

How to convert a GUID to a string in C#?



I'm new to C#.

45

I know in vb.net, i can do this:



```
Dim guid as string = System.Guid.NewGuid.ToString
```



In C#, I'm trying to do

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```
String guid = System.Guid.NewGuid().ToString;
```

but i get an **"Cannot convert method group 'ToString' to non-delegate type 'string'. Did you intend to invoke the method?"** error.

c#

string

guid

asked Nov 9 '09 at 11:01



Dave

785 2 15 26

9 Answers



You're missing the `()` after `ToString` that marks it as a function call vs. a function reference (the kind you pass to delegates), which incidentally is why `c#` has no `AddressOf` operator, it's implied by how you type it.

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Try this:



```
string guid = System.Guid.NewGuid().ToString();
```

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▲ According to [MSDN](#) the method `Guid.ToString(string format)` returns a string representation of the value of this Guid instance, according to the provided format specifier.

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▼ Examples:

- `guidVal.ToString()` or `guidVal.ToString("D")` returns 32 digits separated by hyphens: `00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000`
- `guidVal.ToString("N")` returns 32 digits: `00000000000000000000000000000000`
- `guidVal.ToString("B")` returns 32 digits separated by hyphens, enclosed in braces: `{00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000}`

answered Aug 28 '13 at 15:34



[Vadim Gremyachev](#)

40k 8 79 122

2 `guidVal.ToString("P")` returns 32 digits separated by hypens, enclosed in parentheses: `(00000000-0000-0000-0000-000000000000)` – [Abdurrahman I.](#) Nov 23 '16 at 7:26

▲ In Visual Basic, you can call a parameterless method without the braces (`()`). In C#, they're mandatory. So you should write:

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▼ `String guid = System.Guid.NewGuid().ToString();`

Without the braces, you're assigning the method itself (instead of its result) to the variable `guid`, and obviously the method cannot be converted to a `String`, hence the error.

answered Nov 9 '09 at 11:03



[Thomas](#)

118k 37 258 371

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answered Nov 9 '09 at 11:02

[BennyM](#)

2,439 10 20

you are missing () on the end of ToString.

5

answered Nov 9 '09 at 11:02

[Shiraz Bhajji](#)

49.4k 26 126 231

You need

5

```
String guid = System.Guid.NewGuid().ToString();
```

edited Dec 23 '14 at 11:33

[Bhushan Firake](#)

7,964 5 35 72

answered Nov 9 '09 at 11:02

[Stephen Newman](#)

1,844 14 18

Did you write

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```
String guid = System.Guid.NewGuid().ToString;
```

or

```
String guid = System.Guid.NewGuid().ToString();
```

notice the paranthesis

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```
Guid guidId = Guid.Parse("xxxxxxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-xxxxxxxxxxxx");  
string guidValue = guidId.ToString("D"); //return with hyphens
```

edited Oct 24 '18 at 9:54



ayaio

60.4k

20

136

198

answered Oct 24 '18 at 9:51



hadi sorosh

31

4



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Here are examples of output from each of the format specifiers:

```
N: cd26ccf675d64521884f1693c62ed303  
D: cd26ccf6-75d6-4521-884f-1693c62ed303  
B: {cd26ccf6-75d6-4521-884f-1693c62ed303}  
P: (cd26ccf6-75d6-4521-884f-1693c62ed303)  
X: {0xcd26ccf6,0x75d6,0x4521,{0x88,0x4f,0x16,0x93,0xc6,0x2e,0xd3,0x03}}
```

The default is `D`.

[Run this yourself.](#)

answered Mar 12 at 22:36



Drew Noakes

196k

124

541

636

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