



Lambda Expressions

.NET

Lambda expressions are anonymous functions that contain expressions or a sequence of operators. It uses the lambda operator, =>.

The left side of the lambda operator specifies the input parameters and the right side holds an expression or a code block that works with the input parameters.

Lambda Expression

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/programming-guide/statements-expressions-operators/lambda-expressions>

There are two Lambda expression forms.

- Expression Lambda -

```
(input-parameters) => expression
```

- Statement Lambda -

```
(input-parameters) => { <sequence-of-statements> }
```

Specify input parameters to the left of the => and an expression or statement block to the right.

Lambda Statement Form

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/programming-guide/statements-expressions-operators/lambda-expressions#statement-lambdas>

The body of a statement lambda can consist of any number of statements.
Statement lambdas cannot be used to create expression trees.

```
Action<string> greet = name =>
{
    string greeting = $"Hello {name}!";
    Console.WriteLine(greeting);
};
greet("World");
// Output:
// Hello World!
```

Lambda Expression Form

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/programming-guide/statements-expressions-operators/lambda-expressions#expression-lambdas>

Expression lambdas are used extensively in the construction of expression trees. An expression lambda returns the result of the expression.

- Zero parameters have empty `()`.

```
Action line = () => Console.WriteLine();
```

- >2 parameters are separated by commas enclosed in `()`.

```
Func<int, int, bool> testForEquality = (x, y) => x == y;
```

- You can optionally specify the types explicitly.

```
Func<int, string, bool> isTooLong = (int x, string s) => s.Length > x;
```

- Parameter types must be all explicit or all implicit.

Lambda Conversion to Delegate

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/programming-guide/statements-expressions-operators/lambda-expressions>

- Any *lambda expression* can be converted to a *delegate* type.
- The *delegate* type to which a *lambda expression* can be converted is defined by the *types* of its parameters and return value.
- If a *lambda expression* doesn't return a value,
 - it can be converted to one of the *Action<> delegate types*.
 - A *lambda expression* that has two parameters and returns void can be converted to an *Action<T1,T2> delegate*.
- If a *lambda expression* returns a value,
 - it can be converted to a *Func<> delegate type*.
 - A *lambda expression* that has one parameter and returns a value can be converted to a *Func<T,TResult> delegate*.

Lambda Conversions - Examples

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/programming-guide/statements-expressions-operators/lambda-expressions>

The lambda expression `x => x * x`, which specifies a parameter, `x`, and returns `x*x`, is assigned to a variable of a delegate type.

```
Func<int, int> square = x => x * x;  
Console.WriteLine(square(5));  
// Output:  
// 25
```

You can use lambda expressions when you use *LINQ*.

```
int[] numbers = { 2, 3, 4, 5 };  
var squaredNumbers = numbers.Select(x => x * x);  
Console.WriteLine(string.Join(" ", squaredNumbers));  
// Output:  
// 4 9 16 25
```


Lambda Async/Await

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/programming-guide/statements-expressions-operators/lambda-expressions#async-lambdas>

Create lambda expressions and statements that incorporate *asynchronous* processing by using the **async** and **await** keywords.

```
public partial class Form1 : Form
{
    public Form1()
    {
        InitializeComponent();
        button1.Click += button1_Click;
    }

    private async void button1_Click(object sender, EventArgs e)
    {
        await ExampleMethodAsync();
        textBox1.Text += "\r\nControl returned to Click event handler.\n";
    }

    private async Task ExampleMethodAsync()
    {
        // The following line simulates a task-returning asynchronous process.
        await Task.Delay(1000);
    }
}
```

```
public partial class Form1 : Form
{
    public Form1()
    {
        InitializeComponent();
        button1.Click += async (sender, e) =>
        {
            await ExampleMethodAsync();
            textBox1.Text += "\r\nControl returned to Click event handler.\n";
        };
    }

    private async Task ExampleMethodAsync()
    {
        // The following line simulates a task-returning asynchronous process.
        await Task.Delay(1000);
    }
}
```


Predicate<T> Delegate

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.predicate-1?view=net-5.0>

A *Predicate* <T> variable represents a method that defines a set of criteria and iterates over a set to determine whether a specified object in that set meets those criteria.

This type parameter is contravariant (of the type specified or less derived).

Returns Boolean *true* if the obj meets the criteria defined within the method represented by this delegate; otherwise returns, *false*.

```
using System;
using System.Drawing;

public class Example
{
    public static void Main()
    {
        // Create an array of Point structures.
        Point[] points = { new Point(100, 200),
                           new Point(150, 250), new Point(250, 375),
                           new Point(275, 395), new Point(295, 450) };

        // Define the Predicate<T> delegate.
        Predicate<Point> predicate = FindPoints;

        // Find the first Point structure for which X times Y
        // is greater than 100000.
        Point first = Array.Find(points, predicate);

        // Display the first structure found.
        Console.WriteLine("Found: X = {0}, Y = {1}", first.X, first.Y);
    }

    private static bool FindPoints(Point obj)
    {
        return obj.X * obj.Y > 100000;
    }
}

// The example displays the following output:
//      Found: X = 275, Y = 395
```

Predicate<T> Delegate

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/api/system.predicate-1?view=net-5.0>

It's customary (and much more common) to use a *lambda expression* rather than to explicitly define a delegate of type **Predicate<T>**.

Each element of the points array is passed to the lambda expression until the expression finds an element that meets the search criteria. The lambda expression returns *true* if the product of the **x** and **y** fields is greater than 100,000.

```
using System;
using System.Drawing;

public class Example
{
    public static void Main()
    {
        // Create an array of Point structures.
        Point[] points = { new Point(100, 200),
                           new Point(150, 250), new Point(250, 375),
                           new Point(275, 395), new Point(295, 450) };

        // Find the first Point structure for which X times Y
        // is greater than 100000.
        Point first = Array.Find(points, x => x.X * x.Y > 100000 );

        // Display the first structure found.
        Console.WriteLine("Found: X = {0}, Y = {1}", first.X, first.Y);
    }
}

// The example displays the following output:
//          Found: X = 275, Y = 395
```