

Collections& Generics



CONTENTS





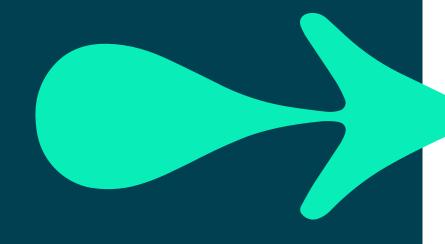
- Compare functionality offered by arrays & collections
- Understand generic concepts, use generic types & syntax

Contents



- Recap arrays, introduce collection classes
- Generic concepts
 - Collections framework, generic classes

Hands-on labs



Arrays vs collection classes

Limitations of arrays

- Fixed size, can't append, insert or delete
- No built-in method to reject duplicates
- But are type-safe! An int array can only contain integers

C# offers collection classes

- List, Queue, Stack, Dictionary...
 - Know their capacity
 - Support append / insertions / deletions / searching
- Generic version of these are type-safe

Collection classes before .NET 2 (2006)

Classic ArrayList could only hold a collection of Object type

```
ArrayList myList = new ArrayList();
myList.Add(123);
myList.Add("Bob");

myList.Add("Bob");
```

Generic collection classes

Can hold a collection of a specific type and always returns the expected type

```
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```

Iterating through a generic List

```
List<string> friends = new List<string>();
friends.Add("Tom");
friends.Add("Sue");
                                          add() expects a string
friends.Add("Sanjeev");
foreach (string name in friends)
                                                       enumerable
     Console.WriteLine(name);
for(int i = 0; i < friends.Count; i++)</pre>
                                                     Note "Count"
       Console.WriteLine( friends[i] );
friends[1] = "Susan";
                                                Susan replaces Sue
```

Filtering items – an example of using Linq

```
class Person
{
    public int Age { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
}
```

```
List<Person> people = new List<Person>();
// fill the list
```

Given a list of objects like List<Person>

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
```

Use Ling

```
List<Person> peopleOver20 = people.Where(p => p.Age > 20).ToList();
peopleOver20.Count will be 0 if no person is over 20
```

Find people over 20

```
Person p1 = people.Find(p => p.Name == "Bob");
p1 will be null if Bob is not in the list
```

Find the first person with the name of Bob (there could be more than one)

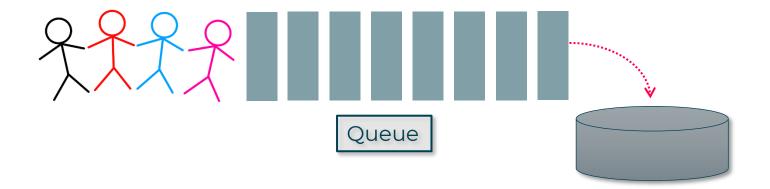
Generic Collections framework types

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```
public class List<T> { ... }
public class LinkedList<T> { ... }
public class Queue<T> { ... }

public class Dictionary<K,V> { ... }
public class TreeMap <K,V> { ... }
public class HashSet<T> { ... }

public class SortedList<T> { ... }
```



Queue - FIFO (first in, first out)

```
Řuêuê şţsîŋĝ
ruêuê
pêx Řuêuê şţsîŋĝ

ruêuê Éŋruêuê
Dáwê

ruêuê Éŋruêuê
Lîŋđắ

xhîlê ruêuê
Cộuŋţ

Cộŋşộlê
WsîţêLinda

Dave

Mike

Linda

Cộŋşộlê WsîţêLîŋê
ruêuê
```

```
Řuêuê ştsînô ruêuê nêx Řuêuê ştsînô ruêuê Énruêuê Dáwê ruêuê Énruêuê Nîlê ruêuê Énruêuê Linda

ğôsêáçh wás îtfên în ruêuê Cônsôlê WsîtfêLînê îtfên

Cônsôlê WsîtfêLînê ruêuê Côuntí
```

LABS



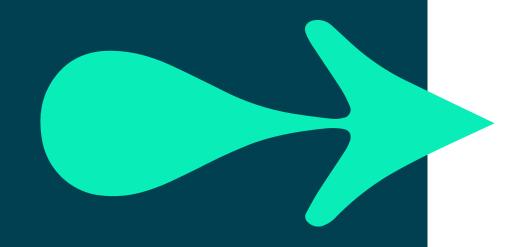
Part 1 – Using Lists



Part 2 – Using Queues



Duration 30 minutes

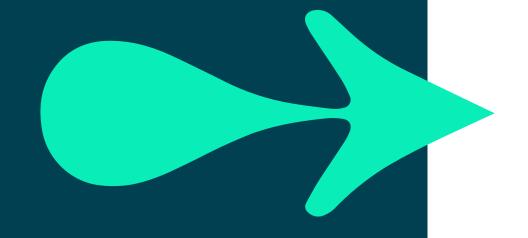


KEY-VALUE PAIRS

C# Dictionary class

- Stores and manages any type of item
- Each item has a unique key
- You can get an element using its key
- The key can be of any type, not just integers
- More efficient than managing two Lists

Key	Value
"AB102"	200.5
"JF786"	984.9
"KE900"	765.75



Usage of Dictionary

```
Dictionary <String, Car> cars = new Dictionary <String, Car>();

cars.Add("sam", new Car("Ford"));
cars.Add("joe", new Car("BMW"));

cars.Add("joe", new Car("Tesla"));

Car car = cars["sam"];

cars["sam"] = new Car("Honda");

Using the same key replaces the item
```

```
if(!cars.ContainsKey("mike"))
{
    cars.Add("mike", new Car("Ferrari"));
}
```

Searching and inserting an item

Getting the keys/values

```
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çắs Ađđ sắn nêx Cắs Gộsđ
çắs Ađđ kộê nêx Cắs BNW
ğộsêắch wắs cắs în cắs Aắluês
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Value: Ford
                                 Cộŋṣộ'lê WsîtfêL'îŋê <mark>∧ắl'ụê</mark> çắs ṇộđêl'
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Value: BMW
ğộsêắch wắs lêy în cắs Kêys
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Key: sam
                                   Cộn şộ lê Wsîtfê Lînê Kêy lêy
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          Key: joe
```



C# 2.0 (2006) introduced generic types

- Improve performance and type safety
- List<T> & Dictionary<TKey, TValue>
- Stack and Queue provide LIFO and FIFO behaviour

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LABS



Zoo Animals

Using Dictionary<K, V>



Duration 1 hour

