



Be ready for C# 12

Christian Nagel

<https://www.cninnovation.com>

Christian Nagel

- Training
- Coaching
- Consulting
- Development

- Microsoft MVP
- www.cninnovation.com
- csharp.christiannagel.com
- @christiannagel



Professional
C# and .NET
2021 Edition

What's new with...

- Types
- Arrays and Collections
- Lambda Expressions
- Something special...



Writing code today...

Sample: minimal APIs with scaffolding...



Types and members Enhancements

Alias any type

- **using** alias relaxed with C# 12
- alias tuples, pointers, arrays, generic types...

Primary Constructors

- Class records
 - get & init accessors
- Struct records
 - get & set accessors
- Readonly struct records
 - get & init accessors
- Classes and structs
 - Parameters

Parameter ref readonly

- ref
 - Needs initialization before calling the method
- out
 - Initialization not required
 - Method must assign a value
- **ref readonly**
 - Must be initialized
 - Method cannot assign a new value
- in
 - Must be initialized
 - Method cannot assign a new value
 - Compiler can use a temporary variable within the method



Arrays and Collections

Inline Arrays

- Optimized creation for fixed sizes
- Directly assign *Span<T>*
- *InlineArray* attribute
- Performance optimization

```
[InlineArray(10)]  
public struct Buffer  
{  
    private int _x;  
}
```

Collection Expressions (Collection Literals)

- Conversion to many different collection types using square brackets `[]`

```
int[] arr = [1, 2];  
List<int> list1 = [3, 4];  
IEnumerable<int> list2 = [5, 6];
```

Spread Operator

- Expand elements without manual iteration
- Can be used together with the range operator

```
int[] arr = [1, 2];  
List<int> list1 = [3, 4];  
IEnumerable<int> list2 = [... arr, .. list1];
```

CollectionBuilder Attribute

- Allow collection expressions with custom collection types

```
[CollectionBuilder(typeof(MyCustomCollection),  
    nameof(MyCustomCollection.Create))]  
internal class MyCustomCollection<T> : Collection<T>  
{  
}
```

```
internal static class MyCustomCollection  
{  
    public static MyCustomCollection<T> Create<T>(ReadOnlySpan<T> items)  
    {  
        MyCustomCollection<T> collection = new();  
        foreach (T item in items)  
        {  
            collection.Add(item);  
        }  
        return collection;  
    }  
}
```




Lambda Expressions

Natural delegate type (C# 10)

- Natural type of lambda expression
- Doesn't require to declare a delegate type (e.g. `Func<>`)

Default lambda parameters (C# 12)

- Default values for parameters on lambda expressions
- Convenient with minimal APIs

A close-up photograph of a bright yellow, fuzzy caterpillar on dark, textured soil. A large, dark shadow of the caterpillar is cast onto the soil to its right. The text "Something special..." is overlaid in white, centered horizontally across the middle of the image.

Something special...

Unsafe Accessor

- With reflection it is possible to access private members of a type
- *UnsafeAccessor* doesn't need reflection!
- Serialization, EF Core...
- Compiler-Feature
- Access private members

```
internal class ChangeIt
{
    [UnsafeAccessor(UnsafeAccessorKind.Field,
        Name = "_title")]
    public extern static ref string GetTitle(Book @this);
}
```

Interceptors

- Replace implementation
- Usually used by source generators
- Pre-release with .NET 8
- Used from source generators
- *InterceptsLocation* Attribute

Native AOT

- Compile .NET to native code
- Self-contained
- Quick startup, less memory usage
- Can run where JIT is not allowed
- Compilation to a single file

Native AOT Restrictions

- No dynamic loading
- No reflection emit
- No C++/CLI
- Trimming required
- Many libraries don't support native AOT (yet)

Native AOT For Action

- Make libraries AOT compatible
 - if possible
 - *IsAotCompatible* adds checks
- Create native AOT services
 - if useful and possible



C# v.next

- Semi-auto properties
- Params collections
- Default in deconstructions
- Roles / extensions
- Escape character
- Method group natural type improvements
- Lock statement pattern

Semi-Auto Properties

- field keyword

```
// full property
private int _x;
public int X
{
    get => _x;
    set => _x = value;
}
```

```
// auto property
public int X { get; set; }
```

```
// semi-auto property
public int X
{
    get => field;
    set => field = value;
}
```

```
public MyType X => field ??= ComputeValue();
```

Roles / extensions

- Extensions are “transparent wrappers”
- Augmented with additional members and interfaces

```
public extension E for U
{
    public static U Create() { ... }
    public static U operator+(U e1, U e2) { ... }
    public int M() { }
    public string this[int i] { }
}
```

Lock Object

- .NET 9 includes *System.Threading.Lock* type
- The lock keyword will be enhanced to not only support *Monitor*, but also *Lock*

Summary

- Productivity
 - Primary constructors
 - Collection expressions
- Performance
 - Inline Array
 - Native AOT
 - Source generators



Thank you for joining!

Questions?

- <https://github.com/cnilearn/bastaspring2024>
- <https://csharp.christiannagel.com>
- <https://www.cninnovation.com>