Queues



Simon Robinson SOFTWARE DEVELOPER

@techiesimon www.simonrobinson.com



Overview



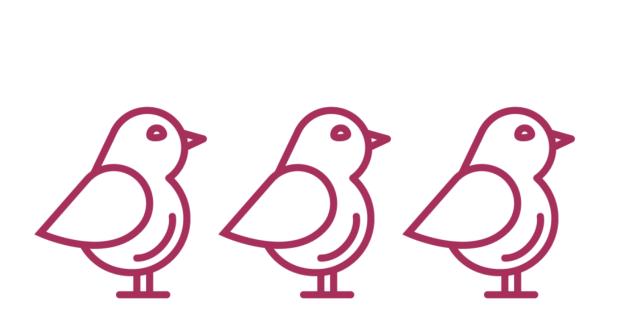
The Queue<T> Collection

- Similar to Stack<T>
- But supplies longest waiting item
- Great for storing tasks to be processed



Queue<T>

Queue<T> Works just like waiting in line for a bus!



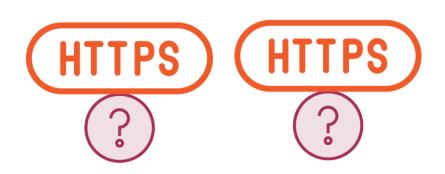




Queue<T>

Another example: Tasks

For example: Browser requests to a website:





Demo



Using a queue

- Customers log in and view tours
- Request tours
- Tour operator confirms each request
- Requests should be confirmed in order

This requires a queue!



```
public struct BookingRequest
{
    public Customer Customer { get; }
    public Tour RequestedTour { get; }
    // etc.
}
```

Leading to this:

(But I didn't)

Collection Terminology

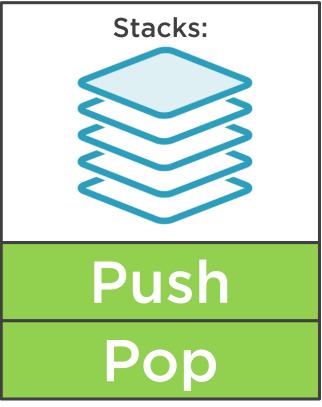
Most collections: Add/Insert Remove

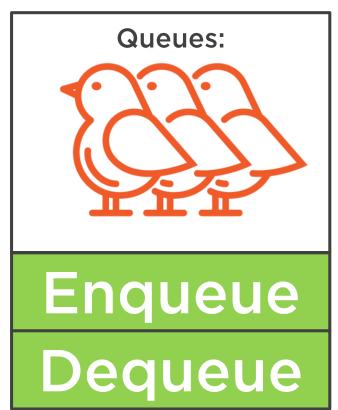
Adding

an item:

Removing

an item:

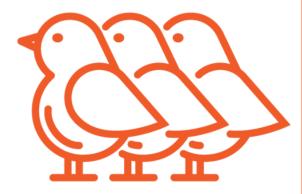






Queue<T> vs. Stack<T>

Queue<T>



List of stuff to be processed

No direct lookup

Collection decides which element you get next

Can enumerate with a foreach loop





Provides longest waiting item

First-in first-out (FIFO)

Enqueue/Dequeue

Provides most recent item

Last-in first-out (LIFO)

Push/Pop

Summary



Queues and stacks are very similar

- Use a queue to process items in same order as added them

Next up: Queues with multiple threads

