

Explicit Interface Implementation



Jeremy Clark

DEVELOPER BETTERER

@jeremybytes www.jeremybytes.com



What & Why



Allow for more control

Resolve conflicting methods

IEnumerable<T> + IEnumerable



Standard Interface Implementation

```
public interface ISaveable {  
    void Save();  
}
```

```
public class Catalog : ISaveable  
{  
    public void Save()  
    {  
        Console.WriteLine("Saved");  
    }  
}
```

```
Catalog catalog = new Catalog();  
  
catalog.Save();  
// "Saved"
```

```
ISaveable saveable = catalog;  
  
saveable.Save();  
// "Saved"
```



Explicit Interface Implementation

```
public interface ISaveable {  
    void Save();  
}
```

```
public class Catalog : ISaveable  
{  
    void ISaveable.Save()  
    {  
        Console.WriteLine("Saved");  
    }  
}
```

```
Catalog catalog = new Catalog();  
catalog.Save();  
*** COMPILER ERROR ***  
  
ISaveable saveable = catalog;  
saveable.Save();  
// "Saved"  
  
(ISaveable(catalog)).Save();  
// "Saved"
```



```
ISaveable saveable = new Catalog();  
saveable.Save();  
// "Saved"
```

```
Catalog catalog = new Catalog();  
catalog.Save();  
*** COMPILER ERROR ***
```

```
var varCatalog = new Catalog();  
varCatalog.Save();  
*** COMPILER ERROR ***
```

```
((ISaveable)catalog).Save();  
// "Saved"
```

◀ Interface type

◀ Interface not used

◀ Interface not used
(same as using "Catalog" type)

◀ Interface type



Mixed Methods

```
public interface ISaveable {  
    void Save();  
}
```

```
public class Catalog : ISaveable  
{  
    public void Save()  
    {  
        Console.WriteLine("Saved (catalog)");  
    }  
  
    void ISaveable.Save()  
    {  
        Console.WriteLine("Saved (interface)");  
    }  
}
```

```
Catalog catalog = new Catalog();  
  
catalog.Save();  
// "Saved (catalog)"  
  
ISaveable saveable = catalog;  
  
saveable.Save();  
// "Saved (interface)"  
  
(ISaveable(catalog)).Save();  
// "Saved (interface)"
```



Conflicting Method Signatures

```
public interface ISaveable {  
    void Save();  
}
```

```
public interface IDbSaver {  
    string Save();  
}
```

```
public class Catalog : ISaveable, IDbSaver  
{  
    public void Save()           // Catalog & ISaveable  
    {  
        Console.WriteLine("Saved from ISaveable interface");  
    }  
    string IDbSaver.Save()      // IDbSaver (explicit)  
    {  
        return "Saved from IDbSaver interface";  
    }  
}
```



Another Explicit Implementation

```
public interface ISaveable {  
    void Save();  
}
```

```
public interface IDbSaver {  
    string Save();  
}
```

```
public class Catalog : ISaveable, IDbSaver  
{  
    void ISaveable.Save()    // ISaveable (explicit)  
    {  
        Console.WriteLine("Saved from ISaveable interface");  
    }  
    public string Save()    // Catalog & IDbSaver  
    {  
        return "Saved from IDbSaver interface";  
    }  
}
```



Both Explicitly Implemented

```
public interface ISaveable {  
    void Save();  
}
```

```
public interface IDbSaver {  
    string Save();  
}
```

```
public class Catalog : ISaveable, IDbSaver  
{  
    void ISaveable.Save()    // ISaveable (explicit)  
    {  
        Console.WriteLine("Saved from ISaveable interface");  
    }  
    string IDbSaver.Save()    // IDbSaver (explicit)  
    {  
        return "Saved from IDbSaver interface";  
    }  
}
```



Type Mismatch?

IEnumerable



```
PersonListBox.ItemsSource = people;
```



IEnumerable<Person>

```
public interface IEnumerable<T> : IEnumerable
```

Interface Inheritance

IEnumerable<T> includes all members from IEnumerable



No Type Mismatch

IEnumerable



```
PersonListBox.ItemsSource = people;
```



IEnumerable<Person>

+

IEnumerable



IEnumerable Members

```
public interface IEnumerable
{
    IEnumerator GetEnumerator();
}
```

Conflicting Signatures

```
public interface IEnumerable<T>
{
    IEnumerator<T> GetEnumerator();
}
```



Demo



Explicit interface implementation

- IEnumerable
- IEnumerable<T>



What & Why



Allow for more control

Resolve conflicting methods

IEnumerable<T> + IEnumerable

