How to hide reference counts in VS2013?

Visual Studio 2013 introduced a new feature where it shows you how many times each of your methods are used.

641

I don't find it very useful, and it messes up the spacing of my file. How do I disable it? Can't seem to find the option.

visual-studio-2013   codelens

edited May 7 '15 at 19:28

asked Jul 25 '13 at 2:17

mpen
125k   175   654   954

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10   @Ouadie: You're allowed to like it. XIII (rightfully) already edited out the bias from my question :-) The only numbers I care about are "0" and "1+". IntelliJ will underline your method to tell you it's unused (if it's private, anyway). I'd much prefer that over the odd spacing this creates, particularly when there are attributes above. – mpen   Nov 12 '13 at 7:17

17   I find the feature quite nice. But I get quite sensitive about white-space in

my code which makes it extremely distracting. Ideally it would be possible to replace it with a little dot like a breakpoint in the margin... – AndyM Jan 20 '14 at 20:28

15   I specifically came here to find out the exact opposite of this... but this works too. – misterManager Apr 10 '14 at 13:17

20   Editing someone else's question to "remove bias" is hypocritical and censorship. Don't do it. – Glenn Maynard May 18 '14 at 16:02

8   This is in VS 2015 Professional. Shame it isn't in the left-hand column though, it's a bit distracting. Like Mark said only 0 and +1 (or even just 0) is relevant. – Rob L Jul 23 '15 at 3:59

5 Answers

708

I guess you probably are running the preview of VS2013 Ultimate, because it is not present in my professional preview. But looking online I found that the feature is called `Code Information Indicators` or `CodeLens` , and can be located under

> **Tools → Options → Text Editor → All Languages → CodeLens**
>
> (for RC/final version)

or

> **Tools → Options → Text Editor → All Languages → Code Information Indicators**
>
> (for preview version)

That was according to this link. It seems to be pretty well hidden.

In Visual Studio 2013 RTM, you can also get to the CodeLens options by right clicking the indicators themselves in the editor:
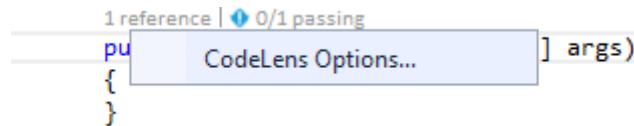
```
1 reference | ⓘ 0/1 passing
pu        CodeLens Options...        ] args)
{
}
```

documented in the Q&A section of the msdn CodeLens
documentation

edited Dec 23 '16 at 10:31

Uwe Keim
27.6k   32   132   213

answered Jul 25 '13 at 2:49

Mark Hall
46.9k   8   75   91

8   That would be it! Just a note to anyone else who might be reading this:
     unchecking "Show References" alone will not get rid of the giant gap
     where the "references" text normally is. Unchecking "Enable Code
     Information Indicators" *does* get rid of the gap, however. – mpen Jul 25
     '13 at 3:26

36   In the RC of VS2013 Ultimate, "Code Information Indicators" has been
     renamed to "CodeLens". Annoyingly, it seems that "Show References"
     cannot be disabled for All Languages (in my installation, at least). –
      alastairs Sep 29 '13 at 13:53

6   What I would prefer, is the ability to just hide the '0 references' indicators,
     that would reduce unnecessary repetition. Anybody know if that is
     possible? – GONeale Oct 28 '13 at 0:51

4   Note the CodeLens feature is currently only available in the Ultimate
     edition of Visual Studio. – drobison Sep 3 '14 at 23:46

7   For what it's worth, this is now in VS2015 Pro, and the right-click
     behavior is the same. However, it looks like you can't turn off References
     separate from the rest of the CodeLens display. – Bobson Aug 10 '15 at
     3:29 ✎

Another option is to use mouse, right click on "x reference". Context

80

menu "CodeLens Options" will appear, saving all the navigation headache.

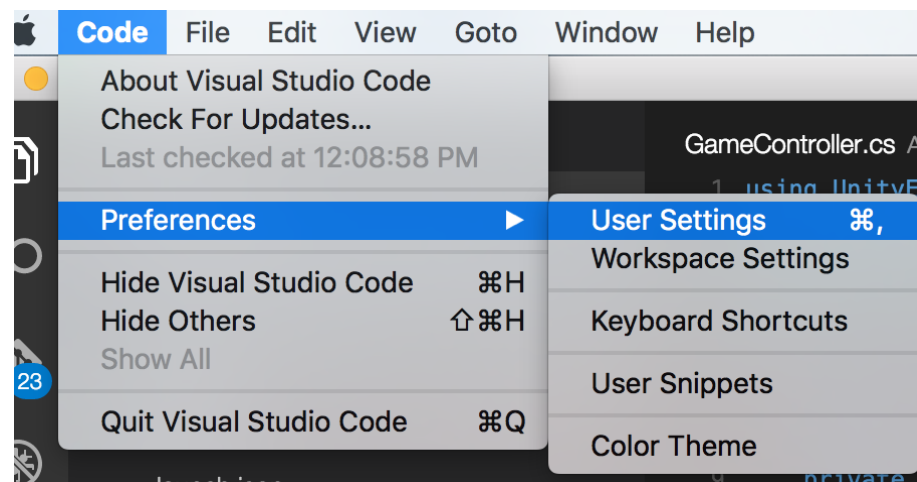answered Oct 28 '13 at 19:07

Sean Feldman
9,383   2   29   48

10   Or ctrl+q and type codelens – Karsten Feb 15 '16 at 10:33

Nice solution. Too bad that I tried it before reading this answer and no context menu appeared (the editor was responsive otherwise). But after reading the answer, it worked. Go figure :) – Stefan Monov Jul 18 '16 at 15:10

17

In VSCode for Mac (0.10.6) I opened "Preferences -> User Settings" and placed the following code in the **settings.json** file


```
"editor.referenceInfos": false
```

```
settings.json .vscode
1  // Place your settings in this file t
2  {
3       "editor.referenceInfos": false
4  }
```

[User and Workspace Settings](#)

edited Jan 18 '16 at 11:16

answered Jan 18 '16 at 10:57

Christian Strang
6,567　4　33　44

4　Thanks for your answer, but this question was about Visual Studio; your answer pertains to VS Code which is an entirely different program. You're welcome to open a new question and answer it yourself if there isn't already one out there. – mpen　Jan 18 '16 at 16:27 ✏

1　@mpen ah sorry about that, I was searching for an answer for vscode about this topic and google linked me here. – Christian Strang　Jan 18 '16 at 16:34 ✏

4　That's one of the reasons I think MS chose a poor name for their new editor. It's way to similar and doesn't have any relationship AFAIK. – mpen　Jan 18 '16 at 16:36

　I can't find `editor.referenceInfos` in setting of visual studio code. – Loint Aug 3 '17 at 16:56

1　`editor.referenceInfos` appears to be been renamed `editor.codeLens` . Source – Jeff K. May 17 '18 at 6:34

Workaround....

▲

17   In VS 2015 Professional (and probably other versions). Go to Tools /
Options / Environment / Fonts and Colours. In the "Show Settings
For" drop-down, select "CodeLens" Choose the smallest font you
▼   can find e.g. Calibri 6. Change the foreground colour to your editor
foreground colour (say "White") Click OK.

answered Jul 23 '15 at 4:12

Rob L
733   2   9   18

6   that's thinking outside the box and being creative! :) – Mark Hall Jul 24 '15
at 14:47

1   @MarkHall but doesn't stop code lens from using my CPU. – Gqqnbig
Dec 30 '16 at 1:19

2   @LoveRight Understand, the question was about getting rid of the added
space that code lens added not about CPU usuage if that is an issue then
disable it. – Mark Hall Jan 9 '17 at 19:27

Cool. That even has a "feature" highlight references on hover and hide
otherwise. – Saulius Jan 11 '18 at 6:29

▲

The other features of CodeLens like: Show Bugs, Show Test Status,
etc (other than Show Reference) might be useful.

16   However, if the only way to disable Show References is to disable
CodeLens altogether.
▼

Then, I guess I could do just that.

Furthermore, I would do like I always have, 'right-click on a member
and choose Find all References or Ctrl+K, R'

If I wanted to know what references the member -- I too like not having any extra information crammed into my code, like extra white-space.

In short, uncheck Codelens...

edited May 11 '17 at 18:39

JYelton
25.7k 20 106 176

answered Jan 31 '15 at 8:48

NeoH4x0r
179 1 4

Yes indeed, for codelens in my 2017 Visual Studio, the ability to disable just the reference count feature is itself disabled, so I also have to just entirely disable all of codelens. Bummer that I won't get to learn about the other features... but I just can't deal with the look of stuff interleaved with my code. – Mark Seagoe May 6 '18 at 15:43

protected by stuartd Oct 18 '13 at 13:58

Thank you for your interest in this question. Because it has attracted low-quality or spam answers that had to be removed, posting an answer now requires 10 reputation on this site (the association bonus does not count).

Would you like to answer one of these unanswered questions instead?