



Harsha Vardhan

- › UI Expert
- › .NET Expert
- › Module Lead
- › Corporate Instructor

Harsha
Web University

Partial Classes & Partial Methods

Introducing Partial Classes ➔ Next: Partial Methods ➔

 Example

- › Partial Class is a class that splits into multiple files.
- › Each file is treated as a "part of the class".

File1.cs

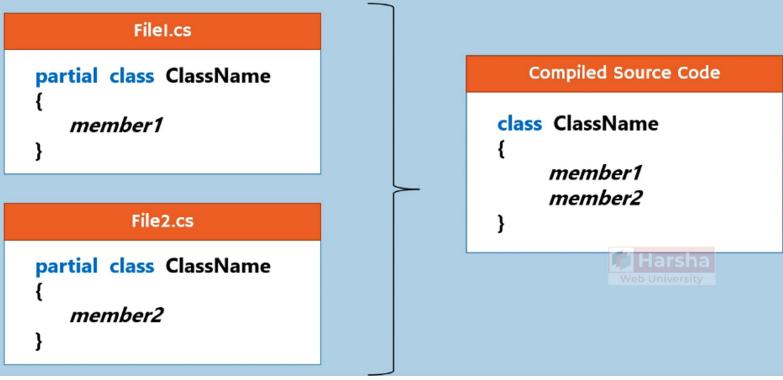
```
partial class ClassName
{
    member1
}
```

File2.cs

```
partial class ClassName
{
    member2
}
```

Compiled Source Code

```
class ClassName
{
    member1
    member2
}
```



The Goal of Partial Classes is that, allowing the first developer to create one part of the class and allowing the second developer to develop the second part of the class.



- › At compilation time, all partial classes that have same name, become as a "single class".
- › All the partial classes (that want to be a part of a class) should have same name and should be in the same namespace and same assembly & should have same access-modifier (such as 'internal' or 'public').
- › Duplicate members are not allowed in partial classes.
- › Any attributes / modifiers (such as abstract, sealed) applied on one partial class, will be applied to all partial classes that have same name.
- › The 'partial' keyword can be used only at before the keywords 'class', 'struct', 'interface' and 'void'.

Advantage

- › Each partial class can be developed individually, by different developers / teams.
- › In WinForms / WebForms, the 'Designer-generated code' will be kept in one partial class; the 'code written by developer' will be kept in another partial class with same name; so both become as a single class at compilation time.

What

- › Partial Methods are "declared in one partial class" (just like abstract method), and "implemented in another partial class", that have same name.

First Partial Class

```
partial class ClassName
{
    partial void MethodName( param1, ... ) 1
}
```

Second Partial Class

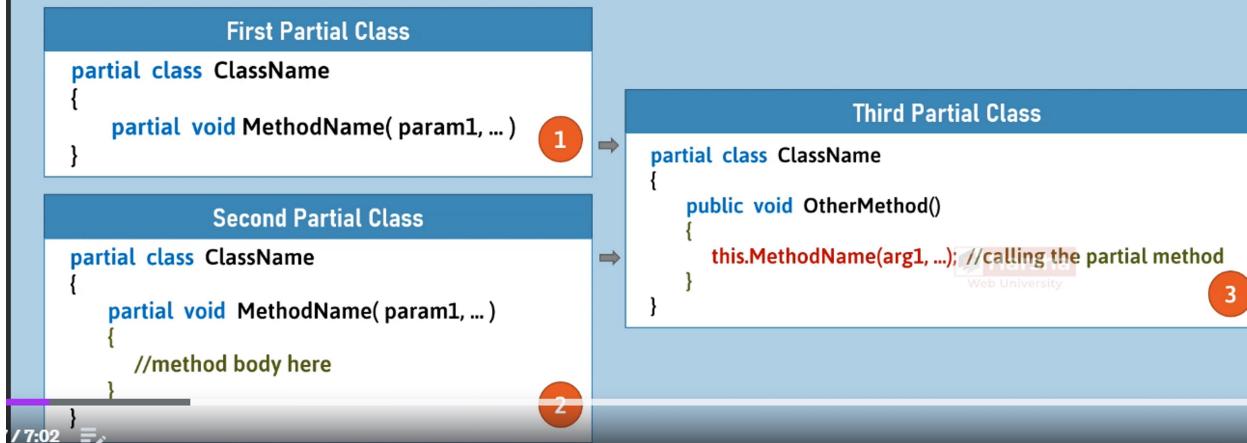
```
partial class ClassName
{
    partial void MethodName( param1, ... )
    {
        //method body here
    }
}
```

Introducing Partial Methods

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What

- Partial Methods are "declared in one partial class" (just like abstract method), and "implemented in another partial class", that have same name.



Partial Methods are by default private.

Understanding Partial Methods

Purpose

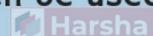
- Assume, there are two developers; the first developer develops the first partial class; second developer develops the second partial class.
- The partial method lets the first developer to declare a partial method in one partial class; and the second developer implements the partial method in the other partial class.

Understanding Partial Methods

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Rules

- › Partial Methods can only be created in partial class or partial structs.
- › Partial Methods are implicitly private. It can't have any other access modifier.
- › Partial Methods can have only "void" return type.
- › Implementation of partial methods is optional. If there is no implementation of partial methods in any parts of the partial class, the method calls are removed by the compiler, at compilation time.
- › If you are building large class libraries and decide extension of methods to other developers, partial methods can be used.



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Static Classes

Whenever you want only static members in your class, then define that class as a static class.

What

- > Static class is a class that can contain only "static members".
- > If you don't want even single 'instance member' (non-static member), then use 'static class'.

Advantage

- > We can avoid accidental creation of object for the class, by making it as "static class".

Static Class

```
static class ClassName
{
    static fields
    static methods
    static constructors
    static properties
    static events
}
```

Static Class

```
static class ClassName
{
    static fields
    static methods
    static constructors
    static properties
    static events
}
```

Non-Static (Normal) Class

class ClassName	instance fields
{	instance methods
static fields	instance constructors
static methods	instance properties
static constructors	instance events
static properties	
static events	destructors
}	

When to use

- > To create ONLY static members (static fields, static methods etc.)
- > To create both instance & static members [or] only instance members.

Comparison Table: Class (vs) Static Class

Based on inheritance and object

Class Type	Can Inherit from Other Classes	Can Inherit from Other Interfaces	Can be Inherited	Can be Instantiated
Normal Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Abstract Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Interface	No	Yes	Yes	No
Sealed Class	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Static Class	No ✓	✓ No	✓ No	✓ No

Comparison Table: Class (vs) Static Class

Type	1. Non-Static Fields	2. Non-Static Methods	3. Non-Static Constructors	4. Non-Static Properties	5. Non-Static Events	6. Non-Static Destructors	7. Constants		
Normal Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Abstract Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Interface	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No		
Sealed Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		
Static Class	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes		
Type	8. Static Fields	9. Static Methods	10. Static Constructors	11. Static Properties	12. Static Events	13. Virtual Methods	14. Abstract Methods	15. Non-Static Auto-Impl Properties	16. Non-Static Indexers
Normal Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Abstract Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Interface	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
Sealed Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Static Class	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No



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Enumerations

Enumerations

What

- › Enumeration is a collection of constants.
- › Enumeration is used to specify the list of options allowed to be stored in a field / variable.

Goal

- › Use enumeration if you don't want to allow other developers to assign other value into a field / variable, other than the list of values specified in the enumeration

Accessing member

- › `EnumerationName.ConstantName`

Enumeration

```
enum HarshaEnumerationName
{
    Constant1, Constant2, ...
}
```

Understanding Enumerations

- By default, each constant will be assigned to a number, starts from zero; however you can change the number (integer only).



```
enum EnumerationName  
{  
    Constant1 = value, Constant2 = value, ...  
}
```

- The default data type of enum member is "int". However, you can change its data type as follows.

```
enum EnumerationName : datatype  
{  
    Constant1 = value, Constant2 = value, ...  
}
```