

Training TypeScript

Module: Mapped Types & Utility Types



Peter Kassenaar

info@kassenaar.com

What are utility types?

*"TypeScript provides several utility types to facilitate **common type transformations**. These utilities are available globally."*

Generally we use a utility type if we **don't want to repeat** ourself (DRY programming) and we want a type, **based on another type** that is already there.

There are A LOT of utility types

The screenshot shows the TypeScript Handbook page for Utility Types. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with categories like 'Get Started', 'Handbook', 'Reference', 'Cheat Sheets', 'Decorators', 'Declaration Merging', 'Enums', 'Iterators and Generators', 'JSX', 'Mixins', 'ECMAScript Modules in Node.js', 'Modules', 'Module Resolution', 'Namespaces', 'Namespaces and Modules', 'Symbols', 'Triple-Slash Directives', 'Type Compatibility', 'Type Inference', 'Variable Declaration', 'Tutorials', and 'What's New'. The 'Reference' category is expanded, showing 'Utility Types' as the selected item.

Utility Types

TypeScript provides several utility types to facilitate common type transformations. These utilities are available globally.

Awaited<Type>

This type is meant to model operations like `await` in `async` functions, or the `.then()` method on `Promise`s - specifically, the way that they recursively unwrap `Promise`s.

Released: 4.5

Example

```
type A = Awaited<Promise<string>>;
type A = string

type B = Awaited<Promise<Promise<number>>>>;
type B = number

type C = Awaited<boolean | Promise<number>>>;
type C = number | boolean
```

Partial<Type>

Constructs a type with all properties of `Type` set to optional. This utility will return a type that represents all subsets of a given type.

Released: 2.1

Example

On this page

- Awaited<Type>
- Partial<Type>
- Required<Type>
- Readonly<Type>
- Record<Keys, Type>
- Pick<Type, Keys>
- Omit<Type, Keys>
- Exclude<UnionType, Excluded...
- Extract<Type, Union>
- NonNullable<Type>
- Parameters<Type>
- ConstructorParameters<Type>
- ReturnType<Type>
- InstanceType<Type>
- ThisParameterType<Type>
- OmitThisParameter<Type>
- ThisType<Type>
- Intrinsic String Manipulation T...
- Uppercase<StringType>
- Lowercase<StringType>
- Capitalize<StringType>
- Uncapitalize<StringType>

Is this page helpful?

Yes No

<https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/utility-types.html>



Utility types

Mapped Types

Transforming from one type to another

What is a TypeScript Mapped Type?

- Compare it to the `.map()` operator on arrays for example:
 - transform a value into another value;
- In TypeScript: Compare types and possibly change one type to another type (i.e. *map* it).
- And there are several ways to do that:
 - Readonly Mapped Type
 - Partial Mapped Type
 - Required Mapped Type
 - Pick Mapped Type
 - Record Mapped Type
 - ...

Utility types HEAVILY rely on Generics

- Generally: You pass in a **generic type** and TypeScript calculates the resulting type
- It also works (under the hood) a lot with the `in`, `keyof` and `extends` operator

▪ **Make sure to understand this!**

```
// Example from TypeScript source code
type Readonly<T> = {
    readonly [P in keyof T]: T[P];
};
```

*This basically says “Take the **generic** type T , read all the **properties** P in the **keys** of T , make the **value** of property P in T **readonly** and return it”*



Utility types

Readonly<T>

Making properties readonly (or: 'freeze' properties).

Mapped Type Readonly<T>

“Constructs a type (or interface) with all properties of Type set to readonly, meaning the properties of the constructed type cannot be reassigned.”

If you would want to do this by hand, you would create an `Object.freeze()` method, but TypeScript can do this for you by using the `Readonly<T>` generic utility type

Let's say we were to do this by hand...

// 1a. Create an interface

```
interface Employee {  
  name: string;  
  age: number;  
}
```

*// Somewhere else in our application, we might want to have
// a readonly version of this interface. So? Create another
// interface, right?*

```
interface ReadonlyEmployee {  
  readonly name: string;  
  readonly age: number;  
}
```

// 1b - create variables

```
const employee: Employee = {  
  name: 'Ronald',  
  age: 31  
};
```

// 1d. So, we create a function freezeEmployee()

```
function freezeEmployee(employee: Employee): ReadonlyEmployee {  
  return Object.freeze(employee); // (hover over .freeze() to see  
}
```

// this works as intended and expected:

```
const newEmployee = freezeEmployee(employee);  
newEmployee.name = 'Joanna'; // Error
```

But, let TypeScript do the work for us

```
// Letting TypeScript do the work for us.  
const newReadOnlyEmployee: Readonly<Employee>={  
  name: 'David',  
  age: 43  
}  
console.log(newReadOnlyEmployee.name = 'John'); // Error, b/c of readonly<T>
```

es

es-readonly.js`

es before restart

Attempt to assign to const or readonly variable

TS2540: Cannot assign to 'name' because it is a read-only property.

Suppress with @ts-ignore Alt+Shift+Enter More actions... Alt+Enter

mapped_types.Employee.name: any

src/ts/22-mapped-types-readonly.ts



Utility types

Partial<T>

Making properties optional

Mapped type `Partial<T>`

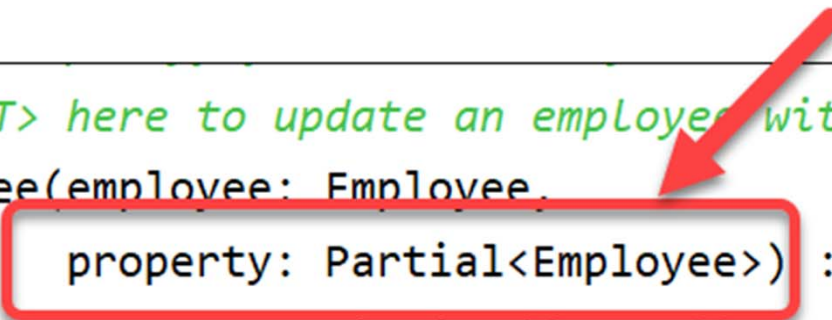
*“Constructs a type with all properties of
Type set to **optional**. This utility will
return a type that represents **all subsets**
of a given type.”*

If you would want to do this by hand, you would create a new interface with all props set to `optional?`, but TypeScript can do this for you by using the `Partial<T>` generic utility type

Using Partial <T>

```
// Create interface and constant as in the previous file
interface Employee {
  name: string;
  age: number;
}
const employee: Employee = {
  name: 'Ronald',
  age: 31
};
```

```
// Using the Partial<T> here to update an employee with *only valid properties
function updateEmployee(employee: Employee,
  property: Partial<Employee>) : Employee {
  return { ...employee, ...property }; // use the spread operator
}
updateEmployee(employee, { name: 'Brian' }); // works.
```



Verdict

The utility type `Partial<T>` is VERY HANDY in preventing updating non-existent properties accidentally



Utility types

Required<T>

Making properties required – the opposite of `Partial<T>`

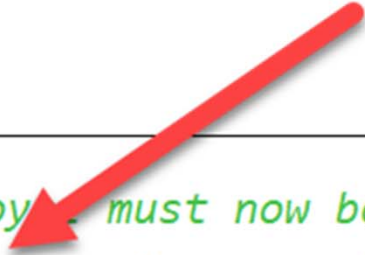
Mapped type Required<T>

*“Constructs a type consisting of all properties of `Type<T>` set to **required**. It is the opposite of `Partial`.”*

If your interface or type has `optional?` parameters by itself, but you want a derived type to have ALL the properties, use the built-in TypeScript `Required<T>` generic utility type.

Using Required<T>

```
interface Employee {  
  name?: string;  
  age?: number;  
}  
const employee: Employee = {  
  name: 'Ronald' // this is now OK, as the props of Employee are optional  
};
```



```
// All properties of Employee must now be given, as its type is Required<T>  
const newEmployee: Required<Employee> = {  
  name: 'Suzanna',  
  age: 27  
}  
console.log(newEmployee);
```

../24-mapped-types-required.ts



Utility types

Extract<T>

Extracting types of a union Type `Partial<T>`

Mapped type `Extract<Type, Union>`

“Constructs a type by extracting from `Type` all union members that are assignable to `Union`.”

If your interface or type has `optional?` parameters by itself, but you want a derived type to have ALL the properties, use the built-in TypeScript `Required<T>` generic utility type.

Using `Extract<Type, Union>`

- With `Extract<T, U>` you pass in first a type you want to extract from
- The second parameter is the one (literal, interface or type) you want to match on.
- Really useful when using code generation, as you typically get a lot of union types returned. You can now `Extract` the correct (sub)type

Extract example

```
interface Employee {
  name: string;
  age: number;
}

interface Department {
  depName: string;
}

interface Company {
  city: string;
}

// We NEED a type here, as an interface can't be extracted.
type Recipient = Extract<Employee | Department | Company, Employee>

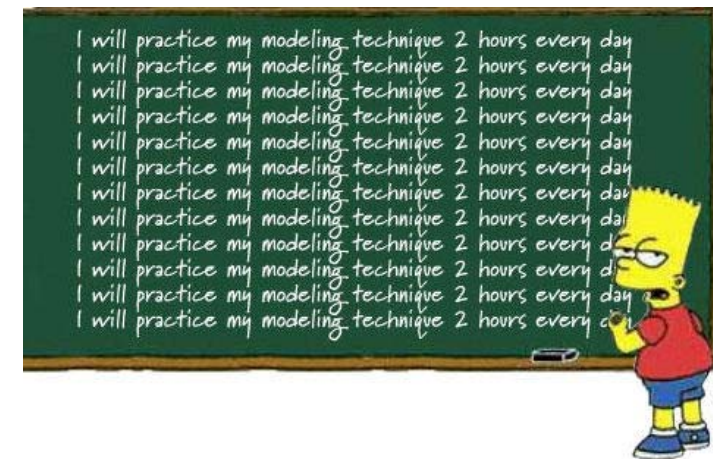
// we now KNOW Recipient is of type Employee, b/c of the extraction above.
const recipient: Recipient = {
  name: 'Peter', // therefore these props are required
  age: 30
}
```

Another example Extract<>

```
type Trip = {  
  origin: {  
    uuid: string;  
    city: string;  
    state: string;  
  };  
} | {  
  originUuid: string;  
};  
  
type TripWithOriginRef = Extract<Trip, { originUuid: string }>;  
  
type TripWithOriginWhole = Extract<Trip, { origin: { uuid: string } }>;
```

Workshop

- Create a type or an interface and create some variables, based on that type
- Create a new variable, but make it `Readonly<T>`.
 - Try changing some properties and see what happens
 - When would you use the `Readonly<T>` utility type?
- Create a new variable, using the `Partial<T>` function
- Create a new type/interface with optional properties
 - Create a new variable using `Required<T>` for the props
- Create a complex type and `Extract<>` another type from it.
- Docs:
<https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/utility-types.html>





Utility types

Pick<Type, Keys>

Creating a type with a subset with the given keys

Mapped type `Pick<Type, Keys>`

“Constructs a type by picking the set of properties `Keys` (string literal or union of string literals) from `Type`”

If your interface or type has a bunch of parameters, but you want a derived type that only has a selection of these properties, use the built-in TypeScript `Pick<T, Keys>` generic utility type.

Using `Pick<Type, Keys>`

- With `Pick<Type, Keys>` you pass in first a `type` you want to extract from
- The second parameter is the one (literal union, interface or `type`) you want the selection to be.
- Really useful when you have a gigantic base `type` that you want to create subtypes from. You can now `Pick` the correct (sub)`type`.

Pick<Type, Keys> example

```
// Our example, some interfaces (or types, whatever you want):
interface Employee {
  name: string;
  age: number;
  address: {} // <== new property
}

// the variable pickedEmployee has a selection of keys from
// the full (or: original) object. Of course you can turn
// the properties 'name' | 'age' into their own Union Type.
const pickedEmployee: Pick<Employee, 'name' | 'age'> = {
  name: 'Sandra',
  age: 20
}
```

Pick<T, K> behind the scenes

- You can create your own type that does the same.
 - The first parameter T is the `Type`
 - The second parameter is all the keys that must exist in `Type`, they are assigned to `K`
 - The function body looks for the **properties in K** and if they exist (using the `in` operator), returns an object that has the shape as defined in `<K extends keyof T>`

```
// Background: the Pick<Type, Keys> actually looks like this:  
// Understand the notation K extends keyof T!  
type myPick<T, K extends keyof T> = {  
    [P in K]: T[K]  
}
```



Utility types

Record<Keys, Type>

Use properties as keys for another type

Mapped type `Record<Keys, Type>`

“Constructs an object type whose property keys are `Keys` and whose property values are `Type`. This can be used to map the properties of a type to another type.”

If you have two types, one containing the keys and another one containing the values, you can use `Record<K, T>` to create a new type with mapped properties

Using Record<Keys, Type>


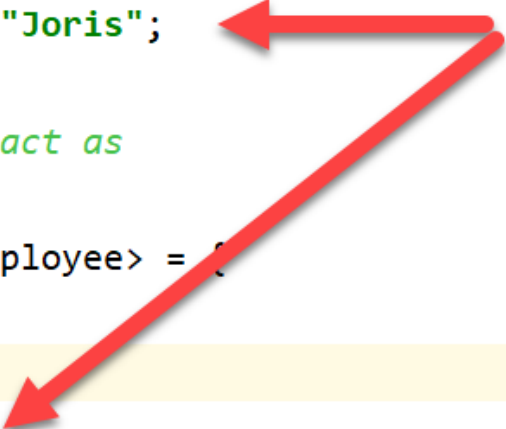
- With Record<Keys, Type> you pass in first a series of Keys that you want to be the properties for the resulting variable.
- The second parameter is the type (interface or type) that the properties must have.
- This is useful when following the **dictionary pattern** and you want to be type safe on the keys **and** on the values. You can combine two types into one new type

Record<Keys, Type> example

```
// Base type. Every employee has a name and an age.
type Employee = {
  name: string;
  age: number;
}

// The names of our employees. These act as properties
// when using Record<K, T> in the next line
type EmployeeNames = "Peter" | "Sandra" | "Joris";

// Our actual variable. The EmployeeNames act as
// properties for the mapped type.
const employees : Record<EmployeeNames, Employee> = {
  Peter: {name: 'Peter', age: 10},
  Joris: {name: 'Joris', age: 27},
  Sandra: {name: 'Sandra', age: 30}
}
```



P Joris (27-mapped-types-record.ts)

P Sandra (27-mapped-types-record.ts)

Press Enter to insert, Tab to replace

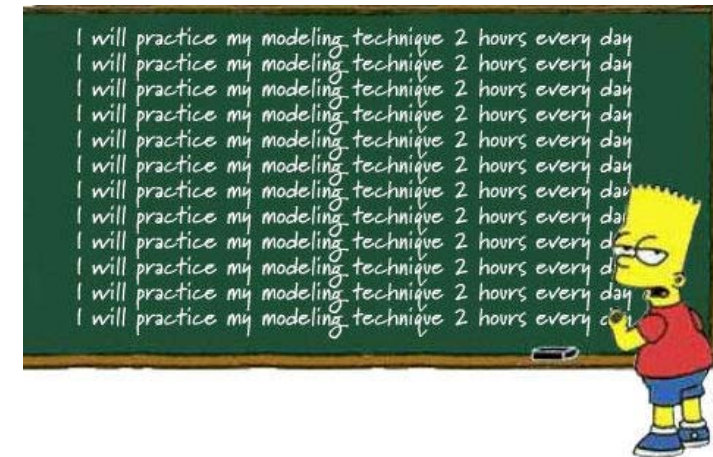
Record<Keys, Type> behind the scenes

- This is the definition of Record<K, T>
 - We can use any type as property, as it extends from any.
 - Earlier versions of TypeScript had only strings (!), but now it's broader.

```
// from typescript source code
type Record<K extends keyof any, T> = {
    [P in K]: T;
};
```

Workshop

- Create a type or an interface and create some variables, based on that type (we used `Employee` throughout)
- Create a new variable, but use `Pick<Type, Keys>`.
 - Try changing some properties and see what happens
 - When would you use the `Pick<T, K>` utility type?
- Create a base type and a `Key` type. Use `Record<Type, Keys>` to create a derived type that has the `Keys` type as keys for the values of that type
 - See `27-mapped-type-record.ts` as example
- Docs:
<https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/utility-types.html>



More utility Types:

- `Omit<Type, Keys>`
- `Exclude<UnionType, ExcludedMembers>`
- `Parameters<Type>`
- `ReturnType<Type>`
- `InstanceType<Type>`
- And many, many more....

The screenshot shows the TypeScript Handbook entry for `InstanceType<Type>`. It includes a definition, an example, and a list of other utility types on the page. A red arrow points from the `InstanceType` title to the 'On this page' sidebar.

`type T8 = any`

`InstanceType<Type>`

Constructs a type consisting of the instance type of a constructor function in `Type`.

Released: [2.8](#)

Example

```
class C {
  x = 0;
  y = 0;
}

type T0 = InstanceType<typeof C>;
type T0 = C

type T1 = InstanceType<any>;
type T1 = any

type T2 = InstanceType<never>;
type T2 = never

type T3 = InstanceType<string>;
Type 'string' does not satisfy the constraint 'abstract new (...args: any) => any'.
```

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Is this page helpful?

☐ Yes ☐ No