

Programming in C#. Fundamentals

Lesson 2

Classes and their main features

Classes and their main features



- Constructors
- Fields and Properties
- Methods
- Events
- Delegates
- Passing Parameters
- Ref and out
- Immutability

Constructors

Constructors create your object

- Special method in class
- Executed when instance is created
- Named with the class name
- Default constructors has no parameters
- Not required
- No return value (not even Null)

```
Public class Worker{  
  
    public Worker(int age, string name){  
        Age = age;  
        Name = name;  
    }  
}
```

Parameterized Constructors

- Defines parameters to initialize the instance
- Constructor overloading
- Use “this” to invoke another constructors
- Constructors chaining
- Minimizes repeated code

```
public class Worker {  
  
    public Worker(int age, string name) {  
        Age = age;  
        Name = name;  
    }  
  
    // explicit default constructor  
    public Worker(){  
        Office = 101;  
    }  
}
```

Default Constructor

A constructor with no parameters.

```
public class Worker {  
  
    public string Name { get; } = "Jesse Liberty";  
  
    public int Age { get; } = 40;  
  
    private double salary;  
    public double Salary {  
        get { return salary; }  
        set { salary = value; }  
    }  
  
    Worker worker = new Worker();  
}
```

If you don't provide any constructors, a default constructor is provided for you.

Fields

Fields are variables of a class

Can hold:

- A built-in value type
- A class instance (a reference)
- A struct instance (actual data)
- An array of class or struct instances
(an array is actually a reference)
- An event

Readonly Fields

Similar to a const, but is initialized at run-time in its declaration or in a constructor

- Once initialized, it cannot be modified

Differs from a constant

- Initialized at run-time (vs. compile-time)
 - Don't have to re-compile clients
- Can be static or per-instance

Properties

- A property can define a get and/or set accessor.
- A function body is executed when a property is accessed.
- We can validate a value, limit it to bounds, or even change its internal data type all transparent to the user.

```
private string name;

public string Name{
    get { return name; }
    set { name = value; }
}

public string Name { get; set; }

public string Name { get; }

public string Name { get; } = "Jesse Liberty";
```

Methods

Methods define behaviour

- Every method has a return type (void if no value returned)
- Every method has zero or more parameters
- Use params keyword to accept a variable number of parameters
- Every method has a signature
- Name of method + parameters

```
public class Employee {  
    public int CalculateSum(int firstValue, int secondValue){  
        return firstValue + secondValue;  
    }  
}
```

```
int sum = CalculateSum(5, 7);
```

Method Overloading

Two methods with the same name

```
public double computeSalary(double start){}  
public double computeSalary(double start, double bonus){}  
public double computeSalary(double start, string level){}
```

Two Or More Methods May Have The Same Name As Long As...

They differ in the number of parameters and/or

They differ in the type of parameters

Methods - Review

Instance methods versus static methods

- Instance methods invoked via objects, static method via type

Abstract methods

- Provide no implementation, implicitly virtual

Virtual methods

- Can override in a derived class

Partial methods

- Part of a partial class

Extensions methods

- Add methods to existing types without creating a new derived type

Ref and out

C# supports call by value and reference for value types.

Reference types can only be passed by reference.

The **ref** and **out** keywords are used to specify a value parameter is to be passed by reference

The difference is that an **out** parameter does not have to have an initial value when the method is called

```
int ValueTypeByOut(out int inputValue)
{
    return inputValue = 1000;
}
int ValueTypeByRef(ref int inputValue)
{
    return inputValue = inputValue + 1000;
}

int NormalCall(int inputValue)
{
    return inputValue = inputValue + 9999;
}
```

Passing Parameters

Passing a value variable by default refers to the Pass by Value behavior as in Java

```
public static void foo(int a)
{
    a=1;
}

static void Main(string[] args)
{
    int x=3;
    foo(x);
    Console.WriteLine(x);
}
```

This outputs the value of 3 because x is passed by value to method foo, which gets a copy of x's value under the variable name of a.

Q & A

Practice Lesson 2

Home work