

[0350] Implicitly Typed Local Variables using "var"

If you want to save some keystrokes, you can use the keyword "var" in place of a local variable's type in the declaration of that variable.

So, instead of:

```
int numPeople = 12;
```

you can type:

```
var numPeople = 12;
```

(OK, that was a bad example. We saved exactly 0 keystrokes. var becomes slightly more useful when you have really long data types such as classes with long names and generic parameters.)

Key points to remember before you can use var:

- Local variables only! Not method return values, not parameters, not a class property.
- The initial value must be included in the declaration and it must be an unambiguous data type (not null).

var becomes more useful when using the "LINQ" feature of C# which we will talk about later.

It is important for JavaScript programmers to understand that "var" in C# is very different from "var" in JavaScript. In C#, a "var" datatype is still strongly typed. The compiler determines what its type should be during compilation and, unlike JavaScript, var variables cannot change types later in the program.