

## What is JIT and its Overhead?

**JIT (Just-In-Time) compilation** happens at runtime in .NET. It converts MSIL (Microsoft Intermediate Language) code into native machine code.

### ◆ Overhead at Runtime:

When a method is called for the **first time**, the JIT compiler translates it into native code. This adds **delay (overhead)** during execution, especially for large applications with many methods.

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## ✅ How .NET Reduces JIT Overhead

### 1. NGen (Native Image Generator) — Legacy (Full .NET Framework)

- Pre-compiles IL code into native machine code before runtime.
- Reduces JIT overhead by avoiding runtime compilation.
- ❌ Drawback: Less flexible, platform-specific.

### 2. ReadyToRun (R2R) — .NET Core & .NET 5+

- Similar to NGen but modern.
- Publish-time AOT (Ahead-Of-Time) compilation to native code.
- Speeds up startup by reducing JIT usage.
- ✅ Used with: `dotnet publish -c Release -r win-x64 --self-contained`

### 3. Tiered Compilation

- Introduced in .NET Core and .NET 5+.
- Starts with quick JIT for faster startup (Tier 0).
- Then upgrades “hot” methods to optimized native code (Tier 1) during runtime.
- ✅ Combines fast startup with optimized performance.

#### 4. Profile-Guided Optimization (PGO)

- Collects data on how code runs (e.g., which methods are used most).
- Uses that data to optimize future compilations.
- 📌 .NET 8+ improves this further with **Dynamic PGO**.

#### 5. AOT Compilation (NativeAOT) — .NET 7+

- Full ahead-of-time compilation; no JIT at all.
- Very fast startup and low memory usage.
- 🔧 Ideal for small tools or microservices.

#### 6. Method Inlining & Caching

- Frequently used methods may be inlined to avoid calls.
- JIT stores compiled code in memory for reuse.

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#### Summary Table

Technique	Purpose	Used In	Benefit
NGen	Pre-compile IL to native	.NET Framework	Avoid JIT at runtime
ReadyToRun (R2R)	Publish-time native code	.NET Core+	Faster startup
Tiered Compilation	Quick startup + later optimize	.NET Core+	Balance speed + performance
PGO	Optimize based on usage	.NET 6+	Smarter code optimization
NativeAOT	Full native, no JIT	.NET 7+	Lowest memory, fastest start