

TypeScript Unexpected token, A constructor, method, accessor or property was expected

Asked 2 years, 4 months ago Active 2 years, 4 months ago Viewed 28k times

Just trying to write a function within a class using typescript.

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```
class Test
{
    function add(x: number, y: number): number {
        return x + y;
    }
}
```



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This results in the following error:

TypeScript Unexpected token, A constructor, method, accessor or property was expected.

I copied the example from: <https://www.typescriptlang.org/docs/handbook/functions.html>

Am I missing something? I'm confused!

javascript

typescript

ecmascript-6

es6-class

edited Mar 28 '17 at 13:29



Mike Chamberlain

15.2k 17 92 144

asked Mar 28 '17 at 13:18



Guido Kleijer

67 1 1 4

You copied an example from the section on functions into the middle of a class. Check out any documentation, tutorial or blog post on JS/TS classes to see how to define methods. – user663031 Mar 28 '17 at 13:36

This `function` key word is wrong. You can not use it inside a class to define a method. Just remove it and this code will be fine. – Diullei Mar 28 '17 at 14:13

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You shouldn't use the `function` keyword in a Typescript class definition. Try this instead:

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```
class Test {  
  add(x: number, y: number): number {  
    return x + y;  
  }  
}
```

edited Mar 28 '17 at 13:45

answered Mar 28 '17 at 13:21



Mike Chamberlain

15.2k 17 92 144

TypeScript does not allow `function` declarations as class members; it has a slightly different syntax for that...

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```
class Test  
{  
  // This will bind the add method to Test.prototype  
  add(x: number, y: number): number  
  {  
    return x + y;  
  }  
  
  // This will create a closure based method within the Test class  
  add2 = (x: number, y: number) => {  
    return x + y;  
  }  
}
```

answered Mar 28 '17 at 13:26



series0ne

17.7k 28 110 204

What does "closure-based method" mean? – user663031 Mar 28 '17 at 13:39

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advantage of being able to access private instance members outside the scope of their execution, which is not possible with prototype bound methods, however prototype bound methods tend to perform better. – [series0ne](#) Mar 28 '17 at 13:44

Could you please provide a reference for the terminology "closure-based method"? – user663031 Mar 28 '17 at 15:29

@torazaburo developer.mozilla.org/en/docs/Web/JavaScript/Closures – [series0ne](#) Mar 28 '17 at 15:53

I know what closures are. I don't know the term "closure-based method". it's not standard, and possibly confusing. If you want to refer to methods on instances, then just say "methods on instances". I'm also wondering about your assertion that methods on prototypes perform better. Why would that be, and in what sense? – user663031 Mar 28 '17 at 18:55
