

Any difference between DateTime.Parse and Convert.ToDateTime?

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Is there any difference between

35

`Convert.ToDateTime`



and



`DateTime.Parse`

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Which one is faster or which is more secure to use?

c#

asp.net

edited Apr 18 '13 at 23:01



goodeye

2,049 2 23 61

asked Nov 19 '11 at 7:09



Shree

13.2k 20 74 125

- 1 Similar question: [stackoverflow.com/questions/3486810/...](https://stackoverflow.com/questions/3486810/) – Merlyn Morgan-Graham Nov 19 '11 at 7:13

3 Answers

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Per an [answer on another forum from Jon Skeet](#)...

`Convert.ToDateTime` uses `DateTime.Parse` internally, with the current culture - unless you pass it null, in which case it returns `DateTime.MinValue`.

If you're not sure string is a valid `DateTime`, use neither and instead, use `DateTime.TryParse()`

If you're sure the string is a valid `DateTime`, and you know the format, you could also consider the `DateTime.ParseExact()` or `DateTime.TryParseExact()` methods.

edited Feb 12 '13 at 17:04

answered Nov 19 '11 at 7:16



David

62.2k

13

116

158

- 2 "In short, `Convert.ToDateTime()` eliminates the code necessary to set the `CultureInfo`, which you'd have to do to use `DateTime.Parse()`" That's not true. You don't have to set the `CultureInfo` to use `DateTime.Parse()`. `DateTime.Parse` has an overload that takes only 1 string and nothing else and it uses the current culture info without you having to pass it in. – [Nick](#) Feb 12 '13 at 16:32

@Nick - You're right. Thank you! I edited this. – [David](#) Feb 12 '13 at 17:05

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`DateTime.Parse` has an overload that takes only one `String` and nothing else and it uses the current `Locale` info without you having to pass it in

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answered Apr 10 '13 at 11:29

**Bilal Sohail****79** 8

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The overloads of `Convert.ToDateTime` which take string as input parameter, internally invoked `DateTime.Parse`.
Following is the implementation of `Convert.ToDateTime`.



```
public static DateTime ToDateTime(string value)
{
    if (value == null)
    {
        return new DateTime(0L);
    }
    return DateTime.Parse(value, CultureInfo.CurrentCulture);
}
```

In case of other overload, the parameter is casted into `IConvertible` interface and then the corresponding `ToDateTime` method is invoked.

```
public static DateTime ToDateTime(ushort value)
{
    return ((IConvertible) value).ToDateTime(null);
}
```

answered Nov 19 '11 at 7:25

**Pawan Mishra****3,998** 4 20 35