

C# TYPE CONVERSION

Type conversion is converting one type of data to another type. It is also known as Type Casting. In C#, type casting has two forms:

Implicit conversions: No special syntax is required because the conversion is type safe and no data will be lost. Examples include conversions from smaller to larger integral types.

Explicit conversions (casts): Explicit conversions require a cast operator. Casting is required when information might be lost in the conversion, or when the conversion might not succeed for other reasons. Typical examples include numeric conversion to a type that has a smaller range

In the following example, the compiler **implicitly converts** the value type `int` to a type `long`:

```
// Implicit conversion. num long can
// hold any value an int can hold, and more!
int num = 2147483647;
long bigNum = num;
```

In above conversion no data will be lost.

The following example shows an explicit type conversion:

```
using System;
namespace TypeConversionApplication
{
    class ExplicitConversion
    {
        static void Main(string[] args)
        {
            double d = 5673.74;
            int i;

            // cast double to int.
            i = (int)d;
            Console.WriteLine(i);
            Console.ReadKey();
        }
    }
}
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

5673

C# Type Conversion Methods

C# provides the following built-in type conversion methods:

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|----------------------|--|
| 1 ToBoolean: | Converts a type to a Boolean value, where possible. |
| 2 ToByte: | Converts a type to a byte. |
| 3 ToChar: | Converts a type to a single Unicode character, where possible. |
| 4 ToDateTime: | Converts a type <i>integer or string type</i> to date-time structures. |
| 5 ToDecimal: | Converts a floating point or integer type to a decimal type. |
| 6 ToDouble: | Converts a type to a double type. |
| 7 ToInt16: | Converts a type to a 16-bit integer. |
| 8 ToInt32: | Converts a type to a 32-bit integer. |
| 9 ToInt64: | Converts a type to a 64-bit integer. |
| 10 ToSbyte: | Converts a type to a signed byte type. |
| 11 ToSingle: | Converts a type to a small floating point number. |
| 12 ToString: | Converts a type to a string. |
| 13 ToType: | Converts a type to a specified type. |
| 14 ToUInt16: | Converts a type to an unsigned int type. |
| 15 ToUInt32: | Converts a type to an unsigned long type. |
| 16 ToUInt64: | Converts a type to an unsigned big integer. |

The following example converts various value types to string type:

```
using System;
namespace TypeConversionApplication
{
    class StringConversion
    {
        static void Main(string[] args)
        {
            int i = 75;
            float f = 53.005f;
            double d = 2345.7652;
            bool b = true;

            Console.WriteLine(i.ToString());
            Console.WriteLine(f.ToString());
            Console.WriteLine(d.ToString());
            Console.WriteLine(b.ToString());
            Console.ReadKey();
        }
    }
}
```

When the above code is compiled and executed, it produces the following result:

```
75
53.005
2345.7652
True
```