## What does the pipe(|) mean in typescript?



While browsing some typescript code of <code>@ng-bootstrap</code> I have found pipe( | ) operator.

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export declare const NGB\_PRECOMPILE: (typeof NgbAlert | typeof NgbTooltipWindow)[];



What is the use of pipe( | ) operator in typescript?



typescript

edited Jul 28 '16 at 6:07



## 2 Answers



This is called <u>union type</u> in typescript.

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A union type describes a value that can be one of several types.



Have a look at this example:



```
class Test1 {
    public a:string
}
class Test2 {
    public b:string
}
```

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```
x = [Test1]; //ok
x = [Test1, Test2]; //ok
x = [Test3]; //compilation error
```

edited Mar 21 at 7:52

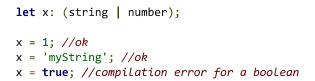
answered Jul 28 '16 at 6:05





The pipe represents 'or'. So in this context it says that either of the declared types is allowed. Perhaps it is easy to understand a union with primitive types:





edited Apr 29 at 5:25

answered Jun 20 '17 at 3:53



cham

**880** 11 28

5 in JS double pipeline is a logical OR, single pipeline is a bitwise operator OR. – Kirill Nov 1 '17 at 16:44

Also, it only seems to work with primitives, because thing: One | Two where both types are an interface with different properties, it will merge (union?) them, and complain that neither match eachothers properties. That won't work with primitives, because i cant just merge an object with boolean or something – TrySpace Apr 4 '18 at 17:21

This answer is definitively wrong as @kirill points out above. – RavenHursT Apr 23 at 17:16

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