

Introduction to C#

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Prerequisites

- This module assumes that you understand the fundamentals of
 - Programming
 - Variables, statements, functions, loops, etc.
 - Object-oriented programming
 - Classes, inheritance, polymorphism, members, etc.
 - C++ or Java





Learning Objectives

- C# design goals
- ◆ Fundamentals of the C# language
 - Types, program structure, statements, operators
- Be able to begin writing and debugging C# programs
 - Using the .NET Framework SDK
 - Using Visual Studio.NET
- Be able to write individual C# methods

Agenda

- Hello World
- Design Goals of C#
- Types
- Program Structure
- Statements
- Operators
- Using Visual Studio.NET
- Using the .NET Framework SDK





Hello World

```
using System;

class Hello {
   static void Main() {
      Console.WriteLine("Hello world");
      Console.ReadLine(); // Hit enter to finish
   }
}
```

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Design Goals of C# The Big Ideas

- Component-orientation
- Everything is an object
- Robust and durable software
- Preserving your investment

Design Goals of C#Component-Orientation

- ◆ C# is the first "Component-Oriented" language in the C/C++ family
- What is a component?
 - An independent module of reuse and deployment
 - Coarser-grained than objects (objects are language-level constructs)
 - Includes multiple classes
 - Often language-independent
 - In general, component writer and user don't know each other, don't work for the same company, and don't use the same language





Design Goals of C# Component-Orientation

- Component concepts are first class
 - Properties, methods, events
 - Design-time and run-time attributes
 - Integrated documentation using XML
- Enables "one-stop programming"
 - No header files, IDL, etc.
 - Can be embedded in ASP pages

Design Goals of C# Everything is an Object

- Traditional views
 - C++, Java[™]: Primitive types are "magic" and do not interoperate with objects
 - Smalltalk, Lisp: Primitive types are objects, but at some performance cost
- C# unifies with no performance cost
 - Deep simplicity throughout system
- Improved extensibility and reusability
 - New primitive types: Decimal, SQL...
 - Collections, etc., work for all types





Design Goals of C#Robust and Durable Software

- Garbage collection
 - No memory leaks and stray pointers
- Exceptions
- Type-safety
 - No uninitialized variables, no unsafe casts
- Versioning
- Avoid common errors
 - E.g. if (x = y) ...
- One-stop programming
 - Fewer moving parts

Design Goals of C#Preserving Your Investment

- C++ Heritage
 - Namespaces, pointers (in unsafe code), unsigned types, etc.
 - Some changes, but no unnecessary sacrifices
- Interoperability
 - What software is increasingly about
 - C# talks to XML, SOAP, COM, DLLs, and any .NET Framework language
- Increased productivity
 - Short learning curve
 - Millions of lines of C# code in .NET





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Types Overview

- ◆ A C# program is a collection of types
 - Classes, structs, enums, interfaces, delegates
- C# provides a set of predefined types
 - \bullet E.g. int, byte, char, string, object, \dots
- You can create your own types
- All data and code is defined within a type
 - No global variables, no global functions





Types Overview

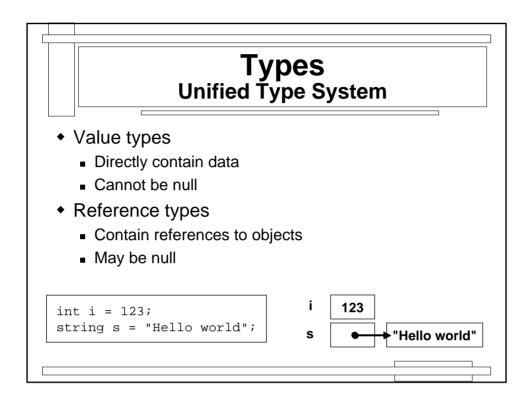
- Types contain:
 - Data members
 - Fields, constants, arrays
 - Events
 - Function members
 - Methods, operators, constructors, destructors
 - Properties, indexers
 - Other types
 - Classes, structs, enums, interfaces, delegates

Types Overview

- Types can be instantiated...
 - ...and then used: call methods, get and set properties, etc.
- Can convert from one type to another
 - Implicitly and explicitly
- Types are organized
 - Namespaces, files, assemblies
- There are two categories of types: value and reference
- Types are arranged in a hierarchy







```
Types
Unified Type System

    Value types

  Primitives
                int i; float x;
  Enums
                enum State { Off, On }
  Structs
                struct Point {int x,y;}

    Reference types

  Root
                object
  String
                string
  Classes
               class Foo: Bar, IFoo {...}
  Interfaces
                interface IFoo: IBar {...}
  Arrays
                string[] a = new string[10];
  Delegates
                delegate void Empty();
```





TypesUnified Type System

	Value (Struct)	Reference (Class)
Variable holds	Actual value	Memory location
Allocated on	Stack, member	Heap
Nullability	Always has value	May be null
Default value	0	null
Aliasing (in a scope)	No	Yes
Assignment means	Copy data	Copy reference

- Benefits of value types
 - No heap allocation, less GC pressure
 - More efficient use of memory
 - Less reference indirection
 - Unified type system
 - No primitive/object dichotomy





TypesConversions

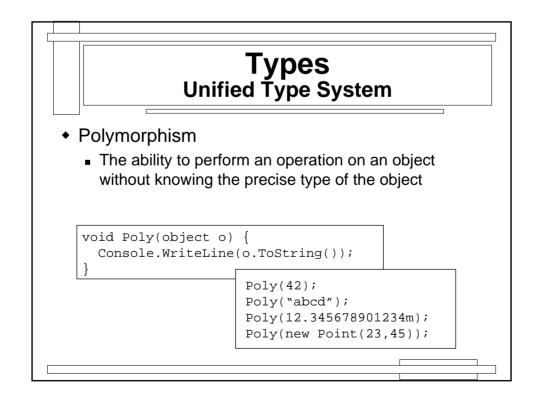
- Implicit conversions
 - Occur automatically
 - Guaranteed to succeed
 - No information (precision) loss
- Explicit conversions
 - Require a cast
 - May not succeed
 - Information (precision) might be lost
- Both implicit and explicit conversions can be user-defined

TypesConversions

Microsoft®



Types Unified Type System • Everything is an object • All types ultimately inherit from object • Any piece of data can be stored, transported, and manipulated with no extra work object Stream Hashtable int double MemoryStream FileStream







TypesUnified Type System

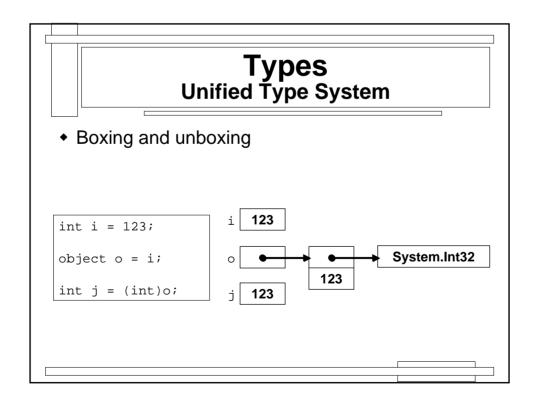
- Question: How can we treat value and reference types polymorphically?
 - How does an int (value type) get converted into an object (reference type)?
- Answer: Boxing!
 - Only value types get boxed
 - Reference types do not get boxed

- Boxing
 - Copies a value type into a reference type (object)
 - Each value type has corresponding "hidden" reference type
 - Note that a reference-type copy is made of the value type
 - Value types are never aliased
 - Value type is converted implicitly to object, a reference type
 - Essentially an "up cast"





- Unboxing
 - Inverse operation of boxing
 - Copies the value out of the box
 - Copies from reference type to value type
 - Requires an explicit conversion
 - May not succeed (like all explicit conversions)
 - Essentially a "down cast"







TypesUnified Type System

- Benefits of boxing
 - Enables polymorphism across all types
 - Collection classes work with all types
 - Eliminates need for wrapper classes
 - Replaces OLE Automation's Variant
- Lots of examples in .NET Framework

- Disadvantages of boxing
 - Performance cost
- The need for boxing will decrease when the CLR supports generics (similar to C++ templates)





TypesPredefined Types

- Value
 - Integral types
 - Floating point types
 - decimal
 - bool
 - char
- Reference
 - object
 - string

Predefined Types Value Types

All are predefined structs

Signed	sbyte, short, int, long	
Unsigned	byte, ushort, uint, ulong	
Character	char	
Floating point	float, double, decimal	
Logical	bool	

Microsoft[®]



Predefined Types Integral Types

C# Type	System Type	Size (bytes)	Signed?
sbyte	System.Sbyte	1	Yes
short	System.Int16	2	Yes
int	System.Int32	4	Yes
long	System.Int64	8	Yes
byte	System.Byte	1	No
ushort	System.UInt16	2	No
uint	System.UInt32	4	No
ulong	System.UInt64	8	No

Predefined Types Floating Point Types

- ◆ Follows IEEE 754 specification
- ◆ Supports ± 0, ± Infinity, NaN

C# Type	System Type	Size (bytes)
float	System.Single	4
double	System.Double	8

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Predefined Types

decimal

- 128 bits
- Essentially a 96 bit value scaled by a power of 10
- Decimal values represented precisely
- Doesn't support signed zeros, infinities or NaN

C# Type	System Type	Size (bytes)
decimal	System.Decimal	16

Predefined Types

decimal

- All integer types can be implicitly converted to a decimal type
- Conversions between decimal and floating types require explicit conversion due to possible loss of precision
- s * m * 10e
 - s = 1 or -1
 - $0 \le m \le 296$
 - -28 ≤ e ≤ 0





Predefined Types Integral Literals

 Integer literals can be expressed as decimal or hexadecimal

U or u: uint or ulongL or I: long or ulong

• UL or ul: ulong

Predefined Types Real Literals

• F or f: float

D or d: double

M or m: decimal

Microsoft



Predefined Types

bool

- Represents logical values
- Literal values are true and false
- Cannot use 1 and 0 as boolean values
 - No standard conversion between other types and bool

C# Type	System Type	Size (bytes)
bool	System.Boolean	1 (2 for arrays)

Predefined Types

char

- Represents a Unicode character
- Literals
 - 'A' // Simple character
 - '\u0041' // Unicode
 - '\x0041' // Unsigned short hexadecimal
 - '\n' // Escape sequence character

C# Type	System Type	Size (bytes)
Char	System.Char	2





Predefined Types

• Escape sequence characters (partial list)

Char	Meaning	Value
\'	Single quote	0x0027
\"	Double quote	0x0022
\\	Backslash	0x005C
\0	Null	0x0000
\n	New line	0x000A
\r	Carriage return	0x000D
\t	Tab	0x0009
	•	

Predefined Types Reference Types

Root type	object
Character string	string

Microsoft



Predefined Types

object

- Root of object hierarchy
- Storage (book keeping) overhead
 - 0 bytes for value types
 - 8 bytes for reference types
- An actual reference (not the object) uses 4 bytes

C# Type	System Type	Size (bytes)
object	System.Object	0/8 overhead

Predefined Types

object Public Methods

- public bool Equals(object)
- protected void Finalize()
- public int GetHashCode()
- public System.Type GetType()
- protected object MemberwiseClone()
- public void Object()
- public string ToString()





Predefined Types

string

- An immutable sequence of Unicode characters
- Reference type
- Special syntax for literals
 - string s = "I am a string";

C# Type	System Type	Size (bytes)
String	System.String	20 minimum

Predefined Types

string

Normally have to use escape characters

string s1= "\\\server\\fileshare\\filename.cs";

- Verbatim string literals
 - Most escape sequences ignored
 - Except for ""
 - Verbatim literals can be multi-line

string s2 = @"\\server\fileshare\filename.cs";





TypesUser-defined Types

User-defined types

Enumerations	enum	
Arrays	int[], string[]	
Interface	interface	
Reference type	class	
Value type	struct	
Function pointer	delegate	

Types Enums

- An enum defines a type name for a related group of symbolic constants
- Choices must be known at compile-time
- Strongly typed
 - No implicit conversions to/from int
 - Can be explicitly converted
 - Operators: +, -, ++, --, &, |, ^, ~, ...
- Can specify underlying type
 - byte, sbyte, short, ushort, int, uint, long, ulong





Types Enums

```
enum Color: byte {
   Red = 1,
   Green = 2,
   Blue = 4,
   Black = 0,
   White = Red | Green | Blue
}

Color c = Color.Black;
Console.WriteLine(c);  // Black
Console.WriteLine(c.ToString());  // Black
Console.WriteLine(Enum.Format(typeof(Color),c,"F"));
```

Types Enums

- ◆ All enums derive from System.Enum
 - Provides methods to
 - determine underlying type
 - test if a value is supported
 - initialize from string constant
 - retrieve all values in enum
 - ...





Types Arrays

- Arrays allow a group of elements of a specific type to be stored in a contiguous block of memory
- Arrays are reference types
- Derived from System.Array
- Zero-based
- Can be multidimensional
 - Arrays know their length(s) and rank
- Bounds checking

Types Arrays

Declare

int[] primes;

Allocate

int[] primes = new int[9];

Initialize

int[] prime = new int[] {1,2,3,5,7,11,13,17,19};
int[] prime = {1,2,3,5,7,11,13,17,19};

Access and assign

prime2[i] = prime[i];

Enumerate

foreach (int i in prime) Console.WriteLine(i);





Types Arrays

- Multidimensional arrays
 - Rectangular
 - int[,] matR = new int[2,3];
 - · Can initialize declaratively
 - int[,] matR =
 new int[2,3] { {1,2,3}, {4,5,6} };
 - Jagged
 - An array of arrays
 - int[][] matJ = new int[2][];
 - Must initialize procedurally

Types Interfaces

- An interface defines a contract
 - Includes methods, properties, indexers, events
 - Any class or struct implementing an interface must support all parts of the contract
- Interfaces provide polymorphism
 - Many classes and structs may implement a particular interface
- Contain no implementation
 - Must be implemented by a class or struct





Types Classes

- User-defined reference type
 - Similar to C++, Java classes
- Single class inheritance
- Multiple interface inheritance

Types Classes

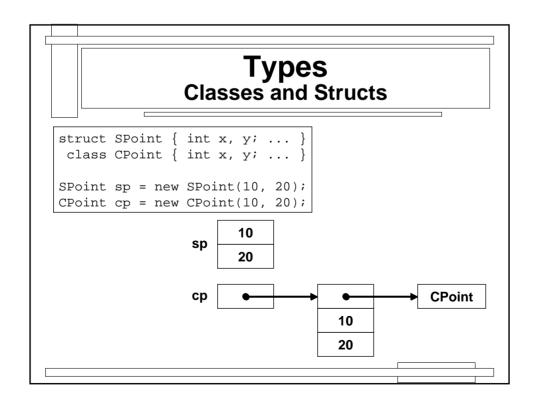
- Members
 - Constants, fields, methods, operators, constructors, destructors
 - Properties, indexers, events
 - Static and instance members
- Member access
 - public, protected, private, internal, protected internal
 - Default is private
- Instantiated with new operator





Types Structs

- Similar to classes, but
 - User-defined value type
 - Always inherits from object
- Ideal for lightweight objects
 - int, float, double, etc., are all structs
 - User-defined "primitive" types
 - Complex, point, rectangle, color, rational
- Multiple interface inheritance
- Same members as class
- Member access
 - public, internal, private
- Instantiated with new operator







Types Delegates

- A delegate is a reference type that defines a method signature
- When instantiated, a delegate holds one or more methods
 - Essentially an object-oriented function pointer
- Foundation for framework events

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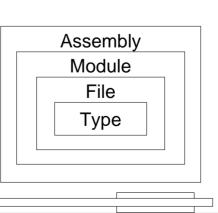


Program Structure Overview

- Organizing Types
- Namespaces
- References
- Main Method
- Syntax

Program Structure Organizing Types

- Physical organization
 - Types are defined in files
 - Files are compiled into modules
 - Modules are grouped into assemblies







Program Structure Organizing Types

- Types are defined in files
 - A file can contain multiple types
 - Each type is defined in a single file
- Files are compiled into modules
 - Module is a DLL or EXE
 - A module can contain multiple files
- Modules are grouped into assemblies
 - Assembly can contain multiple modules
 - Assemblies and modules are often 1:1

Program Structure Organizing Types

- Types are defined in ONE place
 - "One-stop programming"
 - No header and source files to synchronize
 - Code is written "in-line"
 - Declaration and definition are one and the same
 - A type must be fully defined in one file
 - Can't put individual methods in different files
- No declaration order dependence
 - No forward references required





Program Structure Namespaces

- Namespaces provide a way to uniquely identify a type
- Provides logical organization of types
- Namespaces can span assemblies
- Can nest namespaces
- There is no relationship between namespaces and file structure (unlike Java)
- The fully qualified name of a type includes all namespaces

Program Structure Namespaces





Program Structure Namespaces

- The using statement lets you use types without typing the fully qualified name
- Can always use a fully qualified name

```
using N1;

C1 a; // The N1. is implicit
N1.C1 b; // Fully qualified name

C2 c; // Error! C2 is undefined
N1.N2.C2 d; // One of the C2 classes
C1.C2 e; // The other one
```

Program Structure Namespaces

 The using statement also lets you create aliases





Program Structure Namespaces

- Best practice: Put all of your types in a unique namespace
- Have a namespace for your company, project, product, etc.
- Look at how the .NET Framework classes are organized

Program Structure References

- In Visual Studio you specify references for a project
- Each reference identifies a specific assembly
- Passed as reference (/r or /reference) to the C# compiler

csc HelloWorld.cs /reference:System.WinForms.dll





Program StructureNamespaces vs. References

- Namespaces provide language-level naming shortcuts
 - Don't have to type a long fully qualified name over and over
- References specify which assembly to use

Program Structure Main Method

- ◆ Execution begins at the static Main() method
- Can have only one method with one of the following signatures in an assembly
 - static void Main()
 - static int Main()
 - static void Main(string[] args)
 - static int Main(string[] args)





Program Structure Syntax

- Identifiers
 - Names for types, methods, fields, etc.
 - Must be whole word no white space
 - Unicode characters
 - Begins with letter or underscore
 - Case sensitive
 - Must not clash with keyword
 - Unless prefixed with @

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Statements Overview

- High C++ fidelity
- if, while, do require bool condition
- goto can't jump into blocks
- switch statement
 - No fall-through
- foreach statement
- checked and unchecked statements
- Expression statements must do work

```
void Foo() {
   i == 1;  // error
}
```

Statements Overview

- Statement lists
- Block statements
- Labeled statements
- Declarations
 - Constants
 - Variables
- Expression statements
 - checked, unchecked
 - lock
 - using
- Conditionals
 - if
 - switch

- Loop Statements
 - while
 - do
 - for
 - foreach
- Jump Statements
 - break
 - continue
 - goto
 - return
 - throw
- Exception handling
 - try
 - throw





Statements Syntax

- Statements are terminated with a semicolon (;)
- ◆ Just like C, C++ and Java
- ◆ Block statements { ... } don't need a semicolon

Statements Syntax

- Comments
 - // Comment a single line, C++ style

* /





Statements Statement Lists & Block Statements

- Statement list: one or more statements in sequence
- Block statement: a statement list delimited by braces { . . . }

StatementsVariables and Constants

```
static void Main() {
  const float pi = 3.14f;
  const int r = 123;
  Console.WriteLine(pi * r * r);

int a;
  int b = 2, c = 3;
  a = 1;
  Console.WriteLine(a + b + c);
}
```





StatementsVariables and Constants

 The scope of a variable or constant runs from the point of declaration to the end of the enclosing block

StatementsVariables and Constants

 Within the scope of a variable or constant it is an error to declare another variable or constant with the same name

```
{
  int x;
  {
   int x; // Error: can't hide variable x
  }
}
```





Statements Variables

- Variables must be assigned a value before they can be used
 - Explicitly or automatically
 - Called definite assignment
- Automatic assignment occurs for static fields, class instance fields and array elements

```
void Foo() {
  string s;
  Console.WriteLine(s);  // Error
}
```

Statements Labeled Statements & goto

 goto can be used to transfer control within or out of a block, but not into a nested block





Statements Expression Statements

- Statements must do work
 - Assignment, method call, ++, --, new

Statement if Statement

◆ Requires bool expression

```
int Test(int a, int b) {
  if (a > b)
    return 1;
  else if (a < b)
    return -1;
  else
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

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Statements

switch Statement

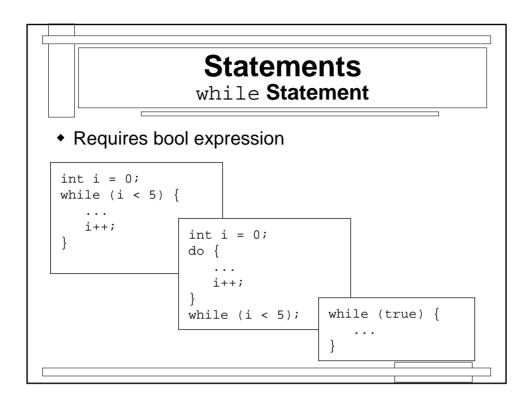
- Can branch on any predefined type (including string) or enum
 - User-defined types can provide implicit conversion to these types
- Must explicitly state how to end case
 - With break, goto case, goto label, return, throw Or continue
 - Eliminates fall-through bugs
 - Not needed if no code supplied after the label

Statements switch Statement

```
int Test(string label) {
  int result;
  switch(label) {
    case null:
      goto case "runner-up";
    case "fastest":
    case "winner":
      result = 1; break;
    case "runner-up":
      result = 2; break;
    default:
      result = 0;
  }
  return result;
}
```







```
Statements
for Statement

for (int i=0; i < 5; i++) {
...
}

for (;;) {
...
}
```





Statements

foreach Statement

Iteration of arrays

```
public static void Main(string[] args) {
   foreach (string s in args)
      Console.WriteLine(s);
}
```

Statements

foreach Statement

- Iteration of user-defined collections
- ◆ Created by implementing IEnumerable

```
foreach (Customer c in customers.OrderBy("name")) {
   if (c.Orders.Count != 0) {
     ...
   }
}
```

Microsoft®



Statements Jump Statements

- break
 - Exit inner-most loop
- continue
 - End iteration of inner-most loop
- qoto <label>
 - Transfer execution to label statement
- return [<expression>]
 - Exit a method
- ◆ throw
 - See exception handling

Statements Exception Handling

- Exceptions are the C# mechanism for handling unexpected error conditions
- Superior to returning status values
 - Can't be ignored
 - Don't have to handled at the point they occur
 - Can be used even where values are not returned (e.g. accessing a property)
 - Standard exceptions are provided





Statements Exception Handling

- ◆ try...catch...finally statement
- try block contains code that could throw an exception
- catch block handles exceptions
 - Can have multiple catch blocks to handle different kinds of exceptions
- finally block contains code that will always be executed
 - Cannot use jump statements (e.g. goto) to exit a finally block

Statements Exception Handling

- ◆ throw statement raises an exception
- An exception is represented as an instance of System. Exception or derived class
 - Contains information about the exception
 - Properties
 - Message
 - StackTrace
 - InnerException
- You can rethrow an exception, or catch one exception and throw another





Statements Exception Handling

```
try {
   Console.WriteLine("try");
   throw new Exception("message");
}
catch (ArgumentNullException e) {
   Console.WriteLine("caught null argument");
}
catch {
   Console.WriteLine("catch");
}
finally {
   Console.WriteLine("finally");
}
```

Statements Synchronization

- Multi-threaded applications have to protect against concurrent access to data
 - Must prevent data corruption
- The lock statement uses an instance to provide mutual exclusion
 - Only one lock statement can have access to the same instance
 - Actually uses the .NET Framework System.Threading.Monitor class to provide mutual exclusion





Statements Synchronization

```
public class CheckingAccount {
  decimal balance;
  public void Deposit(decimal amount) {
    lock (this) {
     balance += amount;
    }
  }
  public void Withdraw(decimal amount) {
    lock (this) {
     balance -= amount;
    }
  }
}
```

Statements

using Statement

- C# uses automatic memory management (garbage collection)
 - Eliminates most memory management problems
- However, it results in non-deterministic finalization
 - No guarantee as to when and if object destructors are called





Statements

using Statement

- Objects that need to be cleaned up after use should implement the System. IDisposable interface
 - One method: Dispose()
- The using statement allows you to create an instance, use it, and then ensure that Dispose is called when done
 - Dispose is guaranteed to be called, as if it were in a finally block

Statements

using Statement

```
public class MyResource : IDisposable {
  public void MyResource() {
     // Acquire valuble resource
  }
  public void Dispose() {
     // Release valuble resource
  }
  public void DoSomething() {
     ...
  }
  }
  using (MyResource r = new MyResource()) {
     r.DoSomething();
     // r.Dispose() is called
```





Statements

checked and unchecked Statements

- The checked and unchecked statements allow you to control overflow checking for integral-type arithmetic operations and conversions
- checked forces checking
- unchecked forces no checking
- Can use both as block statements or as an expression
- Default is unchecked
- Use the /checked compiler option to make checked the default

Statements Basic Input/Output Statements

- Console applications
 - System.Console.WriteLine();
 - System.Console.ReadLine();
- Windows applications
 - System.WinForms.MessageBox.Show();





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OperatorsOverview

- C# provides a fixed set of operators, whose meaning is defined for the predefined types
- ◆ Some operators can be overloaded (e.g. +)
- The following table summarizes the C# operators by category
 - Categories are in order of decreasing precedence
 - Operators in each category have the same precedence





Operators Precedence

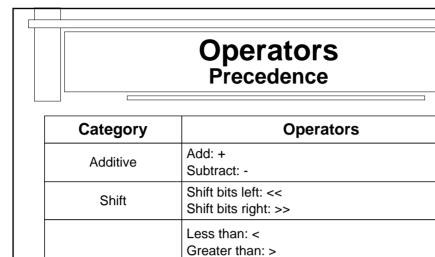
Category	Operators
Primary	Grouping: (x)
	Member access: x.y
	Method call: f(x)
	Indexing: a[x]
	Post-increment: x++
	Post-decrement: x—
	Constructor call: new
	Type retrieval: typeof
	Arithmetic check on: checked
	Arithmetic check off: unchecked

Operators Precedence

Category	Operators
Unary	Positive value of: + Negative value of: - Not: ! Bitwise complement: ~ Pre-increment: ++x Post-decrement:x Type cast: (T)x
Multiplicative	Multiply: * Divide: / Division remainder: %







Relational

Less than or equal to: <=

Type conversion: as

Greater than or equal to: >= Type equality/compatibility: is

Category Operators Equality Equals: == Not equals: != Bitwise AND & Bitwise XOR ^ Bitwise OR | Logical AND && Logical OR ||





OperatorsPrecedence

Category	Operators
	?:
Assignment	=, *=, /=, %=, +=, -=, <<=, >>=, &=, ^=, =

OperatorsAssociativity

- Assignment and ternary conditional operators are right-associative
 - Operations performed right to left
 - $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{z}$ evaluates as $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{z})$
- All other binary operators are left-associative
 - Operations performed left to right
 - \mathbf{x} + y + z evaluates as $(\mathbf{x}$ + y) + z
- Use parentheses to control order





Agenda

- Hello World
- Design Goals of C#
- Types
- Program Structure
- Statements
- Operators
- Using Visual Studio.NET
- Using the .NET Framework SDK

Using Visual Studio.NET

- Types of projects
 - Console Application
 - Windows Application
 - Web Application
 - Web Service
 - Windows Service
 - Class Library
 - **...**





Using Visual Studio.NET

- Windows
 - Solution Explorer
 - Class View
 - Properties
 - Output
 - Task List
 - Object Browser
 - Server Explorer
 - Toolbox

Using Visual Studio.NET

- Building
- Debugging
 - Break points
- References
- Saving





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Using .NET Framework SDK

Compiling from command line

csc /r:System.WinForms.dll class1.cs file1.cs



msdn

http://msdn.microsoft.com

More Resources

- http://msdn.microsoft.com
- http://windows.oreilly.com/news/hejlsberg_0800.html
- http://www.csharphelp.com/
- http://www.csharp-station.com/
- http://www.csharpindex.com/
- http://msdn.microsoft.com/msdnmag/issues/0900/csharp/cs harp.asp
- http://www.hitmill.com/programming/dotNET/csharp.html
- http://www.c-sharpcorner.com/
- http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?URL=/library/dotnet/csspec/vclrfcsharpspec_Start.htm

