

Taswar Bhatti

The synonyms of software simplicity

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C# tip: Use Path Combine for file or directory path information

taswar December 4, 2013 1 Comment

.NET provides in its System.IO namespace the **Path** class which performs operations on String instances that contain **file or directory path information**. These operations are performed in a **cross-platform manner**.

Most of the time we see developers writing code like



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```
1 string path = somePath + "\\\" + filename;
```

But by using **Path.Combine** we can provide a cross platform path

```
1 string somePath = @"C:\temp";
2 string filename = "dat.txt";
3 string path = Path.Combine(somePath,filename);
4
5 //produce an output of C:\temp\dat.txt
6 //linux: C:/temp/dat.txt
7
8 string[] paths = {"c:\My Music", "2013", "media", "banner"};
9 string fullPath = Path.Combine(paths);
10 //output c:\My Music\2013\media\banner
11
12 string path1 = @"C:\Temp";
13 string path2 = "My Music";
14 fullPath = Path.Combine(path1, path2);
15
16 //output: C:\Temp\My Music
17
18 fullPath = Path.Combine(string.Empty, path2);
19 //output: My Music
20
21 fullPath = Path.Combine(path1, string.Empty);
22 //output: C:\Temp
```

By using the **Path** and **Combine** method, one can at least eliminate some of the headache of porting to another platform.

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**Ed**

January 2, 2019 at 3:49 am

```
string myString = System.IO.Path.GetFullPath( Path.Combine( @"C:\aa" , @"..\aa\bbb\" ) );
```

```
// Fuller Answer: myString == @"C:\aa\bbb\" .
```

```
// The final trailing backslash (\) would NOT be in the answer IF the parameter value into .Combine  
had instead been @"..\aa\bbb\".
```

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UA-4524639-2

