string[] args) {
22         Rectangle r = new Rectangle();
23         r.length = 4.5;
24         r.width = 3.5;
25         r.Display();
26         Console.ReadKey();
27     }
28 }
29 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Length: 4.5
Width: 3.5
Area: 15.75

```

In the preceding example, notice that the member function *GetArea()* is not declared with any access specifier. Then what would be the default access specifier of a class member if we don't mention any? It is **private**.

Protected Internal Access Specifier

The protected internal access specifier allows a class to hide its member variables and member functions from other class objects and functions, except a child class within the same application. This is also used while implementing inheritance.

Methods

A method is a group of statements that together perform a task. Every C# program has at least one class with a method named Main.

To use a method, you need to:

- Define the method
- Call the method

Defining Methods in C#

When you define a method, you basically declare the elements of its structure. The syntax for defining a method in C# is as follows:

```
<Access Specifier> <Return Type> <Method Name>(Parameter List) {  
    Method Body  
}
```

Following are the various elements of a method:

- **Access Specifier** – This determines the visibility of a variable or a method from another class.
- **Return type** – A method may return a value. The return type is the data type of the value the method returns. If the method is not returning any values, then the return type is **void**.
- **Method name** – Method name is a unique identifier and it is case sensitive. It cannot be same as any other identifier declared in the class.
- **Parameter list** – Enclosed between parentheses, the parameters are used to pass and receive data from a method. The parameter list refers to the type, order, and number of the parameters of a method. Parameters are optional; that is, a method may contain no parameters.
- **Method body** – This contains the set of instructions needed to complete the required activity.

Example

Following code snippet shows a function *FindMax* that takes two integer values and returns the larger of the two. It has public access specifier, so it can be accessed from outside the class using an instance of the class.

Line#	Code
1	<code>class NumberManipulator {</code>
2	
3	<code> public int FindMax(int num1, int num2) {</code>
4	<code> /* local variable declaration */</code>
5	<code> int result;</code>

6	
7	if (num1 > num2)
8	result = num1;
9	else
10	result = num2;
11	
12	return result;
13	}
14	...
15	}

Calling Methods in C#

You can call a method using the name of the method. The following example illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	using System;
2	
3	namespace CalculatorApplication {
4	class NumberManipulator {
5	
6	public int FindMax(int num1, int num2) {
7	/* local variable declaration */
8	int result;
9	
10	if (num1 > num2)
11	result = num1;
12	else
13	result = num2;
14	return result;
15	}
16	
17	static void Main(string [] args) {
18	/* local variable definition */
19	int a = 100;
20	int b = 200;
21	int ret;
22	NumberManipulator n = new NumberManipulator();
23	
24	//calling the FindMax method
25	ret = n.FindMax(a, b);
26	Console.WriteLine("Max value is : {0}", ret);
27	Console.ReadKey();
28	}
29	}
30	}

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Max value is : 200

You can also call public method from other classes by using the instance of the class. For example, the method *FindMax* belongs to the *NumberManipulator* class, you can call it from another class *Test*.

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace CalculatorApplication {</code>
4	<code>class NumberManipulator {</code>
5	<code>public int FindMax(int num1, int num2) {</code>
6	<code>/* local variable declaration */</code>
7	<code>int result;</code>
8	
9	<code>if(num1 > num2)</code>
10	<code>result = num1;</code>
11	<code>else</code>
12	<code>result = num2;</code>
13	
14	<code>return result;</code>
15	<code>}</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	
18	<code>class Test {</code>
19	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
20	<code>/* local variable definition */</code>
21	<code>int a = 100;</code>
22	<code>int b = 200;</code>
23	<code>int ret;</code>
24	<code>NumberManipulator n = new NumberManipulator();</code>
25	
26	<code>//calling the FindMax method</code>
27	<code>ret = n.FindMax(a, b);</code>
28	<code>Console.WriteLine("Max value is : {0}", ret);</code>
29	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
30	<code>}</code>
31	<code>}</code>
32	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Max value is : 200

Recursive Method Call

A method can call itself. This is known as **recursion**. Following is an example that calculates factorial for a given number using a recursive function:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace CalculatorApplication {</code>
4	<code>class NumberManipulator {</code>
5	
6	<code>public int factorial(int num) {</code>
7	<code>/* local variable declaration */</code>
8	<code>int result;</code>
9	<code>if (num == 1) {</code>
10	<code>return 1;</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>else {</code>
13	<code>result = factorial(num - 1) * num;</code>
14	<code>return result;</code>
15	<code>}</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	
18	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
19	<code>NumberManipulator n = new NumberManipulator();</code>
20	<code>//calling the factorial method {0}", n.factorial(6));</code>
21	<code>Console.WriteLine("Factorial of 7 is : {0}", n.factorial(7));</code>
22	<code>Console.WriteLine("Factorial of 8 is : {0}", n.factorial(8));</code>
23	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
24	<code>}</code>
25	<code>}</code>
26	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Factorial of 6 is: 720
Factorial of 7 is: 5040
Factorial of 8 is: 40320
```

Passing Parameters to a Method

When method with parameters is called, you need to pass the parameters to the method. There are three ways that parameters can be passed to a method:

No.	Mechanism & Description
1	Value parameters This method copies the actual value of an argument into the formal parameter of the function. In this case, changes made to the parameter inside the function have no effect on the argument.
2	Reference parameters This method copies the reference to the memory location of an argument into the formal parameter. This means that changes made to the parameter affect the argument.
3	Output parameters This method helps in returning more than one value.

Nullables

C# provides a special data types, the **nullable** types, to which you can assign normal range of values as well as null values.

For example, you can store any value from -2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647 or null in a `Nullable<Int32>` variable. Similarly, you can assign true, false, or null in a `Nullable<bool>` variable. Syntax for declaring a **nullable** type is as follows:

```
< data_type> ? <variable_name> = null;
```

The following example demonstrates use of nullable data types:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace CalculatorApplication {</code>
4	<code> class NullablesAtShow {</code>
5	
6	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code> int? num1 = null;</code>
8	<code> int? num2 = 45;</code>
9	<code> double? num3 = new double?();</code>
10	<code> double? num4 = 3.14157;</code>
11	
12	<code> bool? boolval = new bool?();</code>
13	
14	<code> // display the values</code>
15	<code> Console.WriteLine("Nullables at Show: {0}, {1}, {2}, {3}",</code>
16	<code> num1, num2, num3, num4);</code>
17	<code> Console.WriteLine("A Nullable boolean value: {0}", boolval);</code>
18	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
19	<code> }</code>
20	<code> }</code>
21	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Nullables at Show: , 45, , 3.14157
A Nullable boolean value:
```

The Null Coalescing Operator (??)

The null coalescing operator is used with the nullable value types and reference types. It is used for converting an operand to the type of another nullable (or not) value type operand, where an implicit conversion is possible.

If the value of the first operand is null, then the operator returns the value of the second operand, otherwise it returns the value of the first operand. The following example explains this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace CalculatorApplication {</code>
4	
5	<code>class NullablesAtShow {</code>
6	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code>double? num1 = null;</code>
8	<code>double? num2 = 3.14157;</code>
9	<code>double num3;</code>
10	<code>num3 = num1 ?? 5.34;</code>
11	<code>Console.WriteLine(" Value of num3: {0}", num3);</code>
12	<code>num3 = num2 ?? 5.34;</code>
13	<code>Console.WriteLine(" Value of num3: {0}", num3);</code>
14	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
15	<code>}</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Value of num3: 5.34

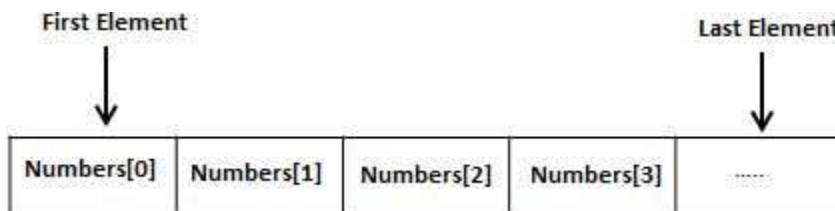
Value of num3: 3.14157

Arrays

An array stores a fixed-size sequential collection of elements of the same type. An array is used to store a collection of data, but it is often more useful to think of an array as a collection of variables of the same type stored at contiguous memory locations.

Instead of declaring individual variables, such as `number0`, `number1`, ..., and `number99`, you declare one array variable such as `numbers` and use `numbers[0]`, `numbers[1]`, and ..., `numbers[99]` to represent individual variables. A specific element in an array is accessed by an index.

All arrays consist of contiguous memory locations. The lowest address corresponds to the first element and the highest address to the last element.



Declaring Arrays

To declare an array in C#, you can use the following syntax –

```
datatype[] arrayName;
```

where,

- *datatype* is used to specify the type of elements in the array.
- `[]` specifies the rank of the array. The rank specifies the size of the array.
- *arrayName* specifies the name of the array.

For example,

```
double[] balance;
```

Initializing an Array

Declaring an array does not initialize the array in the memory. When the array variable is initialized, you can assign values to the array.

Array is a reference type, so you need to use the **new** keyword to create an instance of the array. For example,

```
double[] balance = new double[10];
```

Assigning Values to an Array

You can assign values to individual array elements, by using the index number, like:

```
double[] balance = new double[10];  
balance[0] = 4500.0;
```

You can assign values to the array at the time of declaration, as shown:

```
double[] balance = { 2340.0, 4523.69, 3421.0};
```

You can also create and initialize an array, as shown:

```
int [] marks = new int[5] { 99, 98, 92, 97, 95};
```

You may also omit the size of the array, as shown:

```
int [] marks = new int[] { 99, 98, 92, 97, 95};
```

You can copy an array variable into another target array variable. In such case, both the target and source point to the same memory location:

```
int [] marks = new int[] { 99, 98, 92, 97, 95};  
int[] score = marks;
```

When you create an array, C# compiler implicitly initializes each array element to a default value depending on the array type. For example, for an int array all elements are initialized to 0.

Accessing Array Elements

An element is accessed by indexing the array name. This is done by placing the index of the element within square brackets after the name of the array. For example,

```
double salary = balance[9];
```

The following example, demonstrates the above-mentioned concepts declaration, assignment, and accessing arrays:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace ArrayApplication {</code>
4	<code>class MyArray {</code>
5	
6	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code>int [] n = new int[10]; /* n is an array of 10 integers */</code>
8	<code>int i,j;</code>
9	
10	<code>/* initialize elements of array n */</code>
11	<code>for (i = 0; i < 10; i++) {</code>
12	<code> n[i] = i + 100;</code>
13	<code>}</code>
14	
15	<code>/* output each array element's value */</code>

16	<code>for (j = 0; j < 10; j++) {</code>
17	<code> Console.WriteLine("Element[{0}] = {1}", j, n[j]);</code>
18	<code>}</code>
19	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
20	<code>}</code>
21	<code>}</code>
22	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Element[0] = 100
Element[1] = 101
Element[2] = 102
Element[3] = 103
Element[4] = 104
Element[5] = 105
Element[6] = 106
Element[7] = 107
Element[8] = 108
Element[9] = 109
```

Using the *foreach* Loop

In the previous example, we used a for loop for accessing each array element. You can also use a **foreach** statement to iterate through an array.

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace ArrayApplication {</code>
4	<code> class MyArray {</code>
5	
6	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code> int [] n = new int[10]; /* n is an array of 10 integers */</code>
8	
9	<code> /* initialize elements of array n */</code>
10	<code> for (int i = 0; i < 10; i++) {</code>
11	<code> n[i] = i + 100;</code>
12	<code> }</code>
13	
14	<code> /* output each array element's value */</code>
15	<code> foreach (int j in n) {</code>
16	<code> int i = j-100;</code>
17	<code> Console.WriteLine("Element[{0}] = {1}", i, j);</code>
18	
19	<code> }</code>
20	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
21	<code> }</code>
22	<code> }</code>
23	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Element[0] = 100
```

```
Element[1] = 101
Element[2] = 102
Element[3] = 103
Element[4] = 104
Element[5] = 105
Element[6] = 106
Element[7] = 107
Element[8] = 108
Element[9] = 109
```

C# Arrays

There are following few important concepts related to array which should be clear to a C# programmer:

No.	Concept & Description
1	Multi-dimensional arrays C# supports multidimensional arrays. The simplest form of the multidimensional array is the two-dimensional array.
2	Jagged arrays C# supports multidimensional arrays, which are arrays of arrays.
3	Passing arrays to functions You can pass to the function a pointer to an array by specifying the array's name without an index.
4	Param arrays This is used for passing unknown number of parameters to a function.
5	The Array Class Defined in System namespace, it is the base class to all arrays, and provides various properties and methods for working with arrays.

Strings

In C#, you can use strings as array of characters, However, more common practice is to use the **string** keyword to declare a string variable. The string keyword is an alias for the **System.String** class.

Creating a String Object

You can create string object using one of the following methods:

- By assigning a string literal to a String variable
- By using a String class constructor
- By using the string concatenation operator (+)
- By retrieving a property or calling a method that returns a string
- By calling a formatting method to convert a value or an object to its string representation

The following example demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace StringApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Program {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>//from string literal and string concatenation</code>
7	<code>string fname, lname;</code>
8	<code>fname = "Rowan";</code>
9	<code>lname = "Atkinson";</code>
10	
11	<code>char []letters= { 'H', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o' };</code>
12	<code>string [] sarray={ "Hello", "From", "C#", "Fundamentals" };</code>
13	
14	<code>string fullname = fname + lname;</code>
15	<code>Console.WriteLine("Full Name: {0}", fullname);</code>
16	
17	<code>//by using string constructor { 'H', 'e', 'l', 'l', 'o' };</code>
18	<code>string greetings = new string(letters);</code>
19	<code>Console.WriteLine("Greetings: {0}", greetings);</code>
20	
21	<code>//methods returning string { "Hello", "From", "C#", "Fundamentals" };</code>
22	<code>string message = String.Join(" ", sarray);</code>
23	<code>Console.WriteLine("Message: {0}", message);</code>
24	
25	<code>//formatting method to convert a value</code>
26	<code>DateTime waiting = new DateTime(2012, 10, 10, 17, 58, 1);</code>
27	<code>string chat = String.Format("Message sent at {0:t} on {0:D}", waiting);</code>
28	<code>Console.WriteLine("Message: {0}", chat);</code>
29	<code>}</code>
30	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Full Name: RowanAtkinson
Greetings: Hello
Message: Hello From C# Fundamentals
Message: Message sent at 5:58 PM on Wednesday, October 10, 2012
```

Properties of the String Class

The String class has the following two properties:

No.	Property & Description
1	Chars Gets the <i>Char</i> object at a specified position in the current <i>String</i> object.
2	Length Gets the number of characters in the current String object.

Methods of the String Class

The String class has numerous methods that help you in working with the string objects. The following table provides some of the most commonly used methods –

Given below is the list of methods of the String class.

You can visit MSDN library for the complete list of methods and String class constructors.

Examples

The following example demonstrates some of the methods mentioned above:

Comparing Strings

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace StringApplication {</code>
4	<code>class StringProg {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>string str1 = "This is test";</code>
7	<code>string str2 = "This is text";</code>
8	<code>if (String.Compare(str1, str2) == 0) {</code>
9	<code>Console.WriteLine(str1 + " and " + str2 + " are equal.");</code>
10	<code>} else {</code>
11	<code>Console.WriteLine(str1 + " and " + str2 + " are not equal.");</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	<code>Console.ReadKey() ;</code>
14	<code>}</code>

15	}
16	}

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

This is test and This is text are not equal.

String Contains String

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace StringApplication {</code>
4	<code>class StringProg {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>string str = "This is test";</code>
7	<code>if (str.Contains("test")) {</code>
8	<code>Console.WriteLine("The sequence 'test' was found.");</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	<code>Console.ReadKey() ;</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

The sequence 'test' was found.

Getting a Substring

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace StringApplication {</code>
4	<code>class StringProg {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>string str = "Last night I dreamt of San Pedro";</code>
7	<code>Console.WriteLine(str);</code>
8	<code>string substr = str.Substring(23);</code>
9	<code>Console.WriteLine(substr);</code>
10	<code>}</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

San Pedro

Joining Strings

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace StringApplication {</code>
4	<code>class StringProg {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>string[] starray = new string[]{"Down the way nights are dark",</code>
7	<code>"And the sun shines daily on the mountain top",</code>

```
8         "I took a trip on a sailing ship",
9         "And when I reached Jamaica",
10        "I made a stop"};
11
12        string str = String.Join("\n", starray);
13        Console.WriteLine(str);
14    }
15 }
16 }
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Down the way nights are dark
And the sun shines daily on the mountain top
I took a trip on a sailing ship
And when I reached Jamaica
I made a stop
```

Structures

In C#, a structure is a value type data type. It helps you to make a single variable hold related data of various data types. The **struct** keyword is used for creating a structure.

Structures are used to represent a record. Suppose you want to keep track of your books in a library. You might want to track the following attributes about each book:

- Title
- Author
- Subject
- Book ID

Defining a Structure

To define a structure, you must use the struct statement. The struct statement defines a new data type, with more than one member for your program.

For example, here is the way you can declare the Book structure:

Line#	Code
1	<code>struct Books {</code>
2	<code> public string title;</code>
3	<code> public string author;</code>
4	<code> public string subject;</code>
5	<code> public int book_id;</code>
6	<code>};</code>

The following program shows the use of the structure:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>struct Books {</code>
4	<code> public string title;</code>
5	<code> public string author;</code>
6	<code> public string subject;</code>
7	<code> public int book_id;</code>
8	<code>};</code>
9	<code>public class testStructure {</code>
10	<code> public static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
11	<code> Books Book1; /* Declare Book1 of type Book */</code>
12	<code> Books Book2; /* Declare Book2 of type Book */</code>
13	
14	<code> /* book 1 specification */</code>
15	<code> Book1.title = "C Programming";</code>
16	<code> Book1.author = "Nuha Ali";</code>
17	<code> Book1.subject = "C Programming Training";</code>
18	<code> Book1.book_id = 6495407;</code>
19	
20	<code> /* book 2 specification */</code>
21	<code> Book2.title = "Telecom Billing";</code>
22	<code> Book2.author = "Zara Ali";</code>
23	<code> Book2.subject = "Telecom Billing Training";</code>

```

24     Book2.book_id = 6495700;
25
26     /* print Book1 info */
27     Console.WriteLine( "Book 1 title : {0}", Book1.title);
28     Console.WriteLine("Book 1 author : {0}", Book1.author);
29     Console.WriteLine("Book 1 subject : {0}", Book1.subject);
30     Console.WriteLine("Book 1 book_id :{0}", Book1.book_id);
31
32     /* print Book2 info */
33     Console.WriteLine("Book 2 title : {0}", Book2.title);
34     Console.WriteLine("Book 2 author : {0}", Book2.author);
35     Console.WriteLine("Book 2 subject : {0}", Book2.subject);
36     Console.WriteLine("Book 2 book_id : {0}", Book2.book_id);
37
38     Console.ReadKey();
39 }
40 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Book 1 title : C Programming
Book 1 author : Nuha Ali
Book 1 subject : C Programming Training
Book 1 book_id : 6495407
Book 2 title : Telecom Billing
Book 2 author : Zara Ali
Book 2 subject : Telecom Billing Training
Book 2 book_id : 6495700

```

Features of C# Structures

You have already used a simple structure named Books. Structures in C# are quite different from that in traditional C or C++. The C# structures have the following features:

- Structures can have methods, fields, indexers, properties, operator methods, and events.
- Structures can have defined constructors, but not destructors. However, you cannot define a default constructor for a structure. The default constructor is automatically defined and cannot be changed.
- Unlike classes, structures cannot inherit other structures or classes.
- Structures cannot be used as a base for other structures or classes.
- A structure can implement one or more interfaces.
- Structure members cannot be specified as abstract, virtual, or protected.
- When you create a struct object using the **New** operator, it gets created and the appropriate constructor is called. Unlike classes, structs can be instantiated without using the New operator.
- If the New operator is not used, the fields remain unassigned and the object cannot be used until all the fields are initialized.

Class versus Structure

Classes and Structures have the following basic differences:

- classes are reference types and structs are value types
- structures do not support inheritance
- structures cannot have default constructor

In the light of the above discussions, let us rewrite the previous example:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>struct Books {</code>
4	<code> private string title;</code>
5	<code> private string author;</code>
6	<code> private string subject;</code>
7	<code> private int book_id;</code>
8	
9	<code> public void getValues(string t, string a, string s, int id) {</code>
10	<code> title = t;</code>
11	<code> author = a;</code>
12	<code> subject = s;</code>
13	<code> book_id = id;</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	
16	<code> public void display() {</code>
17	<code> Console.WriteLine("Title : {0}", title);</code>
18	<code> Console.WriteLine("Author : {0}", author);</code>
19	<code> Console.WriteLine("Subject : {0}", subject);</code>
20	<code> Console.WriteLine("Book_id :{0}", book_id);</code>
21	<code> }</code>
22	<code>};</code>
23	
24	<code>public class testStructure {</code>
25	<code> public static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
26	<code> Books Book1 = new Books(); /* Declare Book1 of type Book */</code>
27	<code> Books Book2 = new Books(); /* Declare Book2 of type Book */</code>
28	
29	<code> /* book 1 specification */</code>
30	<code> Book1.getValues("C Programming",</code>
31	<code> "Nuha Ali", "C Programming Training", 6495407);</code>
32	
33	<code> /* book 2 specification */</code>
34	<code> Book2.getValues("Telecom Billing",</code>
35	<code> "Zara Ali", "Telecom Billing Training", 6495700);</code>
36	
37	<code> /* print Book1 info */</code>
38	<code> Book1.display();</code>
39	
40	<code> /* print Book2 info */</code>
41	<code> Book2.display();</code>
42	
43	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
44	<code> }</code>
45	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Title : C Programming
Author : Nuha Ali
Subject : C Programming Training
Book_id : 6495407
Title : Telecom Billing
Author : Zara Ali
Subject : Telecom Billing Training
Book_id : 6495700
```


C# - Enums

An enumeration is a set of named integer constants. An enumerated type is declared using the **enum** keyword.

C# enumerations are value data type. In other words, enumeration contains its own values and cannot inherit or cannot pass inheritance.

Declaring *enum* Variable

The general syntax for declaring an enumeration is:

```
enum <enum_name> {  
    enumeration list  
};
```

Where,

- The *enum_name* specifies the enumeration type name.
- The *enumeration list* is a comma-separated list of identifiers.

Each of the symbols in the enumeration list stands for an integer value, one greater than the symbol that precedes it. By default, the value of the first enumeration symbol is 0. For example –

```
enum Days { Sun, Mon, tue, Wed, thu, Fri, Sat };
```

Example

The following example demonstrates use of enum variable:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace EnumApplication {</code>
4	<code> class EnumProgram {</code>
5	<code> enum Days { Sun, Mon, tue, Wed, thu, Fri, Sat };</code>
6	
7	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
8	<code> int WeekdayStart = (int)Days.Mon;</code>
9	<code> int WeekdayEnd = (int)Days.Fri;</code>
10	<code> Console.WriteLine("Monday: {0}", WeekdayStart);</code>
11	<code> Console.WriteLine("Friday: {0}", WeekdayEnd);</code>
12	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
13	<code> }</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Monday: 1  
Friday: 5
```

Classes

When you define a class, you define a blueprint for a data type. This does not actually define any data, but it does define what the class name means. That is, what an object of the class consists of and what operations can be performed on that object. Objects are instances of a class. The methods and variables that constitute a class are called members of the class.

Defining a Class

A class definition starts with the keyword `class` followed by the class name; and the class body enclosed by a pair of curly braces. Following is the general form of a class definition

```
<access specifier> class class_name {
    // member variables
    <access specifier> <data type> variable1;
    <access specifier> <data type> variable2;
    ...
    <access specifier> <data type> variableN;
    // member methods
    <access specifier> <return type> method1(parameter_list) {
        // method body
    }
    <access specifier> <return type> method2(parameter_list) {
        // method body
    }
    ...
    <access specifier> <return type> methodN(parameter_list) {
        // method body
    }
}
```

Note :

- Access specifiers specify the access rules for the members as well as the class itself. If not mentioned, then the default access specifier for a class type is **internal**. Default access for the members is **private**.
- Data type specifies the type of variable, and return type specifies the data type of the data the method returns, if any.
- To access the class members, you use the dot (.) operator.
- The dot operator links the name of an object with the name of a member.

The following example illustrates the concepts discussed so far:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace BoxApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Box {</code>
5	<code>public double length; // Length of a box</code>
6	<code>public double breadth; // Breadth of a box</code>
7	<code>public double height; // Height of a box</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	
10	<code>class Boxtester {</code>
11	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
12	<code>Box Box1 = new Box(); // Declare Box1 of type Box</code>
13	<code>Box Box2 = new Box(); // Declare Box2 of type Box</code>
14	<code>double volume = 0.0; // Store the volume of a box here</code>
15	
16	<code>// box 1 specification</code>
17	<code>Box1.height = 5.0;</code>
18	<code>Box1.length = 6.0;</code>
19	<code>Box1.breadth = 7.0;</code>
20	
21	<code>// box 2 specification</code>
22	<code>Box2.height = 10.0;</code>
23	<code>Box2.length = 12.0;</code>
24	<code>Box2.breadth = 13.0;</code>
25	
26	<code>// volume of box 1</code>
27	<code>volume = Box1.height * Box1.length * Box1.breadth;</code>
28	<code>Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box1 : {0}", volume);</code>
29	
30	<code>// volume of box 2</code>
31	<code>volume = Box2.height * Box2.length * Box2.breadth;</code>
32	<code>Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box2 : {0}", volume);</code>
33	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
34	<code>}</code>
35	<code>}</code>
36	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Volume of Box1 : 210
Volume of Box2 : 1560
```

Member Functions and Encapsulation

A member function of a class is a function that has its definition or its prototype within the class definition similar to any other variable. It operates on any object of the class of which it is a member, and has access to all the members of a class for that object.

Member variables are the attributes of an object (from design perspective) and they are kept private to implement encapsulation. These variables can only be accessed using the public member functions.

Let us put above concepts to set and get the value of different class members in a class:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace BoxApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Box {</code>
5	<code>private double length; // Length of a box</code>
6	<code>private double breadth; // Breadth of a box</code>
7	<code>private double height; // Height of a box</code>
8	
9	<code>public void setLength(double len) {</code>
10	<code>length = len;</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>public void setBreadth(double bre) {</code>
13	<code>breadth = bre;</code>
14	<code>}</code>
15	<code>public void setHeight(double hei) {</code>
16	<code>height = hei;</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	<code>public double getVolume() {</code>
19	<code>return length * breadth * height;</code>
20	<code>}</code>
21	<code>}</code>
22	
23	<code>class Boxtester {</code>
24	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
25	<code>Box Box1 = new Box(); // Declare Box1 of type Box</code>
26	<code>Box Box2 = new Box();</code>
27	<code>double volume;</code>
28	
29	<code>// Declare Box2 of type Box</code>
30	<code>// box 1 specification</code>
31	<code>Box1.setLength(6.0);</code>
32	<code>Box1.setBreadth(7.0);</code>
33	<code>Box1.setHeight(5.0);</code>
34	
35	<code>// box 2 specification</code>
36	<code>Box2.setLength(12.0);</code>
37	<code>Box2.setBreadth(13.0);</code>
38	<code>Box2.setHeight(10.0);</code>
39	
40	<code>// volume of box 1</code>
41	<code>volume = Box1.getVolume();</code>
42	<code>Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box1 : {0}" ,volume);</code>
43	
44	<code>// volume of box 2</code>
45	<code>volume = Box2.getVolume();</code>
46	<code>Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box2 : {0}", volume);</code>
47	
48	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
49	<code>}</code>
50	<code>}</code>
51	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Volume of Box1 : 210
Volume of Box2 : 1560
```

C# Constructors

A class **constructor** is a special member function of a class that is executed whenever we create new objects of that class.

A constructor has exactly the same name as that of class and it does not have any return type. Following example explains the concept of constructor:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace LineApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Line {</code>
5	<code>private double length; // Length of a line</code>
6	
7	<code>public Line() {</code>
8	<code>Console.WriteLine("Object is being created");</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	
11	<code>public void setLength(double len) {</code>
12	<code>length = len;</code>
13	<code>}</code>
14	
15	<code>public double getLength() {</code>
16	<code>return length;</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	
19	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
20	<code>Line line = new Line();</code>
21	
22	<code>// set line length</code>
23	<code>line.setLength(6.0);</code>
24	<code>Console.WriteLine("Length of line : {0}", line.getLength());</code>
25	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
26	<code>}</code>
27	<code>}</code>
28	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Object is being created
Length of line : 6
```

A **default constructor** does not have any parameter but if you need, a constructor can have parameters. Such constructors are called **parameterized constructors**. This technique helps you to assign initial value to an object at the time of its creation as shown in the following example:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace LineApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Line {</code>
5	<code>private double length; // Length of a line</code>
6	

```

7      public Line(double len) { //Parameterized constructor
8          Console.WriteLine("Object is being created, length = {0}",
9              len);
10         length = len;
11     }
12
13     public void setLength( double len ) {
14         length = len;
15     }
16
17     public double getLength() {
18         return length;
19     }
20
21     static void Main(string[] args) {
22         Line line = new Line(10.0);
23         Console.WriteLine("Length of line : {0}", line.getLength());
24
25         // set line length
26         line.setLength(6.0);
27         Console.WriteLine("Length of line : {0}", line.getLength());
28         Console.ReadKey();
29     }
30 }
31 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Object is being created, length = 10
Length of line : 10
Length of line : 6

```

C# Destructors

A **destructor** is a special member function of a class that is executed whenever an object of its class goes out of scope. A **destructor** has exactly the same name as that of the class with a prefixed tilde (~) and it can neither return a value nor can it take any parameters.

Destructor can be very useful for releasing memory resources before exiting the program. Destructors cannot be inherited or overloaded.

Following example explains the concept of destructor:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace LineApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Line {</code>
5	<code>private double length; // Length of a line</code>
6	
7	<code>public Line() { // constructor</code>
8	<code>Console.WriteLine("Object is being created");</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	
11	<code>~Line() { //destructor</code>

```

12     Console.WriteLine("Object is being deleted");
13     }
14
15     public void setLength( double len ) {
16         length = len;
17     }
18
19     public double getLength() {
20         return length;
21     }
22
23     static void Main(string[] args) {
24         Line line = new Line();
25
26         // set line length
27         line.setLength(6.0);
28         Console.WriteLine("Length of line : {0}", line.getLength());
29         Console.ReadKey();
30     }
31 }
32 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Object is being created
Length of line : 6
Object is being deleted

```

Static Members of a C# Class

We can define class members as static using the **static** keyword. When we declare a member of a class as static, it means no matter how many objects of the class are created, there is only one copy of the static member.

The keyword **static** implies that only one instance of the member exists for a class. Static variables are used for defining constants because their values can be retrieved by invoking the class without creating an instance of it. Static variables can be initialized outside the member function or class definition. You can also initialize static variables inside the class definition.

The following example demonstrates the use of **static variables**:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace StaticVarApplication {</code>
4	<code>class StaticVar {</code>
5	<code>public static int num;</code>
6	
7	<code>public void count() {</code>
8	<code>num++;</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	
11	<code>public int getNum() {</code>
12	<code>return num;</code>

```

13     }
14 }
15
16 class StaticTester {
17     static void Main(string[] args) {
18         StaticVar s1 = new StaticVar();
19         StaticVar s2 = new StaticVar();
20         s1.count();
21         s1.count();
22         s1.count();
23         s2.count();
24         s2.count();
25         s2.count();
26         Console.WriteLine("Variable num for s1: {0}", s1.getNum());
27         Console.WriteLine("Variable num for s2: {0}", s2.getNum());
28         Console.ReadKey();
29     }
30 }
31 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Variable num for s1: 6
Variable num for s2: 6

```

You can also declare a **member function** as **static**. Such functions can access only static variables. The static functions exist even before the object is created. The following example demonstrates the use of **static functions**:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace StaticVarApplication {</code>
4	<code>class StaticVar {</code>
5	<code>public static int num;</code>
6	<code>public void count() {</code>
7	<code>num++;</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	<code>public static int getNum() {</code>
10	<code>return num;</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	<code>class StaticTester {</code>
14	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
15	<code>StaticVar s = new StaticVar();</code>
16	<code>s.count();</code>
17	<code>s.count();</code>
18	<code>s.count();</code>
19	<code>Console.WriteLine("Variable num: {0}", StaticVar.getNum());</code>
20	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
21	<code>}</code>
22	<code>}</code>
23	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Variable num: 3

```


Inheritance

One of the most important concepts in object-oriented programming is inheritance. Inheritance allows us to define a class in terms of another class, which makes it easier to create and maintain an application. This also provides an opportunity to reuse the code functionality and speeds up implementation time.

When creating a class, instead of writing completely new data members and member functions, the programmer can designate that the new class should inherit the members of an existing class. This existing class is called the **base** class, and the new class is referred to as the **derived** class.

The idea of inheritance implements the **IS-A** relationship. For example, mammal **IS A** animal, dog **IS-A** mammal hence dog **IS-A** animal as well, and so on.

Base and Derived Classes

A class can be derived from more than one class or interface, which means that it can inherit data and functions from multiple base classes or interfaces.

The syntax used in C# for creating derived classes is as follows:

```
<access-specifier> class <base_class> {  
    ...  
}  
  
class <derived_class> : <base_class> {  
    ...  
}
```

Consider a base class Shape and its derived class Rectangle:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace InheritanceApplication {</code>
4	<code> class Shape {</code>
5	<code> public void setWidth(int w) {</code>
6	<code> width = w;</code>
7	<code> }</code>
8	
9	<code> public void setHeight(int h) {</code>
10	<code> height = h;</code>
11	<code> }</code>
12	<code> protected int width;</code>
13	<code> protected int height;</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	
16	<code>// Derived class</code>
17	<code>class Rectangle: Shape {</code>
18	<code> public int getArea() {</code>
19	<code> return (width * height);</code>

```

20     }
21 }
22
23 class RectangleTester {
24     static void Main(string[] args) {
25         Rectangle Rect = new Rectangle();
26
27         Rect.setWidth(5);
28         Rect.setHeight(7);
29
30         // Print the area of the object.
31         Console.WriteLine("Total area: {0}", Rect.getArea());
32         Console.ReadKey();
33     }
34 }
35 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Total area: 35

Initializing Base Class

The derived class inherits the base class member variables and member methods. Therefore the super class object should be created before the subclass is created. You can give instructions for superclass initialization in the member initialization list.

The following program demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace RectangleApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Rectangle {</code>
5	<code> //member variables</code>
6	<code> protected double length;</code>
7	<code> protected double width;</code>
8	
9	<code> public Rectangle(double l, double w) {</code>
10	<code> length = l;</code>
11	<code> width = w;</code>
12	<code> }</code>
13	
14	<code> public double GetArea() {</code>
15	<code> return length * width;</code>
16	<code> }</code>
17	
18	<code> public void Display() {</code>
19	<code> Console.WriteLine("Length: {0}", length);</code>
20	<code> Console.WriteLine("Width: {0}", width);</code>
21	<code> Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", GetArea());</code>
22	<code> }</code>
23	<code> }//end class Rectangle</code>
24	
25	<code>class Tabletop : Rectangle {</code>
26	<code> private double cost;</code>

```

27     public Tabletop(double l, double w) : base(l, w) { }
28
29     public double GetCost() {
30         double cost;
31         cost = GetArea() * 70;
32         return cost;
33     }
34
35     public void Display() {
36         base.Display();
37         Console.WriteLine("Cost: {0}", GetCost());
38     }
39 }
40
41 class ExecuteRectangle {
42     static void Main(string[] args) {
43         Tabletop t = new Tabletop(4.5, 7.5);
44         t.Display();
45         Console.ReadKey();
46     }
47 }
48 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Length: 4.5
Width: 7.5
Area: 33.75
Cost: 2362.5

```

Multiple Inheritance in C#

C# does not support multiple inheritance. However, you can use interfaces to implement multiple inheritance. The following program demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace InheritanceApplication {</code>
4	<code> class Shape {</code>
5	<code> public void setWidth(int w) {</code>
6	<code> width = w;</code>
7	<code> }</code>
8	
9	<code> public void setHeight(int h) {</code>
10	<code> height = h;</code>
11	<code> }</code>
12	<code> protected int width;</code>
13	<code> protected int height;</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	
16	<code>// Base class PaintCost</code>
17	<code>public interface PaintCost {</code>
18	<code> int getCost(int area);</code>
19	<code>}</code>

```
20
21 // Derived class
22 class Rectangle : Shape, PaintCost {
23     public int getArea() {
24         return (width * height);
25     }
26
27     public int getCost(int area) {
28         return area * 70;
29     }
30 }
31
32 class RectangleTester {
33     static void Main(string[] args) {
34         Rectangle Rect = new Rectangle();
35         int area;
36         Rect.setWidth(5);
37         Rect.setHeight(7);
38         area = Rect.getArea();
39
40         // Print the area of the object.
41         Console.WriteLine("Total area: {0}", Rect.getArea());
42         Console.WriteLine("Total paint cost: ${0}", Rect.getCost(area));
43         Console.ReadKey();
44     }
45 }
46 }
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Total area: 35

Total paint cost: \$2450

Polymorphism

The word **polymorphism** means having many forms. In object-oriented programming paradigm, polymorphism is often expressed as 'one interface, multiple functions'.

Polymorphism can be static or dynamic. In **static polymorphism**, the response to a function is determined at the compile time. In **dynamic polymorphism**, it is decided at run-time.

Static Polymorphism

The mechanism of linking a function with an object during compile time is called early binding. It is also called static binding. C# provides two techniques to implement static polymorphism. They are:

- Function overloading
- Operator overloading

We discuss operator overloading in next chapter.

Function Overloading

You can have multiple definitions for the same function name in the same scope. The definition of the function must differ from each other by the types and/or the number of arguments in the argument list. You cannot overload function declarations that differ only by return type.

The following example shows using function **print()** to print different data types:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace PolymorphismApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Printdata {</code>
5	<code>void print(int i) {</code>
6	<code>Console.WriteLine("Printing int: {0}", i);</code>
7	<code>}</code>
8	
9	<code>void print(double f) {</code>
10	<code>Console.WriteLine("Printing float: {0}" , f);</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	
13	<code>void print(string s) {</code>
14	<code>Console.WriteLine("Printing string: {0}", s);</code>
15	<code>}</code>
16	
17	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
18	<code>Printdata p = new Printdata();</code>
19	
20	<code>// Call print to print integer</code>
21	<code>p.print(5);</code>
22	

23	// Call print to print float
24	p.print(500.263);
25	
26	// Call print to print string
27	p.print("Hello C++");
28	Console.ReadKey();
29	}
30	}
31	}

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Printing int: 5
Printing float: 500.263
Printing string: Hello C++
```

Dynamic Polymorphism

C# allows you to create abstract classes that are used to provide partial class implementation of an interface. Implementation is completed when a derived class inherits from it. **Abstract** classes contain abstract methods, which are implemented by the derived class. The derived classes have more specialized functionality.

Here are the rules about abstract classes:

- You cannot create an instance of an abstract class
- You cannot declare an abstract method outside an abstract class
- When a class is declared **sealed**, it cannot be inherited, abstract classes cannot be declared sealed.

The following program demonstrates an abstract class:

Line#	Code
1	using System;
2	
3	namespace PolymorphismApplication {
4	abstract class Shape {
5	public abstract int area();
6	}
7	
8	class Rectangle: Shape {
9	private int length;
10	private int width;
11	
12	public Rectangle(int a = 0, int b = 0) {
13	length = a;
14	width = b;
15	}
16	
17	public override int area () {
18	Console.WriteLine("Rectangle class area :");
19	return (width * length);
20	}
21	}

```

22
23     class RectangleTester {
24         static void Main(string[] args) {
25             Rectangle r = new Rectangle(10, 7);
26             double a = r.area();
27             Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}",a);
28             Console.ReadKey();
29         }
30     }
31 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Rectangle class area :
Area: 70

```

When you have a function defined in a class that you want to be implemented in an inherited class(es), you use **virtual** functions. The virtual functions could be implemented differently in different inherited class and the call to these functions will be decided at runtime.

Dynamic polymorphism is implemented by **abstract classes** and **virtual functions**.

The following program demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	using System;
2	
3	namespace PolymorphismApplication {
4	class Shape {
5	protected int width, height;
6	public Shape(int a = 0, int b = 0) {
7	width = a;
8	height = b;
9	}
10	
11	public virtual int area() {
12	Console.WriteLine("Parent class area :");
13	return 0;
14	}
15	}
16	
17	class Rectangle: Shape {
18	public Rectangle(int a = 0, int b = 0): base(a, b) {
19	
20	}
21	
22	public override int area () {
23	Console.WriteLine("Rectangle class area :");
24	return (width * height);
25	}
26	}
27	
28	class Triangle: Shape {
29	public Triangle(int a = 0, int b = 0): base(a, b) {
30	}
31	
32	public override int area() {

```

33     Console.WriteLine("Triangle class area :");
34     return (width * height / 2);
35 }
36 }
37 class Caller {
38     public void CallArea(Shape sh) {
39         int a;
40         a = sh.area();
41         Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", a);
42     }
43 }
44
45 class Tester {
46     static void Main(string[] args) {
47         Caller c = new Caller();
48         Rectangle r = new Rectangle(10, 7);
49         Triangle t = new Triangle(10, 5);
50         c.CallArea(r);
51         c.CallArea(t);
52         Console.ReadKey();
53     }
54 }
55 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Rectangle class area:
Area: 70
Triangle class area:
Area: 25

```


Operator Overloading

You can redefine or overload most of the built-in operators available in C#. Thus a programmer can use operators with user-defined types as well. Overloaded operators are functions with special names the keyword **operator** followed by the symbol for the operator being defined. similar to any other function, an overloaded operator has a return type and a parameter list.

For example, go through the following function:

Line#	Code
1	<code>public static Box operator+ (Box b, Box c) {</code>
2	<code> Box box = new Box();</code>
3	<code> box.length = b.length + c.length;</code>
4	<code> box.breadth = b.breadth + c.breadth;</code>
5	<code> box.height = b.height + c.height;</code>
6	<code> return box;</code>
7	<code>}</code>

The above function implements the addition operator (+) for a user-defined class Box. It adds the attributes of two Box objects and returns the resultant Box object.

Implementing the Operator Overloading

The following program shows the complete implementation:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace OperatorOvlApplication {</code>
4	<code> class Box {</code>
5	<code> private double length; // Length of a box</code>
6	<code> private double breadth; // Breadth of a box</code>
7	<code> private double height; // Height of a box</code>
8	
9	<code> public double getVolume() {</code>
10	<code> return length * breadth * height;</code>
11	<code> }</code>
12	<code> public void setLength(double len) {</code>
13	<code> length = len;</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	<code> public void setBreadth(double bre) {</code>
16	<code> breadth = bre;</code>
17	<code> }</code>
18	<code> public void setHeight(double hei) {</code>
19	<code> height = hei;</code>
20	<code> }</code>
21	
22	<code> // Overload + operator to add two Box objects.</code>
23	<code> public static Box operator+ (Box b, Box c) {</code>
24	<code> Box box = new Box();</code>
25	<code> box.length = b.length + c.length;</code>
26	<code> box.breadth = b.breadth + c.breadth;</code>
27	<code> box.height = b.height + c.height;</code>

```

28     return box;
29 }
30 }
31
32 class Tester {
33     static void Main(string[] args) {
34         Box Box1 = new Box(); // Declare Box1 of type Box
35         Box Box2 = new Box(); // Declare Box2 of type Box
36         Box Box3 = new Box(); // Declare Box3 of type Box
37         double volume = 0.0; // Store the volume of a box here
38
39         // box 1 specification
40         Box1.setLength(6.0);
41         Box1.setBreadth(7.0);
42         Box1.setHeight(5.0);
43
44         // box 2 specification
45         Box2.setLength(12.0);
46         Box2.setBreadth(13.0);
47         Box2.setHeight(10.0);
48
49         // volume of box 1
50         volume = Box1.getVolume();
51         Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box1 : {0}", volume);
52
53         // volume of box 2
54         volume = Box2.getVolume();
55         Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box2 : {0}", volume);
56
57         // Add two object as follows:
58         Box3 = Box1 + Box2;
59
60         // volume of box 3
61         volume = Box3.getVolume();
62         Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box3 : {0}", volume);
63         Console.ReadKey();
64     }
65 }
66 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Volume of Box1 : 210
Volume of Box2 : 1560
Volume of Box3 : 5400

```

Overloadable and Non-Overloadable Operators

The following table describes the overload ability of the operators in C# –

No.	Operators & Description
1	+, -, !, ~, ++, -- These unary operators take one operand and can be overloaded.
2	+, -, *, /, % These binary operators take one operand and can be overloaded.
3	==, !=, <, >, <=, >= The comparison operators can be overloaded.
4	&&, The conditional logical operators cannot be overloaded directly.
5	+=, -=, *=, /=, %= The assignment operators cannot be overloaded.
6	=, .., ?.:, ->, new, is, sizeof, typeof These operators cannot be overloaded.

Example

In the light of the above discussions, let us extend the preceding example, and overload few more operators:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace OperatorOvlApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Box {</code>
5	<code>private double length; // Length of a box</code>
6	<code>private double breadth; // Breadth of a box</code>
7	<code>private double height; // Height of a box</code>
8	
9	<code>public double getVolume() {</code>
10	<code>return length * breadth * height;</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>public void setLength(double len) {</code>
13	<code>length = len;</code>

```

14     }
15     public void setBreadth( double bre ) {
16         breadth = bre;
17     }
18     public void setHeight( double hei ) {
19         height = hei;
20     }
21
22     // Overload + operator to add two Box objects.
23     public static Box operator+ (Box b, Box c) {
24         Box box = new Box();
25         box.length = b.length + c.length;
26         box.breadth = b.breadth + c.breadth;
27         box.height = b.height + c.height;
28         return box;
29     }
30
31     public static bool operator == (Box lhs, Box rhs) {
32         bool status = false;
33         if (lhs.length == rhs.length && lhs.height == rhs.height &&
34             lhs.breadth == rhs.breadth) {
35             status = true;
36         }
37         return status;
38     }
39     public static bool operator !=(Box lhs, Box rhs) {
40         bool status = false;
41         if (lhs.length != rhs.length || lhs.height != rhs.height ||
42             lhs.breadth != rhs.breadth) {
43             status = true;
44         }
45         return status;
46     }
47     public static bool operator <(Box lhs, Box rhs) {
48         bool status = false;
49         if (lhs.length < rhs.length && lhs.height < rhs.height &&
50             lhs.breadth < rhs.breadth) {
51             status = true;
52         }
53         return status;
54     }
55     public static bool operator >(Box lhs, Box rhs) {
56         bool status = false;
57         if (lhs.length > rhs.length && lhs.height > rhs.height &&
58             lhs.breadth > rhs.breadth) {
59             status = true;
60         }
61         return status;
62     }
63     public static bool operator <=(Box lhs, Box rhs) {
64         bool status = false;
65         if (lhs.length <= rhs.length && lhs.height <= rhs.height &&
66             lhs.breadth <= rhs.breadth) {
67             status = true;
68         }
69         return status;
70     }

```

```

71     public static bool operator >=(Box lhs, Box rhs) {
72         bool status = false;
73         if (lhs.length >= rhs.length && lhs.height >= rhs.height &&
74             lhs.breadth >= rhs.breadth) {
75             status = true;
76         }
77         return status;
78     }
79     public override string ToString() {
80         return String.Format("{0}, {1}, {2})", length, breadth, height);
81     }
82 }
83
84 class Tester {
85     static void Main(string[] args) {
86         Box Box1 = new Box(); // Declare Box1 of type Box
87         Box Box2 = new Box(); // Declare Box2 of type Box
88         Box Box3 = new Box(); // Declare Box3 of type Box
89         Box Box4 = new Box();
90         double volume = 0.0; // Store the volume of a box here
91
92         // box 1 specification
93         Box1.setLength(6.0);
94         Box1.setBreadth(7.0);
95         Box1.setHeight(5.0);
96
97         // box 2 specification
98         Box2.setLength(12.0);
99         Box2.setBreadth(13.0);
100        Box2.setHeight(10.0);
101
102        //displaying the Boxes using the overloaded ToString():
103        Console.WriteLine("Box 1: {0}", Box1.ToString());
104        Console.WriteLine("Box 2: {0}", Box2.ToString());
105
106        // volume of box 1
107        volume = Box1.getVolume();
108        Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box1 : {0}", volume);
109
110        // volume of box 2
111        volume = Box2.getVolume();
112        Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box2 : {0}", volume);
113
114        // Add two object as follows:
115        Box3 = Box1 + Box2;
116        Console.WriteLine("Box 3: {0}", Box3.ToString());
117
118        // volume of box 3
119        volume = Box3.getVolume();
120        Console.WriteLine("Volume of Box3 : {0}", volume);
121
122        //comparing the boxes
123        if (Box1 > Box2)
124            Console.WriteLine("Box1 is greater than Box2");
125        else
126            Console.WriteLine("Box1 is greater than Box2");
127

```

```

128     if (Box1 < Box2)
129         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is less than Box2");
130     else
131         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is not less than Box2");
132
133     if (Box1 >= Box2)
134         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is greater or equal to Box2");
135     else
136         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is not greater or equal to Box2");
137
138     if (Box1 <= Box2)
139         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is less or equal to Box2");
140     else
141         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is not less or equal to Box2");
142
143     if (Box1 != Box2)
144         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is not equal to Box2");
145     else
146         Console.WriteLine("Box1 is not greater or equal to Box2");
147     Box4 = Box3;
148
149     if (Box3 == Box4)
150         Console.WriteLine("Box3 is equal to Box4");
151     else
152         Console.WriteLine("Box3 is not equal to Box4");
153
154     Console.ReadKey();
155 }
156 }
157 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Box 1: (6, 7, 5)
Box 2: (12, 13, 10)
Volume of Box1 : 210
Volume of Box2 : 1560
Box 3: (18, 20, 15)
Volume of Box3 : 5400
Box1 is not greater than Box2
Box1 is less than Box2
Box1 is not greater or equal to Box2
Box1 is less or equal to Box2
Box1 is not equal to Box2
Box3 is equal to Box4

```

Interfaces

An interface is defined as a syntactical contract that all the classes inheriting the interface should follow. The interface defines the **'what'** part of the syntactical contract and the deriving classes define the **'how'** part of the syntactical contract.

Interfaces define properties, methods, and events, which are the members of the interface. Interfaces contain only the declaration of the members. It is the responsibility of the deriving class to define the members. It often helps in providing a standard structure that the deriving classes would follow.

Abstract classes to some extent serve the same purpose, however, they are mostly used when only few methods are to be declared by the base class and the deriving class implements the functionalities.

Declaring Interfaces

Interfaces are declared using the interface keyword. It is similar to class declaration. Interface statements are public by default. Following is an example of an interface declaration:

Line#	Code
1	<code>public interface ITransactions {</code>
2	<code> // interface members</code>
3	<code> void showTransaction();</code>
4	<code> double getAmount();</code>
5	<code>}</code>

Example

The following example demonstrates implementation of the above interface:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System.Collections.Generic;</code>
2	<code>using System.Linq;</code>
3	<code>using System.Text;</code>
4	<code>using System;</code>
5	
6	<code>namespace InterfaceApplication {</code>
7	<code> public interface ITransactions {</code>
8	<code> // interface members</code>
9	<code> void showTransaction();</code>
10	<code> double getAmount();</code>
11	<code> }</code>
12	
13	<code> public class Transaction : ITransactions {</code>
14	<code> private string tCode;</code>
15	<code> private string date;</code>
16	<code> private double amount;</code>
17	
18	<code> public Transaction() {</code>

```

19     tCode = " ";
20     date = " ";
21     amount = 0.0;
22 }
23 public Transaction(string c, string d, double a) {
24     tCode = c;
25     date = d;
26     amount = a;
27 }
28 public double getAmount() {
29     return amount;
30 }
31 public void showTransaction() {
32     Console.WriteLine("Transaction: {0}", tCode);
33     Console.WriteLine("Date: {0}", date);
34     Console.WriteLine("Amount: {0}", getAmount());
35 }
36 }
37
38 class Tester {
39     static void Main(string[] args) {
40         Transaction t1 = new Transaction("001", "8/10/2012", 78900.00);
41         Transaction t2 = new Transaction("002", "9/10/2012", 451900.00);
42         t1.showTransaction();
43         t2.showTransaction();
44         Console.ReadKey();
45     }
46 }
47 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Transaction: 001
Date: 8/10/2012
Amount: 78900
Transaction: 002
Date: 9/10/2012
Amount: 451900

```


Namespaces

A **namespace** is designed for providing a way to keep one set of names separate from another. The class names declared in one namespace does not conflict with the same class names declared in another.

Defining a Namespace

A namespace definition begins with the keyword **namespace** followed by the namespace name as follows:

```
namespace namespace_name {  
    // code declarations  
}
```

To call the namespace-enabled version of either function or variable, prepend the namespace name as follows:

```
namespace_name.item_name;
```

The following program demonstrates use of namespaces:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace first_space {</code>
4	<code> class namespace_cl {</code>
5	<code> public void func() {</code>
6	<code> Console.WriteLine("Inside first_space");</code>
7	<code> }</code>
8	<code> }</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	<code>namespace second_space {</code>
11	<code> class namespace_cl {</code>
12	<code> public void func() {</code>
13	<code> Console.WriteLine("Inside second_space");</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	<code> }</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	
18	<code>class TestClass {</code>
19	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
20	<code> first_space.namespace_cl fc = new first_space.namespace_cl();</code>
21	<code> second_space.namespace_cl sc = new second_space.namespace_cl();</code>
22	<code> fc.func();</code>
23	<code> sc.func();</code>
24	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
25	<code> }</code>
26	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Inside first_space  
Inside second_space
```

The *using* Keyword

The **using** keyword states that the program is using the names in the given namespace. For example, we are using the **System** namespace in our programs. The class `Console` is defined there. We just write:

```
Console.WriteLine ("Hello there");
```

We could have written the fully qualified name as:

```
System.Console.WriteLine("Hello there");
```

You can also avoid prepending of namespaces with the **using** namespace directive. This directive tells the compiler that the subsequent code is making use of names in the specified namespace. The namespace is thus implied for the following code –

Let us rewrite our preceding example, with using directive:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using first_space;</code>
3	<code>using second_space;</code>
4	
5	<code>namespace first_space {</code>
6	<code> class abc {</code>
7	<code> public void func() {</code>
8	<code> Console.WriteLine("Inside first_space");</code>
9	<code> }</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>namespace second_space {</code>
13	<code> class efg {</code>
14	<code> public void func() {</code>
15	<code> Console.WriteLine("Inside second_space");</code>
16	<code> }</code>
17	<code> }</code>
18	<code>}</code>
19	
20	<code>class TestClass {</code>
21	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
22	<code> abc fc = new abc();</code>
23	<code> efg sc = new efg();</code>
24	<code> fc.func();</code>
25	<code> sc.func();</code>
26	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
27	<code> }</code>
28	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Inside first_space
Inside second_space
```

Nested Namespaces

You can define one namespace inside another namespace as follows:

```
namespace namespace_name1 {  
  
    // code declarations  
    namespace namespace_name2 {  
        // code declarations  
    }  
}
```

You can access members of nested namespace by using the dot (.) operator as follows:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using first_space;</code>
3	<code>using first_space.second_space;</code>
4	
5	<code>namespace first_space {</code>
6	<code> class abc {</code>
7	<code> public void func() {</code>
8	<code> Console.WriteLine("Inside first_space");</code>
9	<code> }</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	
12	<code> namespace second_space {</code>
13	<code> class efg {</code>
14	<code> public void func() {</code>
15	<code> Console.WriteLine("Inside second_space");</code>
16	<code> }</code>
17	<code> }</code>
18	<code> }</code>
19	<code>}</code>
20	
21	<code>class TestClass {</code>
22	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
23	<code> abc fc = new abc();</code>
24	<code> efg sc = new efg();</code>
25	<code> fc.func();</code>
26	<code> sc.func();</code>
27	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
28	<code> }</code>
29	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Inside first_space  
Inside second_space
```

Preprocessor Directives

The preprocessor directives give instruction to the compiler to preprocess the information before actual compilation starts.

All preprocessor directives begin with #, and only white-space characters may appear before a preprocessor directive on a line. Preprocessor directives are not statements, so they do not end with a semicolon (;).

C# compiler does not have a separate preprocessor; however, the directives are processed as if there was one. In C# the preprocessor directives are used to help in conditional compilation. Unlike C and C++ directives, they are not used to create macros. A preprocessor directive must be the only instruction on a line.

Preprocessor Directives in C#

The following table lists the preprocessor directives available in C#:

No.	Preprocessor Directive & Description
1	#define It defines a sequence of characters, called symbol.
2	#undef It allows you to undefine a symbol.
3	#if It allows testing a symbol or symbols to see if they evaluate to true.
4	#else It allows to create a compound conditional directive, along with #if.
5	#elif It allows creating a compound conditional directive.
6	#endif Specifies the end of a conditional directive.
7	#line It lets you modify the compiler's line number and (optionally) the file name output for errors and warnings.
8	#error It allows generating an error from a specific location in your code.
9	#warning It allows generating a level one warning from a specific location in your code.

10	#region It lets you specify a block of code that you can expand or collapse when using the outlining feature of the Visual Studio Code Editor.
11	#endregion It marks the end of a #region block.

The #define Preprocessor

The #define preprocessor directive creates symbolic constants.

#define lets you define a symbol such that, by using the symbol as the expression passed to the #if directive, the expression evaluates to true. Its syntax is as follows:

```
#define symbol
```

The following program illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	#define PI
2	using System;
3	
4	namespace PreprocessorDApp1 {
5	class Program {
6	static void Main(string[] args) {
7	#if (PI)
8	Console.WriteLine("PI is defined");
9	#else
10	Console.WriteLine("PI is not defined");
11	#endif
12	Console.ReadKey();
13	}
14	}
15	}

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
PI is defined
```

Conditional Directives

You can use the #if directive to create a conditional directive. Conditional directives are useful for testing a symbol or symbols to check if they evaluate to true. If they do evaluate to true, the compiler evaluates all the code between the #if and the next directive.

Syntax for conditional directive is –

```
#if symbol [operator symbol]...
```

Where, *symbol* is the name of the symbol you want to test. You can also use true and false or prepend the symbol with the negation operator.

The *operator symbol* is the operator used for evaluating the symbol. Operators could be either of the following:

- == (equality)
- != (inequality)
- && (and)
- || (or)

You can also group symbols and operators with parentheses. Conditional directives are used for compiling code for a debug build or when compiling for a specific configuration. A conditional directive beginning with a **#if** directive must explicitly be terminated with a **#endif** directive.

The following program demonstrates use of conditional directives:

Line#	Code
1	<code>#define DEBUG</code>
2	<code>#define VC_V10</code>
3	<code>using System;</code>
4	
5	<code>public class TestClass {</code>
6	<code> public static void Main() {</code>
7	<code> #if (DEBUG && !VC_V10)</code>
8	<code> Console.WriteLine("DEBUG is defined");</code>
9	<code> #elif (!DEBUG && VC_V10)</code>
10	<code> Console.WriteLine("VC_V10 is defined");</code>
11	<code> #elif (DEBUG && VC_V10)</code>
12	<code> Console.WriteLine("DEBUG and VC_V10 are defined");</code>
13	<code> #else</code>
14	<code> Console.WriteLine("DEBUG and VC_V10 are not defined");</code>
15	<code> #endif</code>
16	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
17	<code> }</code>
18	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

DEBUG and VC_V10 are defined

Regular Expressions

A **regular expression** is a pattern that could be matched against an input text. The .NET framework provides a regular expression engine that allows such matching. A pattern consists of one or more character literals, operators, or constructs.

Constructs for Defining Regular Expressions

There are various categories of characters, operators, and constructs that lets you to define regular expressions. Click the following links to find these constructs.

- [Character escapes](#)
- [Character classes](#)
- [Anchors](#)
- [Grouping constructs](#)
- [Quantifiers](#)
- [Backreference constructs](#)
- [Alternation constructs](#)
- [Substitutions](#)
- [Miscellaneous constructs](#)

The Regex Class

The Regex class is used for representing a regular expression. It has the following commonly used methods:

No.	Methods & Description
1	public bool IsMatch(string input) Indicates whether the regular expression specified in the Regex constructor finds a match in a specified input string.
2	public bool IsMatch(string input, int startat) Indicates whether the regular expression specified in the Regex constructor finds a match in the specified input string, beginning at the specified starting position in the string.
3	public static bool IsMatch(string input, string pattern)

	Indicates whether the specified regular expression finds a match in the specified input string.
4	public MatchCollection Matches(string input) Searches the specified input string for all occurrences of a regular expression.
5	public string Replace(string input, string replacement) In a specified input string, replaces all strings that match a regular expression pattern with a specified replacement string.
6	public string[] Split(string input) Splits an input string into an array of substrings at the positions defined by a regular expression pattern specified in the Regex constructor.

For the complete list of methods and properties, please read the Microsoft documentation on C#.

Example 1

The following example matches words that start with 'S':

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Text.RegularExpressions;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace RegExApplication {</code>
5	<code>class Program {</code>
6	<code>private static void showMatch(string text, string expr) {</code>
7	<code>Console.WriteLine("The Expression: " + expr);</code>
8	<code>MatchCollection mc = Regex.Matches(text, expr);</code>
9	<code>foreach (Match m in mc) Console.WriteLine(m);</code>
10	<code>}</code>
11	
12	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
13	<code>string str = "A Thousand Splendid Suns";</code>
14	<code>Console.WriteLine("Matching words that start with 'S': ");</code>
15	<code>showMatch(str, @"\b\S*");</code>
16	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	<code>}</code>
19	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Matching words that start with 'S':
The Expression: \b\S*
Splendid
Suns
```


Example 2

The following example matches words that start with 'm' and ends with 'e':

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Text.RegularExpressions;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace RegExApplication {</code>
5	<code>class Program {</code>
6	<code>private static void showMatch(string text, string expr) {</code>
7	<code>Console.WriteLine("The Expression: " + expr);</code>
8	<code>MatchCollection mc = Regex.Matches(text, expr);</code>
9	<code>foreach (Match m in mc) Console.WriteLine(m);</code>
10	<code>}</code>
11	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
12	<code>string str = "make maze and manage to measure it";</code>
13	
14	<code>Console.WriteLine(</code>
15	<code> "Matching words start with 'm' and ends with 'e':");</code>
16	<code>showMatch(str, @"\bm\S*e\b");</code>
17	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
18	<code>}</code>
19	<code>}</code>
20	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Matching words start with 'm' and ends with 'e':
The Expression: \bm\S*e\b
make
maze
manage
measure
```

Example 3

This example replaces extra white space:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Text.RegularExpressions;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace RegExApplication {</code>
5	<code>class Program {</code>
6	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code>string input = "Hello World ";</code>
8	<code>string pattern = @"\s+";</code>
9	<code>string replacement = " ";</code>
10	<code>Regex rgx = new Regex(pattern);</code>
11	<code>string result = rgx.Replace(input, replacement);</code>
12	
13	<code>Console.WriteLine("Original String: {0}", input);</code>
14	<code>Console.WriteLine("Replacement String: {0}", result);</code>
15	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>

```
16 }  
17 }  
18 }
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Original String: Hello World
Replacement String: Hello World

Exception Handling

An exception is a problem that arises during the execution of a program. A C# exception is a response to an exceptional circumstance that arises while a program is running, such as an attempt to divide by zero.

Exceptions provide a way to transfer control from one part of a program to another. C# exception handling is built upon four keywords: **try**, **catch**, **finally**, and **throw**.

- **try** – A try block identifies a block of code for which particular exceptions is activated. It is followed by one or more catch blocks.
- **catch** – A program catches an exception with an exception handler at the place in a program where you want to handle the problem. The catch keyword indicates the catching of an exception.
- **finally** – The finally block is used to execute a given set of statements, whether an exception is thrown or not thrown. For example, if you open a file, it must be closed whether an exception is raised or not.
- **throw** – A program throws an exception when a problem shows up. This is done using a throw keyword.

Syntax

Assuming a block raises an exception, a method catches an exception using a combination of the try and catch keywords. A try/catch block is placed around the code that might generate an exception. Code within a try/catch block is referred to as protected code, and the syntax for using try/catch looks like the following:

```
try {  
    // statements causing exception  
} catch( ExceptionName e1 ) {  
    // error handling code  
} catch( ExceptionName e2 ) {  
    // error handling code  
} catch( ExceptionName eN ) {  
    // error handling code  
} finally {  
    // statements to be executed  
}
```

You can list down multiple catch statements to catch different type of exceptions in case your try block raises more than one exception in different situations.

Exception Classes in C#

C# exceptions are represented by classes. The exception classes in C# are mainly directly or indirectly derived from the **System.Exception** class. Some of the exception classes derived from the **System.Exception** class are the **System.ApplicationException** and **System.SystemException** classes.

The **System.ApplicationException** class supports exceptions generated by application programs. Hence the exceptions defined by the programmers should derive from this class.

The **System.SystemException** class is the base class for all predefined system exception.

The following table provides some of the predefined exception classes derived from the **System.SystemException** class:

No.	Exception Class & Description
1	System.IO.IOException Handles I/O errors.
2	System.IndexOutOfRangeException Handles errors generated when a method refers to an array index out of range.
3	System.ArrayTypeMismatchException Handles errors generated when type is mismatched with the array type.
4	System.NullReferenceException Handles errors generated from referencing a null object.
5	System.DivideByZeroException Handles errors generated from dividing a dividend with zero.
6	System.InvalidCastException Handles errors generated during typecasting.
7	System.OutOfMemoryException Handles errors generated from insufficient free memory.
8	System.StackOverflowException Handles errors generated from stack overflow.

Handling Exceptions

C# provides a structured solution to the exception handling in the form of try and catch blocks. Using these blocks the core program statements are separated from the error-handling statements.

These error handling blocks are implemented using the **try**, **catch**, and **finally** keywords. Following is an example of throwing an exception when dividing by zero condition occurs:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace ErrorHandlingApplication {</code>
4	<code>class DivNumbers {</code>
5	<code>int result;</code>
6	
7	<code>DivNumbers() {</code>
8	<code>result = 0;</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	
11	<code>public void division(int num1, int num2) {</code>
12	<code>try {</code>
13	<code>result = num1 / num2;</code>
14	<code>} catch (DivideByZeroException e) {</code>
15	<code>Console.WriteLine("Exception caught: {0}", e);</code>
16	<code>} finally {</code>
17	<code>Console.WriteLine("Result: {0}", result);</code>
18	<code>}</code>
19	<code>}</code>
20	
21	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
22	<code>DivNumbers d = new DivNumbers();</code>
23	<code>d.division(25, 0);</code>
24	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
25	<code>}</code>
26	<code>}</code>
27	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Exception caught: System.DivideByZeroException: Attempted to divide
by zero.
at ...
Result: 0
```

Creating User-Defined Exceptions

You can also define your own exception. User-defined exception classes are derived from the **Exception** class. The following example demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace UserDefinedException {</code>
4	<code>class TestTemperature {</code>
5	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code>Temperature temp = new Temperature();</code>
7	<code>try {</code>
8	<code>temp.showTemp();</code>
9	<code>} catch(TempIsZeroException e) {</code>
10	<code>Console.WriteLine("TempIsZeroException: {0}", e.Message);</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
13	<code>}</code>
14	<code>}</code>
15	
16	<code>public class TempIsZeroException: Exception {</code>
17	<code>public TempIsZeroException(string message): base(message) {</code>
18	<code></code>
19	<code>}</code>
20	<code>}</code>
21	<code>public class Temperature {</code>
22	<code>int temperature = 0;</code>
23	
24	<code>public void showTemp() {</code>
25	
26	<code>if(temperature == 0) {</code>
27	<code>throw (new TempIsZeroException("Zero Temperature found"));</code>
28	<code>} else {</code>
29	<code>Console.WriteLine("Temperature: {0}", temperature);</code>
30	<code>}</code>
31	<code>}</code>
32	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
TempIsZeroException: Zero Temperature found
```

Throwing Objects

You can throw an object if it is either directly or indirectly derived from the **System.Exception** class. You can use a throw statement in the catch block to throw the present object as:

```
catch(Exception e) {  
    ...  
    throw e  
}
```

File I/O

A **file** is a collection of data stored in a disk with a specific name and a directory path. When a file is opened for reading or writing, it becomes a **stream**.

The stream is basically the sequence of bytes passing through the communication path. There are two main streams: the **input stream** and the **output stream**. The **input stream** is used for reading data from file (read operation) and the **output stream** is used for writing into the file (write operation).

C# I/O Classes

The System.IO namespace has various classes that are used for performing numerous operations with files, such as creating and deleting files, reading from or writing to a file, closing a file etc.

The following table shows some commonly used non-abstract classes in the System.IO namespace:

No.	I/O Class & Description
1	BinaryReader Reads primitive data from a binary stream.
2	BinaryWriter Writes primitive data in binary format.
3	BufferedStream A temporary storage for a stream of bytes.
4	Directory Helps in manipulating a directory structure.
5	DirectoryInfo Used for performing operations on directories.
6	DriveInfo Provides information for the drives.
7	File Helps in manipulating files.
8	FileInfo Used for performing operations on files.
9	FileStream Used to read from and write to any location in a file.

10	MemoryStream Used for random access to streamed data stored in memory.
11	Path Performs operations on path information.
12	StreamReader Used for reading characters from a byte stream.
13	StreamWriter Is used for writing characters to a stream.
14	StringReader Is used for reading from a string buffer.
15	StringWriter Is used for writing into a string buffer.

The FileStream Class

The **FileStream** class in the System.IO namespace helps in reading from, writing to and closing files. This class derives from the abstract class Stream.

You need to create a **FileStream** object to create a new file or open an existing file. The syntax for creating a **FileStream** object is as follows:

```
FileStream <object_name> = new FileStream( <file_name>, <FileMode
Enumerator>,
    <FileAccess Enumerator>, <FileShare Enumerator>);
```

For example, we create a FileStream object **F** for reading a file named **sample.txt** as shown:

```
FileStream F = new FileStream("sample.txt", FileMode.Open, FileAccess.Read,
    FileShare.Read);
```

No.	Parameter & Description
1	<p>FileMode</p> <p>The FileMode enumerator defines various methods for opening files. The members of the FileMode enumerator are –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Append – It opens an existing file and puts cursor at the end of file, or creates the file, if the file does not exist. • Create – It creates a new file. • CreateNew – It specifies to the operating system, that it should create a new file.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open – It opens an existing file. • OpenOrCreate – It specifies to the operating system that it should open a file if it exists, otherwise it should create a new file. • Truncate – It opens an existing file and truncates its size to zero bytes.
2	<p>FileAccess FileAccess enumerators have members: Read, ReadWrite and Write.</p>
3	<p>FileShare FileShare enumerators have the following members –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inheritable – It allows a file handle to pass inheritance to the child processes • None – It declines sharing of the current file • Read – It allows opening the file for reading. • ReadWrite – It allows opening the file for reading and writing • Write – It allows opening the file for writing

Example

The following program demonstrates use of the **FileStream** class:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.IO;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace FileIOApplication {</code>
5	<code>class Program {</code>
6	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code>FileStream F = new FileStream("test.dat",</code>
8	<code>FileMode.OpenOrCreate, FileAccess.ReadWrite);</code>
9	
10	<code>for (int i = 1; i <= 20; i++) {</code>
11	<code>F.WriteByte((byte)i);</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	
14	<code>F.Position = 0;</code>
15	<code>for (int i = 0; i <= 20; i++) {</code>
16	<code>Console.Write(F.ReadByte() + " ");</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	<code>F.Close();</code>
19	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
20	<code>}</code>
21	<code>}</code>
22	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 -1

Advanced File Operations in C#

The preceding example provides simple file operations in C#. However, to utilize the immense powers of C# System.IO classes, you need to know the commonly used properties and methods of these classes.

No.	Topic & Description
1	Reading from and Writing into Text files It involves reading from and writing into text files. The StreamReader and StreamWriter class helps to accomplish it.
2	Reading from and Writing into Binary files It involves reading from and writing into binary files. The BinaryReader and BinaryWriter class helps to accomplish this.
3	Manipulating the Windows file system It gives a C# programmer the ability to browse and locate Windows files and directories.

Attributes

An **attribute** is a declarative tag that is used to convey information to runtime about the behaviors of various elements like classes, methods, structures, enumerators, assemblies etc. in your program. You can add declarative information to a program by using an attribute. A declarative tag is depicted by square ([]) brackets placed above the element it is used for.

Attributes are used for adding metadata, such as compiler instruction and other information such as comments, description, methods and classes to a program. The .NET Framework provides two types of attributes: *the pre-defined* attributes and *custom built* attributes.

Specifying an Attribute

Syntax for specifying an attribute is as follows:

```
[attribute(positional_parameters, name_parameter = value, ...)]  
element
```

Name of the attribute and its values are specified within the square brackets, before the element to which the attribute is applied. Positional parameters specify the essential information and the name parameters specify the optional information.

Predefined Attributes

The .NET Framework provides three pre-defined attributes:

- AttributeUsage
- Conditional
- Obsolete

AttributeUsage

The pre-defined attribute **AttributeUsage** describes how a custom attribute class can be used. It specifies the types of items to which the attribute can be applied.

Syntax for specifying this attribute is as follows:

```
[AttributeUsage (  
    validon,  
    AllowMultiple = allowmultiple,  
    Inherited = inherited  
)]
```

Where,

- The parameter *validon* specifies the language elements on which the attribute can be placed. It is a combination of the value of an enumerator *AttributeTargets*. The default value is *AttributeTargets.All*.
- The parameter *allowmultiple* (optional) provides value for the *AllowMultiple* property of this attribute, a Boolean value. If this is true, the attribute is multiuse. The default is false (single-use).
- The parameter *inherited* (optional) provides value for the *Inherited* property of this attribute, a Boolean value. If it is true, the attribute is inherited by derived classes. The default value is false (not inherited).

For example,

```
[AttributeUsage(AttributeTargets.Class |  
AttributeTargets.Constructor |  
AttributeTargets.Field |  
AttributeTargets.Method |  
AttributeTargets.Property,  
AllowMultiple = true)]
```

Conditional

This predefined attribute marks a conditional method whose execution depends on a specified preprocessing identifier.

It causes conditional compilation of method calls, depending on the specified value such as **Debug** or **Trace**. For example, it displays the values of the variables while debugging a code.

Syntax for specifying this attribute is as follows:

```
[Conditional(  
    conditionalSymbol  
)]
```

For example,

```
[Conditional("DEBUG")]
```

The following example demonstrates the attribute:

Line#	Code
1	<code>#define DEBUG</code>
2	<code>using System;</code>
3	<code>using System.Diagnostics;</code>
4	
5	<code>public class MyClass {</code>
6	<code> [Conditional("DEBUG")]</code>
7	
8	<code> public static void Message(string msg) {</code>
9	<code> Console.WriteLine(msg);</code>
10	<code>}</code>

```

11 }
12
13 class Test {
14     static void function1() {
15         MyClass.Message("In Function 1.");
16         function2();
17     }
18     static void function2() {
19         MyClass.Message("In Function 2.");
20     }
21     public static void Main() {
22         MyClass.Message("In Main function.");
23         function1();
24         Console.ReadKey();
25     }
26 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

In Main function
In Function 1
In Function 2

```

Obsolete

This predefined attribute marks a program entity that should not be used. It enables you to inform the compiler to discard a particular target element. For example, when a new method is being used in a class and if you still want to retain the old method in the class, you may mark it as obsolete by displaying a message the new method should be used, instead of the old method.

Syntax for specifying this attribute is as follows:

```

[Obsolete (
    message
)]

[Obsolete (
    message,
    iserror
)]

```

Where,

- The parameter *message*, is a string describing the reason why the item is obsolete and what to use instead.
- The parameter *iserror*, is a Boolean value. If its value is true, the compiler should treat the use of the item as an error. Default value is false (compiler generates a warning).

The following program demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>public class MyClass {</code>
4	<code> [Obsolete("Don't use OldMethod, use NewMethod instead", true)]</code>
5	
6	<code> static void OldMethod() {</code>
7	<code> Console.WriteLine("It is the old method");</code>
8	<code> }</code>
9	
10	<code> static void NewMethod() {</code>
11	<code> Console.WriteLine("It is the new method");</code>
12	<code> }</code>
13	
14	<code> public static void Main() {</code>
15	<code> OldMethod();</code>
16	<code> }</code>
17	<code>}</code>

When you try to compile the program, the compiler gives an error message stating –

```
Don't use OldMethod, use NewMethod instead
```

Creating Custom Attributes

The .NET Framework allows creation of custom attributes that can be used to store declarative information and can be retrieved at run-time. This information can be related to any target element depending upon the design criteria and application need.

Creating and using custom attributes involve four steps:

- Declaring a custom attribute
- Constructing the custom attribute
- Apply the custom attribute on a target program element
- Accessing Attributes Through Reflection

The Last step involves writing a simple program to read through the metadata to find various notations. Metadata is data about data or information used for describing other data. This program should use reflections for accessing attributes at runtime. This we will discuss in the next chapter.

Declaring a Custom Attribute

A new custom attribute should be derived from the **System.Attribute** class. For example,

```
//a custom attribute BugFix to be assigned to a class and its members
[AttributeUsage(AttributeTargets.Class |
AttributeTargets.Constructor |
AttributeTargets.Field |
AttributeTargets.Method |
AttributeTargets.Property,
AllowMultiple = true)]

public class DeBugInfo : System.Attribute
```

In the preceding code, we have declared a custom attribute named *DeBugInfo*.

Constructing the Custom Attribute

Let us construct a custom attribute named *DeBugInfo*, which stores the information obtained by debugging any program. Let it store the following information:

- The code number for the bug
- Name of the developer who identified the bug
- Date of last review of the code
- A string message for storing the developer's remarks

The *DeBugInfo* class has three private properties for storing the first three information and a public property for storing the message. Hence the bug number, developer's name, and date of review are the positional parameters of the *DeBugInfo* class and the message is an optional or named parameter.

Each attribute must have at least one constructor. The positional parameters should be passed through the constructor. The following code shows the *DeBugInfo* class:

Line#	Code
1	//a custom attribute BugFix to be assigned to a class and its members
2	[AttributeUsage(AttributeTargets.Class
3	AttributeTargets.Constructor
4	AttributeTargets.Field
5	AttributeTargets.Method
6	AttributeTargets.Property,
7	AllowMultiple = true)]
8	
9	public class DeBugInfo : System.Attribute {
10	private int bugNo;
11	private string developer;
12	private string lastReview;
13	public string message;
14	
15	public DeBugInfo(int bg, string dev, string d) {
16	this.bugNo = bg;
17	this.developer = dev;
18	this.lastReview = d;

```

19     }
20     public int BugNo {
21         get {
22             return bugNo;
23         }
24     }
25     public string Developer {
26         get {
27             return developer;
28         }
29     }
30     public string LastReview {
31         get {
32             return lastReview;
33         }
34     }
35     public string Message {
36         get {
37             return message;
38         }
39         set {
40             message = value;
41         }
42     }
43 }

```

Applying the Custom Attribute

The attribute is applied by placing it immediately before its target:

Line#	Code
1	[DebuggerInfo(45, "Zara Ali", "12/8/2012", Message = "Return type mismatch")]
2	[DebuggerInfo(49, "Nuha Ali", "10/10/2012", Message = "Unused variable")]
3	class Rectangle {
4	//member variables
5	protected double length;
6	protected double width;
7	public Rectangle(double l, double w) {
8	length = l;
9	width = w;
10	}
11	[DebuggerInfo(55, "Zara Ali", "19/10/2012", Message = "Return type mismatch")]
12	public double GetArea() {
13	return length * width;
14	}
15	[DebuggerInfo(56, "Zara Ali", "19/10/2012")]
16	
17	public void Display() {
18	Console.WriteLine("Length: {0}", length);
19	Console.WriteLine("Width: {0}", width);
20	Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", GetArea());
21	}
22	}

In the next chapter, we retrieve attribute information using a Reflection class object.

Reflection

Reflection objects are used for obtaining type information at runtime. The classes that give access to the metadata of a running program are in the **System.Reflection** namespace.

The **System.Reflection** namespace contains classes that allow you to obtain information about the application and to dynamically add types, values, and objects to the application.

Applications of Reflection

Reflection has the following applications:

- It allows view attribute information at runtime.
- It allows examining various types in an assembly and instantiate these types.
- It allows late binding to methods and properties
- It allows creating new types at runtime and then performs some tasks using those types.

Viewing Metadata

We have mentioned in the preceding chapter that using reflection you can view the attribute information.

The **MemberInfo** object of the **System.Reflection** class needs to be initialized for discovering the attributes associated with a class. To do this, you define an object of the target class, as –

```
System.Reflection.MemberInfo info = typeof(MyClass);
```

The following program demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>[AttributeUsage(AttributeTargets.All)]</code>
4	<code>public class HelpAttribute : System.Attribute {</code>
5	<code> public readonly string Url;</code>
6	
7	<code> public string Topic // Topic is a named parameter {</code>
8	<code> get {</code>
9	<code> return topic;</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	
12	<code> set {</code>
13	<code> topic = value;</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	<code>}</code>

```

16
17     public HelpAttribute(string url){ // url is a positional parameter
18         this.Url = url;
19     }
20     private string topic;
21 }
22
23 [HelpAttribute("Information on the class MyClass")]
24 class MyClass {
25
26 }
27
28 namespace AttributeAppl {
29     class Program {
30         static void Main(string[] args) {
31             System.Reflection.MemberInfo info = typeof(MyClass);
32             object[] attributes = info.GetCustomAttributes(true);
33             for (int i = 0; i < attributes.Length; i++) {
34                 System.Console.WriteLine(attributes[i]);
35             }
36             Console.ReadKey();
37         }
38     }
39 }

```

When it is compiled and run, it displays the name of the custom attributes attached to the class *MyClass*:

HelpAttribute

Example

In this example, we use the *DeBugInfo* attribute created in the previous chapter and use reflection to read metadata in the *Rectangle* class.

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Reflection;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace BugFixApplication {</code>
5	<code> //a custom attribute BugFix to be assigned to a class and its members</code>
6	<code> [AttributeUsage(AttributeTargets.Class </code>
7	<code> AttributeTargets.Constructor </code>
8	<code> AttributeTargets.Field </code>
9	<code> AttributeTargets.Method </code>
10	<code> AttributeTargets.Property,</code>
11	<code> AllowMultiple = true)]</code>
12	
13	<code> public class DeBugInfo : System.Attribute {</code>
14	<code> private int bugNo;</code>
15	<code> private string developer;</code>
16	<code> private string lastReview;</code>
17	<code> public string message;</code>
18	
19	<code> public DeBugInfo(int bg, string dev, string d) {</code>

```

20     this.bugNo = bg;
21     this.developer = dev;
22     this.lastReview = d;
23 }
24 public int BugNo {
25     get {
26         return bugNo;
27     }
28 }
29 public string Developer {
30     get {
31         return developer;
32     }
33 }
34 public string LastReview {
35     get {
36         return lastReview;
37     }
38 }
39 public string Message {
40     get {
41         return message;
42     }
43     set {
44         message = value;
45     }
46 }
47 }
48 [DebuggerInfo(45, "Zara Ali", "12/8/2012", Message = "Return type mismatch")]
49 [DebuggerInfo(49, "Nuha Ali", "10/10/2012", Message = "Unused variable")]
50 class Rectangle {
51     //member variables
52     protected double length;
53     protected double width;
54     public Rectangle(double l, double w) {
55         length = l;
56         width = w;
57     }
58
59     [DebuggerInfo(55, "Zara Ali", "19/10/2012", Message="Return type mismatch")]
60     public double GetArea() {
61         return length * width;
62     }
63
64     [DebuggerInfo(56, "Zara Ali", "19/10/2012")]
65     public void Display() {
66         Console.WriteLine("Length: {0}", length);
67         Console.WriteLine("Width: {0}", width);
68         Console.WriteLine("Area: {0}", GetArea());
69     }
70 } //end class Rectangle
71
72 class ExecuteRectangle {
73     static void Main(string[] args) {
74         Rectangle r = new Rectangle(4.5, 7.5);
75         r.Display();
76         Type type = typeof(Rectangle);

```

```

77
78 //iterating through the attribtues of the Rectangle class
79 foreach (Object attributes in type.GetCustomAttributes(false)) {
80     DeBugInfo dbi = (DeBugInfo)attributes;
81     if (null != dbi) {
82         Console.WriteLine("Bug no: {0}", dbi.BugNo);
83         Console.WriteLine("Developer: {0}", dbi.Developer);
84         Console.WriteLine("Last Reviewed: {0}", dbi.LastReview);
85         Console.WriteLine("Remarks: {0}", dbi.Message);
86     }
87 }
88
89 //iterating through the method attribtues
90 foreach (MethodInfo m in type.GetMethods()) {
91     foreach (Attribute a in m.GetCustomAttributes(true)) {
92         DeBugInfo dbi = (DeBugInfo)a;
93         if (null != dbi) {
94             Console.WriteLine("Bug no: {0}, for Method: {1}",
95                 dbi.BugNo, m.Name);
96             Console.WriteLine("Developer: {0}", dbi.Developer);
97             Console.WriteLine("Last Reviewed: {0}", dbi.LastReview);
98             Console.WriteLine("Remarks: {0}", dbi.Message);
99         }
100     }
101 }
102 Console.ReadKey();
103 }
104 }
105 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Length: 4.5
Width: 7.5
Area: 33.75
Bug No: 49
Developer: Nuha Ali
Last Reviewed: 10/10/2012
Remarks: Unused variable
Bug No: 45
Developer: Zara Ali
Last Reviewed: 12/8/2012
Remarks: Return type mismatch
Bug No: 55, for Method: GetArea
Developer: Zara Ali
Last Reviewed: 19/10/2012
Remarks: Return type mismatch
Bug No: 56, for Method: Display
Developer: Zara Ali
Last Reviewed: 19/10/2012
Remarks:

```

Properties

Properties are named members of classes, structures, and interfaces. Member variables or methods in a class or structures are called **Fields**. Properties are an extension of fields and are accessed using the same syntax. They use **accessors** through which the values of the private fields can be read, written or manipulated.

Properties do not name the storage locations. Instead, they have **accessors** that read, write, or compute their values.

For example, let us have a class named Student, with private fields for age, name, and code. We cannot directly access these fields from outside the class scope, but we can have properties for accessing these private fields.

Accessors

The **accessor** of a property contains the executable statements that helps in getting (reading or computing) or setting (writing) the property. The accessor declarations can contain a get accessor, a set accessor, or both. For example:

Line#	Code
1	<code>// Declare a Code property of type string:</code>
2	<code>public string Code {</code>
3	<code> get {</code>
4	<code> return code;</code>
5	<code> }</code>
6	<code> set {</code>
7	<code> code = value;</code>
8	<code> }</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	
11	<code>// Declare a Name property of type string:</code>
12	<code>public string Name {</code>
13	<code> get {</code>
14	<code> return name;</code>
15	<code> }</code>
16	<code> set {</code>
17	<code> name = value;</code>
18	<code> }</code>
19	<code>}</code>
20	
21	<code>// Declare a Age property of type int:</code>
22	<code>public int Age {</code>
23	<code> get {</code>
24	<code> return age;</code>
25	<code> }</code>
26	<code> set {</code>
27	<code> age = value;</code>
28	<code> }</code>
29	<code>}</code>

Example

The following example demonstrates use of properties:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace CSFundamentals {</code>
4	<code>class Student {</code>
5	<code>private string code = "N.A";</code>
6	<code>private string name = "not known";</code>
7	<code>private int age = 0;</code>
8	
9	<code>// Declare a Code property of type string:</code>
10	<code>public string Code {</code>
11	<code>get {</code>
12	<code>return code;</code>
13	<code>}</code>
14	<code>set {</code>
15	<code>code = value;</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	
19	<code>// Declare a Name property of type string:</code>
20	<code>public string Name {</code>
21	<code>get {</code>
22	<code>return name;</code>
23	<code>}</code>
24	<code>set {</code>
25	<code>name = value;</code>
26	<code>}</code>
27	<code>}</code>
28	
29	<code>// Declare a Age property of type int:</code>
30	<code>public int Age {</code>
31	<code>get {</code>
32	<code>return age;</code>
33	<code>}</code>
34	<code>set {</code>
35	<code>age = value;</code>
36	<code>}</code>
37	<code>}</code>
38	<code>public override string ToString() {</code>
39	<code>return "Code = " + Code + ", Name = " + Name + ", Age = " + Age;</code>
40	<code>}</code>
41	<code>}</code>
42	
43	<code>class ExampleDemo {</code>
44	<code>public static void Main() {</code>
45	
46	<code>// Create a new Student object:</code>
47	<code>Student s = new Student();</code>
48	
49	<code>// Setting code, name and the age of the student</code>
50	<code>s.Code = "001";</code>
51	<code>s.Name = "Zara";</code>

52	s.Age = 9;
53	Console.WriteLine("Student Info: {0}", s);
54	
55	//let us increase age
56	s.Age += 1;
57	Console.WriteLine("Student Info: {0}", s);
58	Console.ReadKey();
59	}
60	}
61	}

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Student Info: Code = 001, Name = Zara, Age = 9
Student Info: Code = 001, Name = Zara, Age = 10
```

Abstract Properties

An abstract class may have an abstract property, which should be implemented in the derived class. The following program illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	using System;
2	
3	namespace CSFundamentals {
4	public abstract class Person {
5	public abstract string Name {
6	get;
7	set;
8	}
9	public abstract int Age {
10	get;
11	set;
12	}
13	}
14	
15	class Student : Person {
16	private string code = "N.A";
17	private string name = "N.A";
18	private int age = 0;
19	
20	// Declare a Code property of type string:
21	public string Code {
22	get {
23	return code;
24	}
25	set {
26	code = value;
27	}
28	}
29	
30	// Declare a Name property of type string:
31	public override string Name {
32	get {
33	return name;
34	}

```

35     set {
36         name = value;
37     }
38 }
39
40 // Declare a Age property of type int:
41 public override int Age {
42     get {
43         return age;
44     }
45     set {
46         age = value;
47     }
48 }
49 public override string ToString() {
50     return "Code = " + Code + ", Name = " + Name + ", Age = " + Age;
51 }
52 }
53
54 class ExampleDemo {
55     public static void Main() {
56         // Create a new Student object:
57         Student s = new Student();
58
59         // Setting code, name and the age of the student
60         s.Code = "001";
61         s.Name = "Zara";
62         s.Age = 9;
63         Console.WriteLine("Student Info:- {0}", s);
64
65         //let us increase age
66         s.Age += 1;
67         Console.WriteLine("Student Info:- {0}", s);
68         Console.ReadKey();
69     }
70 }
71 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Student Info: Code = 001, Name = Zara, Age = 9
Student Info: Code = 001, Name = Zara, Age = 10

```


Indexers

An **indexer** allows an object to be indexed such as an array. When you define an indexer for a class, this class behaves similar to a **virtual array**. You can then access the instance of this class using the array access operator ([]).

Syntax

A one dimensional indexer has the following syntax:

```
element-type this[int index] {  
  
    // The get accessor.  
    get {  
        // return the value specified by index  
    }  
  
    // The set accessor.  
    set {  
        // set the value specified by index  
    }  
}
```

Use of Indexers

Declaration of behavior of an indexer is to some extent similar to a property. similar to the properties, you use **get** and **set** accessors for defining an indexer. However, properties return or set a specific data member, whereas indexers returns or sets a particular value from the object instance. In other words, it breaks the instance data into smaller parts and indexes each part, gets or sets each part.

Defining a property involves providing a property name. Indexers are not defined with names, but with the **this** keyword, which refers to the object instance. The following example demonstrates the concept:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace IndexerApplication {</code>
4	<code> class IndexedNames {</code>
5	<code> private string[] namelist = new string[size];</code>
6	<code> static public int size = 10;</code>
7	
8	<code> public IndexedNames() {</code>
9	<code> for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) namelist[i] = "N. A.";</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	
12	<code> public string this[int index] {</code>
13	<code> get {</code>
14	<code> string tmp;</code>
15	

```

16         if( index >= 0 && index <= size-1 ) {
17             tmp = namelist[index];
18         } else {
19             tmp = "";
20         }
21
22         return ( tmp );
23     }
24     set {
25         if( index >= 0 && index <= size-1 ) {
26             namelist[index] = value;
27         }
28     }
29 }
30
31 static void Main(string[] args) {
32     IndexedNames names = new IndexedNames();
33     names[0] = "Zara";
34     names[1] = "Riz";
35     names[2] = "Nuha";
36     names[3] = "Asif";
37     names[4] = "Davinder";
38     names[5] = "Sunil";
39     names[6] = "Rubic";
40
41     for ( int i = 0; i < IndexedNames.size; i++ ) {
42         Console.WriteLine(names[i]);
43     }
44     Console.ReadKey();
45 }
46 }
47 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Zara
Riz
Nuha
Asif
Davinder
Sunil
Rubic
N. A.
N. A.
N. A.

```

Overloaded Indexers

Indexers can be overloaded. Indexers can also be declared with multiple parameters and each parameter may be a different type. It is not necessary that the indexes have to be integers. C# allows indexes to be of other types, for example, a string.

The following example demonstrates overloaded indexers:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace IndexerApplication {</code>
4	<code>class IndexedNames {</code>
5	<code>private string[] namelist = new string[size];</code>
6	<code>static public int size = 10;</code>
7	
8	<code>public IndexedNames() {</code>
9	<code>for (int i = 0; i < size; i++) {</code>
10	<code>namelist[i] = "N. A.";</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	
14	<code>public string this[int index] {</code>
15	<code>get {</code>
16	<code>string tmp;</code>
17	
18	<code>if(index >= 0 && index <= size-1) {</code>
19	<code>tmp = namelist[index];</code>
20	<code>} else {</code>
21	<code>tmp = "";</code>
22	<code>}</code>
23	
24	<code>return (tmp);</code>
25	<code>}</code>
26	<code>set {</code>
27	<code>if(index >= 0 && index <= size-1) {</code>
28	<code>namelist[index] = value;</code>
29	<code>}</code>
30	<code>}</code>
31	<code>}</code>
32	
33	<code>public int this[string name] {</code>
34	<code>get {</code>
35	<code>int index = 0;</code>
36	
37	<code>while(index < size) {</code>
38	<code>if (namelist[index] == name) {</code>
39	<code>return index;</code>
40	<code>}</code>
41	<code>index++;</code>
42	<code>}</code>
43	<code>return index;</code>
44	<code>}</code>
45	
46	<code>}</code>
47	
48	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
49	<code>IndexedNames names = new IndexedNames();</code>
50	<code>names[0] = "Zara";</code>
51	<code>names[1] = "Riz";</code>
52	<code>names[2] = "Nuha";</code>
53	<code>names[3] = "Asif";</code>
54	<code>names[4] = "Davinder";</code>

```
55     names[5] = "Sunil";
56     names[6] = "Rubic";
57
58     //using the first indexer with int parameter
59     for (int i = 0; i < IndexedNames.size; i++) {
60         Console.WriteLine(names[i]);
61     }
62
63     //using the second indexer with the string parameter
64     Console.WriteLine(names["Nuha"]);
65     Console.ReadKey();
66 }
67 }
68 }
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Zara
Riz
Nuha
Asif
Davinder
Sunil
Rubic
N. A.
N. A.
N. A.
2
```

Delegates

C# delegates are similar to pointers to functions, in C or C++. A **delegate** is a reference type variable that holds the reference to a method. The reference can be changed at runtime.

Delegates are especially used for implementing events and the call-back methods. All delegates are implicitly derived from the **System.Delegate** class.

Declaring Delegates

Delegate declaration determines the methods that can be referenced by the delegate. A delegate can refer to a method, which has the same signature as that of the delegate.

For example, consider a delegate –

```
public delegate int MyDelegate (string s);
```

The preceding delegate can be used to reference any method that has a single *string* parameter and returns an *int* type variable.

Syntax for delegate declaration is –

```
delegate <return type> <delegate-name> <parameter list>
```

Instantiating Delegates

Once a delegate type is declared, a delegate object must be created with the **new** keyword and be associated with a particular method. When creating a delegate, the argument passed to the **new** expression is written similar to a method call, but without the arguments to the method. For example –

```
public delegate void printString(string s);  
...  
printString ps1 = new printString(WriteToScreen);  
printString ps2 = new printString(WriteToFile);
```

Following example demonstrates declaration, instantiation, and use of a delegate that can be used to reference methods that take an integer parameter and returns an integer value.

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>delegate int NumberChanger(int n);</code>
4	<code>namespace DelegateAppl {</code>
5	<code>class TestDelegate {</code>
6	<code>static int num = 10;</code>
7	
8	<code>public static int AddNum(int p) {</code>
9	<code>num += p;</code>

```

10     return num;
11 }
12
13 public static int MultNum(int q) {
14     num *= q;
15     return num;
16 }
17
18 public static int getNum() {
19     return num;
20 }
21
22 static void Main(string[] args) {
23     //create delegate instances
24     NumberChanger nc1 = new NumberChanger(AddNum);
25     NumberChanger nc2 = new NumberChanger(MultNum);
26
27     //calling the methods using the delegate objects
28     nc1(25);
29     Console.WriteLine("Value of Num: {0}", getNum());
30     nc2(5);
31     Console.WriteLine("Value of Num: {0}", getNum());
32     Console.ReadKey();
33 }
34 }
35 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Value of Num: 35
Value of Num: 175

```

Multicasting of a Delegate

Delegate objects can be composed using the "+" operator. A composed delegate calls the two delegates it was composed from. Only delegates of the same type can be composed. The "-" operator can be used to remove a component delegate from a composed delegate.

Using this property of delegates you can create an invocation list of methods that will be called when a delegate is invoked. This is called **multicasting** of a delegate. The following program demonstrates multicasting of a delegate:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>delegate int NumberChanger(int n);</code>
4	<code>namespace DelegateAppl {</code>
5	<code>class TestDelegate {</code>
6	<code>static int num = 10;</code>
7	
8	<code>public static int AddNum(int p) {</code>
9	<code>num += p;</code>
10	<code>return num;</code>
11	<code>}</code>

```

12
13     public static int MultNum(int q) {
14         num *= q;
15         return num;
16     }
17
18     public static int getNum() {
19         return num;
20     }
21
22     static void Main(string[] args) {
23         //create delegate instances
24         NumberChanger nc;
25         NumberChanger nc1 = new NumberChanger(AddNum);
26         NumberChanger nc2 = new NumberChanger(MultNum);
27         nc = nc1;
28         nc += nc2;
29
30         //calling multicast
31         nc(5);
32         Console.WriteLine("Value of Num: {0}", getNum());
33         Console.ReadKey();
34     }
35 }
36 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Value of Num: 75

Using Delegates

The following example demonstrates the use of delegate. The delegate *printString* can be used to reference method that takes a string as input and returns nothing.

We use this delegate to call two methods, the first prints the string to the console, and the second one prints it to a file:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.IO;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace DelegateAppl {</code>
5	<code>class PrintString {</code>
6	<code>static FileStream fs;</code>
7	<code>static StreamWriter sw;</code>
8	
9	<code>// delegate declaration</code>
10	<code>public delegate void printString(string s);</code>
11	
12	<code>// this method prints to the console</code>
13	<code>public static void WriteToScreen(string str) {</code>
14	<code>Console.WriteLine("The String is: {0}", str);</code>
15	<code>}</code>
16	

```

17 //this method prints to a file
18 public static void WriteToFile(string s) {
19     fs = new FileStream("c:\\message.txt",
20     FileMode.Append, FileAccess.Write);
21     sw = new StreamWriter(fs);
22     sw.WriteLine(s);
23     sw.Flush();
24     sw.Close();
25     fs.Close();
26 }
27
28 // this method takes the delegate as parameter and uses it to
29 // call the methods as required
30 public static void sendString(printString ps) {
31     ps("Hello World");
32 }
33
34 static void Main(string[] args) {
35     printString ps1 = new printString(WriteToScreen);
36     printString ps2 = new printString(WriteToFile);
37     sendString(ps1);
38     sendString(ps2);
39     Console.ReadKey();
40 }
41 }
42 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

The String is: Hello World

Events

Events are user actions such as key press, clicks, mouse movements, etc., or some occurrence such as system generated notifications. Applications need to respond to events when they occur. For example, interrupts. Events are used for inter-process communication.

Using Delegates with Events

The events are declared and raised in a class and associated with the event handlers using delegates within the same class or some other class. The class containing the event is used to publish the event. This is called the **publisher** class. Some other class that accepts this event is called the **subscriber** class. Events use the **publisher-subscriber** model.

A **publisher** is an object that contains the definition of the event and the delegate. The event-delegate association is also defined in this object. A publisher class object invokes the event and it is notified to other objects.

A **subscriber** is an object that accepts the event and provides an event handler. The delegate in the publisher class invokes the method (event handler) of the subscriber class.

Declaring Events

To declare an event inside a class, first of all, you must declare a delegate type for the event as:

```
public delegate string BoilerLogHandler(string str);
```

then, declare the event using the **event** keyword:

```
event BoilerLogHandler BoilerEventLog;
```

The preceding code defines a delegate named *BoilerLogHandler* and an event named *BoilerEventLog*, which invokes the delegate when it is raised.

Example

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace SampleApp {</code>
4	<code> public delegate string MyDel(string str);</code>
5	
6	<code> class EventProgram {</code>
7	<code> event MyDel MyEvent;</code>
8	
9	<code> public EventProgram() {</code>
10	<code> this.MyEvent += new MyDel(this.WelcomeUser);</code>

```
11     }
12
13     public string WelcomeUser(string username) {
14         return "Welcome to " + username;
15     }
16
17     static void Main(string[] args) {
18         EventProgram obj1 = new EventProgram();
19         string result = obj1.MyEvent("C# Fundamentals");
20         Console.WriteLine(result);
21     }
22 }
23 }
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

Welcome to C# Fundamentals

Collections

Collection classes are specialized classes for data storage and retrieval. These classes provide support for stacks, queues, lists, and hash tables. Most collection classes implement the same interfaces.

Collection classes serve various purposes, such as allocating memory dynamically to elements and accessing a list of items on the basis of an index etc. These classes create collections of objects of the Object class, which is the base class for all data types in C#.

Various Collection Classes and Their Usage

The following are the various commonly used classes of the **System.Collection** namespace. Click the following links to check their detail.

No.	Class & Description and Usage
1	<p>ArrayList</p> <p>It represents ordered collection of an object that can be indexed individually. It is basically an alternative to an array. However, unlike array you can add and remove items from a list at a specified position using an index and the array resizes itself automatically. It also allows dynamic memory allocation, adding, searching and sorting items in the list.</p>
2	<p>Hashtable</p> <p>It uses a key to access the elements in the collection. A hash table is used when you need to access elements by using key, and you can identify a useful key value. Each item in the hash table has a key/value pair. The key is used to access the items in the collection.</p>
3	<p>SortedList</p> <p>It uses a key as well as an index to access the items in a list. A sorted list is a combination of an array and a hash table. It contains a list of items that can be accessed using a key or an index. If you access items using an index, it is an ArrayList, and if you access items using a key, it is a Hashtable. The collection of items is always sorted by the key value.</p>
4	<p>Stack</p> <p>It represents a last-in, first out collection of object. It is used when you need a last-in, first-out access of items. When you add an item in the list, it is called pushing the item and when you remove it, it is called popping the item.</p>
5	<p>Queue</p> <p>It represents a first-in, first out collection of object.</p>

	<p>It is used when you need a first-in, first-out access of items. When you add an item in the list, it is called enqueue and when you remove an item, it is called deque.</p>
6	<p>BitArray It represents an array of the binary representation using the values 1 and 0. It is used when you need to store the bits but do not know the number of bits in advance. You can access items from the BitArray collection by using an integer index, which starts from zero.</p>

Generics

Generics allow you to define the specification of the data type of programming elements in a class or a method, until it is actually used in the program. In other words, generics allow you to write a class or method that can work with any data type.

You write the specifications for the class or the method, with substitute parameters for data types. When the compiler encounters a constructor for the class or a function call for the method, it generates code to handle the specific data type. A simple example would help understanding the concept:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Collections.Generic;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace GenericApplication {</code>
5	<code> public class MyGenericArray<T> {</code>
6	<code> private T[] array;</code>
7	
8	<code> public MyGenericArray(int size) {</code>
9	<code> array = new T[size + 1];</code>
10	<code> }</code>
11	
12	<code> public T getItem(int index) {</code>
13	<code> return array[index];</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	
16	<code> public void setItem(int index, T value) {</code>
17	<code> array[index] = value;</code>
18	<code> }</code>
19	<code> }</code>
20	
21	<code>class Tester {</code>
22	<code> static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
23	
24	<code> //declaring an int array</code>
25	<code> MyGenericArray<int> intArray = new MyGenericArray<int>(5);</code>
26	
27	<code> //setting values</code>
28	<code> for (int c = 0; c < 5; c++) {</code>
29	<code> intArray.setItem(c, c*5);</code>
30	<code> }</code>
31	
32	<code> //retrieving the values</code>
33	<code> for (int c = 0; c < 5; c++) {</code>
34	<code> Console.WriteLine(intArray.getItem(c) + " ");</code>
35	<code> }</code>
36	
37	<code> Console.WriteLine();</code>
38	
39	<code> //declaring a character array</code>
40	<code> MyGenericArray<char> charArray = new MyGenericArray<char>(5);</code>
41	
42	<code> //setting values</code>

```
43     for (int c = 0; c < 5; c++) {
44         charArray.setItem(c, (char)(c+97));
45     }
46
47     //retrieving the values
48     for (int c = 0; c < 5; c++) {
49         Console.Write(charArray.getItem(c) + " ");
50     }
51     Console.WriteLine();
52
53     Console.ReadKey();
54 }
55 }
56 }
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
0 5 10 15 20
a b c d e
```

Features of Generics

Generics is a technique that enriches your programs in the following ways –

- It helps you to maximize code reuse, type safety, and performance.
- You can create generic collection classes. The .NET Framework class library contains several new generic collection classes in the *System.Collections.Generic* namespace. You may use these generic collection classes instead of the collection classes in the *System.Collections* namespace.
- You can create your own generic interfaces, classes, methods, events, and delegates.
- You may create generic classes constrained to enable access to methods on particular data types.
- You may get information on the types used in a generic data type at run-time by means of reflection.

Generic Methods

In the previous example, we have used a generic class; we can declare a generic method with a type parameter. The following program illustrates the concept:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Collections.Generic;</code>
3	<code>namespace GenericMethodAppl {</code>
4	<code>class Program {</code>
5	<code>static void Swap<T>(ref T lhs, ref T rhs) {</code>
6	<code> T temp;</code>
7	<code> temp = lhs;</code>
8	<code> lhs = rhs;</code>
9	<code> rhs = temp;</code>
10	<code>}</code>
11	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
12	<code> int a, b;</code>
13	<code> char c, d;</code>
14	<code> a = 10;</code>
15	<code> b = 20;</code>
16	<code> c = 'I';</code>
17	<code> d = 'V';</code>
18	
19	<code> //display values before swap:</code>
20	<code> Console.WriteLine("Int values before calling swap:");</code>
21	<code> Console.WriteLine("a = {0}, b = {1}", a, b);</code>
22	<code> Console.WriteLine("Char values before calling swap:");</code>
23	<code> Console.WriteLine("c = {0}, d = {1}", c, d);</code>
24	
25	<code> //call swap</code>
26	<code> Swap<int>(ref a, ref b);</code>
27	<code> Swap<char>(ref c, ref d);</code>
28	
29	<code> //display values after swap:</code>
30	<code> Console.WriteLine("Int values after calling swap:");</code>
31	<code> Console.WriteLine("a = {0}, b = {1}", a, b);</code>
32	<code> Console.WriteLine("Char values after calling swap:");</code>
33	<code> Console.WriteLine("c = {0}, d = {1}", c, d);</code>
34	
35	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
36	<code>}</code>
37	<code>}</code>
38	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Int values before calling swap:
a = 10, b = 20
Char values before calling swap:
c = I, d = V
Int values after calling swap:
a = 20, b = 10
Char values after calling swap:
c = V, d = I
```

Generic Delegates

You can define a generic delegate with type parameters. For example –

```
delegate T NumberChanger<T>(T n);
```

The following example shows use of this delegate:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Collections.Generic;</code>
3	
4	<code>delegate T NumberChanger<T>(T n);</code>
5	<code>namespace GenericDelegateAppl {</code>
6	<code>class TestDelegate {</code>
7	<code>static int num = 10;</code>
8	
9	<code>public static int AddNum(int p) {</code>
10	<code>num += p;</code>
11	<code>return num;</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	
14	<code>public static int MultNum(int q) {</code>
15	<code>num *= q;</code>
16	<code>return num;</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	
19	<code>public static int getNum() {</code>
20	<code>return num;</code>
21	<code>}</code>
22	
23	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
24	<code>//create delegate instances</code>
25	<code>NumberChanger<int> nc1 = new NumberChanger<int>(AddNum);</code>
26	<code>NumberChanger<int> nc2 = new NumberChanger<int>(MultNum);</code>
27	
28	<code>//calling the methods using the delegate objects</code>
29	<code>nc1(25);</code>
30	<code>Console.WriteLine("Value of Num: {0}", getNum());</code>
31	<code>nc2(5);</code>
32	<code>Console.WriteLine("Value of Num: {0}", getNum());</code>
33	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
34	<code>}</code>
35	<code>}</code>
36	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Value of Num: 35  
Value of Num: 175
```


Anonymous Methods

We discussed that delegates are used to reference any methods that has the same signature as that of the delegate. In other words, you can call a method that can be referenced by a delegate using that delegate object.

Anonymous methods provide a technique to pass a code block as a delegate parameter. Anonymous methods are the methods without a name, just the body.

You need not specify the return type in an anonymous method; it is inferred from the return statement inside the method body.

Writing an Anonymous Method

Anonymous methods are declared with the creation of the delegate instance, with a **delegate** keyword. For example,

```
delegate void NumberChanger(int n);  
...  
NumberChanger nc = delegate(int x) {  
    Console.WriteLine("Anonymous Method: {0}", x);  
};
```

The code block `Console.WriteLine("Anonymous Method: {0}", x);` is the body of the anonymous method.

The delegate could be called both with anonymous methods as well as named methods in the same way, i.e., by passing the method parameters to the delegate object.

For example,

```
nc(10);
```

Example

The following example demonstrates the concept:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>delegate void NumberChanger(int n);</code>
4	<code>namespace DelegateAppl {</code>
5	<code> class TestDelegate {</code>
6	<code> static int num = 10;</code>
7	
8	<code> public static void AddNum(int p) {</code>
9	<code> num += p;</code>
10	<code> Console.WriteLine("Named Method: {0}", num);</code>
11	<code> }</code>
12	
13	<code> public static void MultNum(int q) {</code>
14	<code> num *= q;</code>

```

15     Console.WriteLine("Named Method: {0}", num);
16     }
17
18     public static int getNum() {
19         return num;
20     }
21
22     static void Main(string[] args) {
23         //create delegate instances using anonymous method
24         NumberChanger nc = delegate(int x) {
25             Console.WriteLine("Anonymous Method: {0}", x);
26         };
27
28         //calling the delegate using the anonymous method
29         nc(10);
30
31         //instantiating the delegate using the named methods
32         nc = new NumberChanger(AddNum);
33
34         //calling the delegate using the named methods
35         nc(5);
36
37         //instantiating the delegate using another named methods
38         nc = new NumberChanger(MultNum);
39
40         //calling the delegate using the named methods
41         nc(2);
42         Console.ReadKey();
43     }
44 }
45 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

Anonymous Method: 10
Named Method: 15
Named Method: 30

```

Unsafe Codes

C# allows using pointer variables in a function or code block when it is marked by the **unsafe** modifier. The **unsafe code** or the unmanaged code is a code block that uses a **pointer** variable.

Note – To execute the programs mentioned in this chapter at codingground, please set compilation option in *Project >> Compile Options >> Compilation Command* to

```
mcs *.cs -out:main.exe -unsafe"
```

Pointers

A **pointer** is a variable whose value is the address of another variable i.e., the direct address of the memory location. Similar to any variable or constant, you must declare a pointer before you can use it to store any variable address.

The general form of a pointer declaration is –

```
type *var-name;
```

Following are valid pointer declarations –

```
int    *ip;    /* pointer to an integer */
double *dp;    /* pointer to a double */
float  *fp;    /* pointer to a float */
char   *ch     /* pointer to a character */
```

The following example illustrates use of pointers in C#, using the unsafe modifier:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace UnsafeCodeApplication {</code>
4	<code> class Program {</code>
5	<code> static unsafe void Main(string[] args) {</code>
6	<code> int var = 20;</code>
7	<code> int* p = &var;</code>
8	<code> Console.WriteLine("Data is: {0} ", var);</code>
9	<code> Console.WriteLine("Address is: {0}", (int)p);</code>
10	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
11	<code> }</code>
12	<code> }</code>
13	<code>}</code>

When the above code was compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Data is: 20
Address is: 99215364
```

Instead of declaring an entire method as unsafe, you can also declare a part of the code as unsafe. The example in the following section shows this.

Retrieving the Data Value Using a Pointer

You can retrieve the data stored at the located referenced by the pointer variable, using the **ToString()** method. The following example demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace UnsafeCodeApplication {</code>
4	<code>class Program {</code>
5	<code>public static void Main() {</code>
6	<code>unsafe {</code>
7	<code>int var = 20;</code>
8	<code>int* p = &var;</code>
9	<code>Console.WriteLine("Data is: {0} " , var);</code>
10	<code>Console.WriteLine("Data is: {0} " , p->ToString());</code>
11	<code>Console.WriteLine("Address is: {0} " , (int)p);</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	
14	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
15	<code>}</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>

When the above code was compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Data is: 20
Data is: 20
Address is: 77128984
```

Passing Pointers as Parameters to Methods

You can pass a pointer variable to a method as parameter. The following example illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace UnsafeCodeApplication {</code>
4	<code>class TestPointer {</code>
5	<code>public unsafe void swap(int* p, int *q) {</code>
6	<code>int temp = *p;</code>
7	<code>*p = *q;</code>
8	<code>*q = temp;</code>
9	<code>}</code>
10	
11	<code>public unsafe static void Main() {</code>
12	<code>TestPointer p = new TestPointer();</code>
13	<code>int var1 = 10;</code>
14	<code>int var2 = 20;</code>
15	<code>int* x = &var1;</code>
16	<code>int* y = &var2;</code>
17	<code>Console.WriteLine("Before Swap: var1:{0}, var2: {1}", var1, var2);</code>
18	<code>p.swap(x, y);</code>

19	
20	Console.WriteLine("After Swap: var1:{0}, var2: {1}", var1, var2);
21	Console.ReadKey();
22	}
23	}
24	}

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Before Swap: var1: 10, var2: 20
After Swap: var1: 20, var2: 10
```

Accessing Array Elements Using a Pointer

In C#, an array name and a pointer to a data type same as the array data, are not the same variable type. For example, `int *p` and `int[] p`, are not same type. You can increment the pointer variable `p` because it is not fixed in memory but an array address is fixed in memory, and you can't increment that.

Therefore, if you need to access an array data using a pointer variable, as we traditionally do in C, or C++ (please check: C Pointers), you need to fix the pointer using the **fixed** keyword.

The following example demonstrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	
3	<code>namespace UnsafeCodeApplication {</code>
4	<code>class TestPointer {</code>
5	<code>public unsafe static void Main() {</code>
6	<code>int[] list = {10, 100, 200};</code>
7	<code>fixed(int *ptr = list)</code>
8	
9	<code>/* let us have array address in pointer */</code>
10	<code>for (int i = 0; i < 3; i++) {</code>
11	<code>Console.WriteLine("Address of list[{0}]={1}", i, (int) (ptr + i));</code>
12	<code>Console.WriteLine("Value of list[{0}]={1}", i, *(ptr + i));</code>
13	<code>}</code>
14	
15	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	<code>}</code>

When the above code was compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
Address of list[0] = 31627168
Value of list[0] = 10
Address of list[1] = 31627172
Value of list[1] = 100
Address of list[2] = 31627176
Value of list[2] = 200
```

Compiling Unsafe Code

For compiling unsafe code, you have to specify the **/unsafe** command-line switch with command-line compiler.

For example, to compile a program named prog1.cs containing unsafe code, from command line, give the command –

```
csc /unsafe prog1.cs
```

If you are using Visual Studio IDE then you need to enable use of unsafe code in the project properties.

To do this:

- Open **project properties** by double clicking the properties node in the Solution Explorer.
- Click on the **Build** tab.
- Select the option "**Allow unsafe code**".

Multithreading

A **thread** is defined as the execution path of a program. Each thread defines a unique flow of control. If your application involves complicated and time consuming operations, then it is often helpful to set different execution paths or threads, with each thread performing a particular job.

Threads are **lightweight processes**. One common example of use of thread is implementation of concurrent programming by modern operating systems. Use of threads saves wastage of CPU cycle and increase efficiency of an application.

So far we wrote the programs where a single thread runs as a single process which is the running instance of the application. However, this way the application can perform one job at a time. To make it execute more than one task at a time, it could be divided into smaller threads.

Thread Life Cycle

The life cycle of a thread starts when an object of the `System.Threading.Thread` class is created and ends when the thread is terminated or completes execution.

Following are the various states in the life cycle of a thread:

- **The Unstarted State** – It is the situation when the instance of the thread is created but the `Start` method is not called.
- **The Ready State** – It is the situation when the thread is ready to run and waiting CPU cycle.
- **The Not Runnable State** – A thread is not executable, when
 - `Sleep` method has been called
 - `Wait` method has been called
 - Blocked by I/O operations
- **The Dead State** – It is the situation when the thread completes execution or is aborted.

The Main Thread

In C#, the **`System.Threading.Thread`** class is used for working with threads. It allows creating and accessing individual threads in a multithreaded application. The first thread to be executed in a process is called the **main** thread.

When a C# program starts execution, the main thread is automatically created. The threads created using the **`Thread`** class are called the child threads of the main thread. You can access a thread using the **`CurrentThread`** property of the `Thread` class.

The following program demonstrates main thread execution:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Threading;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace MultithreadingApplication {</code>
5	<code>class MainThreadProgram {</code>
6	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
7	<code>Thread th = Thread.CurrentThread;</code>
8	<code>th.Name = "MainThread";</code>
9	<code>Console.WriteLine("This is {0}", th.Name);</code>
10	<code>Console.ReadKey();</code>
11	<code>}</code>
12	<code>}</code>
13	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

This is MainThread

Properties and Methods of the Thread Class

The following table shows some most commonly used **properties** of the **Thread** class:

No.	Property & Description
1	CurrentContext Gets the current context in which the thread is executing.
2	CurrentCulture Gets or sets the culture for the current thread.
3	CurrentPrinciple Gets or sets the thread's current principal (for role-based security).
4	CurrentThread Gets the currently running thread.
5	CurrentUICulture Gets or sets the current culture used by the Resource Manager to look up culture-specific resources at run-time.
6	ExecutionContext Gets an ExecutionContext object that contains information about the various contexts of the current thread.
7	IsAlive Gets a value indicating the execution status of the current thread.
8	IsBackground

	Gets or sets a value indicating whether or not a thread is a background thread.
9	IsThreadPoolThread Gets a value indicating whether or not a thread belongs to the managed thread pool.
10	ManagedThreadId Gets a unique identifier for the current managed thread.
11	Name Gets or sets the name of the thread.
12	Priority Gets or sets a value indicating the scheduling priority of a thread.
13	ThreadState Gets a value containing the states of the current thread.

The following table shows some of the most commonly used **methods** of the **Thread** class:

No.	Method & Description
1	public void Abort() Raises a ThreadAbortException in the thread on which it is invoked, to begin the process of terminating the thread. Calling this method usually terminates the thread.
2	public static LocalDataStoreSlot AllocateDataSlot() Allocates an unnamed data slot on all the threads. For better performance, use fields that are marked with the ThreadStaticAttribute attribute instead.
3	public static LocalDataStoreSlot AllocateNamedDataSlot(string name) Allocates a named data slot on all threads. For better performance, use fields that are marked with the ThreadStaticAttribute attribute instead.
4	public static void BeginCriticalRegion() Notifies a host that execution is about to enter a region of code in which the effects of a thread abort or unhandled exception might jeopardize other tasks in the application domain.
5	public static void BeginThreadAffinity() Notifies a host that managed code is about to execute instructions that depend on the identity of the current physical operating system thread.
6	public static void EndCriticalRegion()

	Notifies a host that execution is about to enter a region of code in which the effects of a thread abort or unhandled exception are limited to the current task.
7	public static void EndThreadAffinity() Notifies a host that managed code has finished executing instructions that depend on the identity of the current physical operating system thread.
8	public static void FreeNamedDataSlot(string name) Eliminates the association between a name and a slot, for all threads in the process. For better performance, use fields that are marked with the ThreadStaticAttribute attribute instead.
9	public static Object GetData(LocalDataStoreSlot slot) Retrieves the value from the specified slot on the current thread, within the current thread's current domain. For better performance, use fields that are marked with the ThreadStaticAttribute attribute instead.
10	public static AppDomain GetDomain() Returns the current domain in which the current thread is running.
11	public static AppDomain GetDomainID() Returns a unique application domain identifier
12	public static LocalDataStoreSlot GetNamedDataSlot(string name) Looks up a named data slot. For better performance, use fields that are marked with the ThreadStaticAttribute attribute instead.
13	public void Interrupt() Interrupts a thread that is in the WaitSleepJoin thread state.
14	public void Join() Blocks the calling thread until a thread terminates, while continuing to perform standard COM and SendMessage pumping. This method has different overloaded forms.
15	public static void MemoryBarrier() Synchronizes memory access as follows: The processor executing the current thread cannot reorder instructions in such a way that memory accesses prior to the call to MemoryBarrier execute after memory accesses that follow the call to MemoryBarrier.
16	public static void ResetAbort() Cancels an Abort requested for the current thread.
17	public static void SetData(LocalDataStoreSlot slot, Object data)

	Sets the data in the specified slot on the currently running thread, for that thread's current domain. For better performance, use fields marked with the ThreadStaticAttribute attribute instead.
18	public void Start() Starts a thread.
19	public static void Sleep(int millisecondsTimeout) Makes the thread pause for a period of time.
20	public static void SpinWait(int iterations) Causes a thread to wait the number of times defined by the iterations parameter
21	public static byte VolatileRead(ref byte address) public static double VolatileRead(ref double address) public static int VolatileRead(ref int address) public static Object VolatileRead(ref Object address) Reads the value of a field. The value is the latest written by any processor in a computer, regardless of the number of processors or the state of processor cache. This method has different overloaded forms. Only some are given above.
22	public static void VolatileWrite(ref byte address,byte value) public static void VolatileWrite(ref double address, double value) public static void VolatileWrite(ref int address, int value) public static void VolatileWrite(ref Object address, Object value) Writes a value to a field immediately, so that the value is visible to all processors in the computer. This method has different overloaded forms. Only some are given above.
23	public static bool Yield() Causes the calling thread to yield execution to another thread that is ready to run on the current processor. The operating system selects the thread to yield to.

Creating Threads

Threads are created by extending the Thread class. The extended Thread class then calls the **Start()** method to begin the child thread execution.

The following program demonstrates the concept:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Threading;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace MultithreadingApplication {</code>
5	<code>class ThreadCreationProgram {</code>
6	<code>public static void CallToChildThread() {</code>
7	<code> Console.WriteLine("Child thread starts");</code>
8	<code>}</code>
9	
10	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
11	<code> ThreadStart childref = new ThreadStart(CallToChildThread);</code>
12	<code> Console.WriteLine("In Main: Creating the Child thread");</code>
13	<code> Thread childThread = new Thread(childref);</code>
14	<code> childThread.Start();</code>
15	<code> Console.ReadKey();</code>
16	<code>}</code>
17	<code>}</code>
18	<code>}</code>

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
In Main: Creating the Child thread
Child thread starts
```

Managing Threads

The Thread class provides various methods for managing threads.

The following example demonstrates the use of the **sleep()** method for making a thread pause for a specific period of time.

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Threading;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace MultithreadingApplication {</code>
5	<code>class ThreadCreationProgram {</code>
6	<code>public static void CallToChildThread() {</code>
7	<code> Console.WriteLine("Child thread starts");</code>
8	
9	<code> // the thread is paused for 5000 milliseconds</code>
10	<code> int sleepfor = 5000;</code>
11	
12	<code> Console.WriteLine("Child Thread Paused for {0} seconds",</code>
13	<code> sleepfor/1000);</code>
14	<code> Thread.Sleep(sleepfor);</code>
15	<code> Console.WriteLine("Child thread resumes");</code>

```

16     }
17
18     static void Main(string[] args) {
19         ThreadStart childref = new ThreadStart(CallToChildThread);
20         Console.WriteLine("In Main: Creating the Child thread");
21         Thread childThread = new Thread(childref);
22         childThread.Start();
23         Console.ReadKey();
24     }
25 }
26 }

```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```

In Main: Creating the Child thread
Child thread starts
Child Thread Paused for 5 seconds
Child thread resumes

```

Destroying Threads

The **Abort()** method is used for destroying threads.

The runtime aborts the thread by throwing a **ThreadAbortException**. This exception cannot be caught, the control is sent to the *finally* block, if any.

The following program illustrates this:

Line#	Code
1	<code>using System;</code>
2	<code>using System.Threading;</code>
3	
4	<code>namespace MultithreadingApplication {</code>
5	<code>class ThreadCreationProgram {</code>
6	<code>public static void CallToChildThread() {</code>
7	<code>try {</code>
8	<code> Console.WriteLine("Child thread starts");</code>
9	
10	<code> // do some work, like counting to 10</code>
11	<code> for (int counter = 0; counter <= 10; counter++) {</code>
12	<code> Thread.Sleep(500);</code>
13	<code> Console.WriteLine(counter);</code>
14	<code> }</code>
15	<code> Console.WriteLine("Child Thread Completed");</code>
16	<code>} catch (ThreadAbortException e) {</code>
17	<code> Console.WriteLine("Thread Abort Exception");</code>
18	<code>} finally {</code>
19	<code> Console.WriteLine("Couldn't catch the Thread Exception");</code>
20	<code>}</code>
21	<code>}</code>
22	<code>static void Main(string[] args) {</code>
23	<code> ThreadStart childref = new ThreadStart(CallToChildThread);</code>
24	<code> Console.WriteLine("In Main: Creating the Child thread");</code>
25	<code> Thread childThread = new Thread(childref);</code>
26	<code> childThread.Start();</code>

```
27  
28     Thread.Sleep(2000); //stop the main thread for some time  
29     Console.WriteLine("In Main: Aborting the Child thread");  
30     childThread.Abort();  
31     Console.ReadKey();  
32 }  
33 }  
34 }
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
In Main: Creating the Child thread  
Child thread starts  
0  
1  
2  
In Main: Aborting the Child thread  
Thread Abort Exception  
Couldn't catch the Thread Exception
```