All you need to do to use ApprovalTests is simply include the ApprovalTests.dll in your project. Then use it with your favorite Testing Framework (currently supports MSTest, Nunit, MBUnit, Xunit).

All tests (unit and otherwise) contain 2 parts:

Do Verify

ApprovalTests is a way to handle the second part: Verification.

All call's will look about the same. Approvals. Verify(objectToBeVerified)

Let's say you wanted to test if a string was being built correctly.

Verify   ->   append "Tests" to it   ->   s += "Tests";   Approvals. Verify(s);	Do Verify	->		->	string s = "Approval"; s += "Tests"; Approvals. Verify(s);
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If you see "ApprovalTests" as the result, simply Approve The Result (see below).

Let's say you wanted to test a customized StringBuilder was creating text correctly.

Do - Append "Approval" to it append "Tests" to it Verify the object	<pre>var s = MyStringBuilder(); s.append("Approval"); &gt; s.append("Tests"); Approvals. Verify(s.toString());</pre>
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If you see "ApprovalTests" as the result, simply Approve The Result (see below). It's important to notice that you will need to create a *useful* instance of the toString() Method for objects you want to use.

## Α

Let's say you wanted to test an array of Strings

Do Verify | -> | create a String Array set 1st index to "Approval" set 2nd index to "Tests" | -> | var s = string[2]; s[0] = "Approval"; s[1] = "Tests"; Approvals. Verify All(s, "Text");

Note the use of the Label "Text". This is needed for and the resulting approval file will contain them:

Text[0] = Approval Text[1] = Tests

Again, simply Approve The Result (see below).

**F** / **F** Let's say you wanted to test you've created a winform correctly.

Create a TvGuide TvGuide TvGuide();

Select show for 3pm Verify the TvGuide

TvGuide tv = TvGuide();

t9m /f ( )IIIj ET QIII E6>0 02IIII.9(o) 3.3 (w)

## 3) Use "use whole file" on a diff reporter

It's doesn't matter how you do it.

Note: if the files match, then the received file will be deleted.

Note: you must include the approved files in your source control, you will never need to check in the received files.

If an approval fails, then a reporter will be called that will show both the ".received" and ".approved" files. There are many reporters, and you can create your own.

Each approve() call has a default reporter, however you can change which reporter is used.

The simplest way to use a different reporter is to use the Attribute

[UseReporter( (Reporter))]

You can also use multiple reporters at the same time

[UseReporter( ( (FileLuncherReporter), ( (ClipboardReporter),)]

you can annotate at either the method or class level. You can also add this at the Assembly Level by adding the following to the AssemblyInfo.cs file:

[assembly: UseReporter( (Reporter))]

Here are some common Reporters and uses

DiffReporter	Launches an instance of the best matching DiffReporter on your system		
ClipboardReporter	Copies the command line move statement needed to approve the result to you Clipboard.		
FileLauncherReporter	Opens the .received file		
ImageReporter	Launches an instance of TortoiseSvnImageDiff		
NunitReporter	Text only, displays the contents of the files as a AssertEquals failure		
MsTestReporter	Text only, displays the contents of the files as a AssertEquals failure		
NotepadLancher	Opens the .received file in notepad		

QuietReporter	outputs the move command to the console. Great for build systems
BeyondCompareReporter	Uses the Beyond Compare Diff Tool
WinMergeReporter	Uses the Win Merge Diff Tool