C# Application Development

C# Operator Precedence and Associativity

When an expression contains multiple operators, the precedence of the operators controls the order in which the individual operators are evaluated. For example, the expression x + y * z is evaluated as x + (y * z) because the * operator has higher precedence than the binary + operator. The precedence of an operator is established by the definition of its associated grammar production. For example, an additive-expression consists of a sequence of multiplicative-expressions separated by + or operators, thus giving the + and - operators lower precedence than the *, /, and % operators.

The following table summarizes all operators in order of precedence from highest to lowest:

Section	Category	Operators	Associativity
7.5	Primary	x.y f(x) a[x] x++ x new typeof checked unchecked	Left to right
7.6	Unary	+ - ! ~ ++xx (T)x	Left to right
7.7	Multiplicative	* / %	Left to right
7.7	Additive	+ -	Left to right
7.8	Shift	<< >>	Left to right
7.9	Relational and type testing	< > <= >= is as	Left to right
7.9	Equality	== !=	Left to right
7.10	Logical AND	&	Left to right
7.10	Logical XOR	^	Left to right
7.10	Logical OR		Left to right
7.11	Conditional AND	&&	Left to right
7.11	Conditional OR	11	Left to right
7.12	Conditional	?:	Right to left
7.13	Assignment	= *= /= %= += -= <<= >>= &= ^= =	Right to left

When an operand occurs between two operators with the same precedence, the associativity of the operator's controls the order in which the operations are performed:

Precedence and associativity can be controlled using parentheses. For example, x + y * z first multiplies y by z and then adds the result to x, but (x + y) * z first adds x and y and then multiplies the result by z.

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