

Is it possible to replace to uppercase in Visual Studio?

Asked 9 years, 6 months ago Active 1 month ago Viewed 16k times

▲ Is it possible to replace *to* upper case in Visual Studio using "Find and Replace" dialog and RegEx (?) à la: `. => Upper(.)` ?

27

Say I have:

▼ `m_ablabla`



I want:

3

`_Ablabla`

regex

visual-studio

replace

uppercase

edited Sep 28 '12 at 13:07



[abatishchev](#)

72.7k

70

270

406

asked Apr 30 '10 at 10:32



[serhio](#)

16.4k

40

190

343

How many occurrences of the expression are there? If the number is not huge, then I would probably create an ad-hoc temporary macro to do this. – [RickL](#) Apr 30 '10 at 10:58

@RickL: If you create a macro, the number of expressions should it matter?! I just wonder if possible with Find/Replace. – [serhio](#) Apr 30 '10 at 11:14

Kind of yes, because I would create a macro which would find the next string and uppercase it appropriately. So you would need to run the macro multiple times to replace all the expressions. I guess if it's a lot, then it's easy to edit the macro and put a for.. loop in. I'll answer below how to solve this using temporary macros. – [RickL](#) Apr 30 '10 at 13:32

2 Answers



You can solve this by using Visual Studio temporary macros. This is a very powerful, flexible feature which I use all the time for

25

performing repetitive code manipulations.

I'm assuming you're using the C# default key bindings here.

1. Press **CTRL** + **SHIFT** + **F** to bring up the find in files dialogue.
2. Click use "Regular expressions"
3. Set "Find what:" to " <m_:L1 " - words that begin with m, underscore, then a lower case letter;
4. Click "Find all" to search for all occurrences;
5. Press **CTRL** + **SHIFT** + **R** to start recording temporary macro;
6. Press **F8** to find next occurrence of search expression;
7. Press right cursor, right cursor, **SHIFT** + right cursor (to skip "m_" and then select the lower case letter);
8. Press **CTRL** + **SHIFT** + **U** to uppercase the lower case letter;
9. Press **CTRL** + **SHIFT** + **R** to stop recording temporary macro;
10. Press **CTRL** + **SHIFT** + **P** to replay temporary macro, which will jump to next expression and uppercase the first letter after the "m_". You need to press **CTRL** + **SHIFT** + **P** as many times as there are expressions.

edited May 2 '10 at 22:18



serhio

16.4k

40

190

343

answered Apr 30 '10 at 13:44



RickL

2,213

3

18

35

11 Worth noting macros have been removed from VS2012 ... no can do any more :(Used to use these all the time. – [noelicus](#) Sep 11 '13 at 10:14

6 I used Notepad++ for this since it's not in VS2012: stackoverflow.com/questions/1039226/... – [northben](#) Jan 10 '14 at 16:30

1 [Adding macro support for VS2012/2013/2015](#) – [Vadim Ovchinnikov](#) Dec 26 '16 at 12:41

Would it be possible to use a macro to "replace all" 26 times (one for each letter)? Then you'd only have to run the macro 26 times, or maybe only once if you can do it in a single macro. – [mbomb007](#) Aug 23 '17 at 15:24

There are no alternatives for macros at the moment, the [Text Macros for Visual Studio 2012-2017 extension](#) only support text actions, so nothing about *find next occurrence*, but it does uppercase for example. – [Thomas LAURENT](#) Oct 12 '18 at 11:15

No, Visual Studio does not support that. For a reference of the regular expressions capabilities in VS check:

8

[Regular Expressions \(Visual Studio\)](#)

(Original answer, given due to misinterpreting the original question)

Assuming Visual Studio C# Default key bindings.

There are different ways you can achieve this.

If it's a (variable, method, property, etc) you can use the Rename refactoring to change all instances. This refactoring is invoked by pressing **F2** key while on the instance you want to rename.

If you perform the change on the definition itself you can also use **SHIFT** + **ALT** + **F10** to invoke the active refactorings popup and then do the rename all instances.

If it's a string literal you can use the shortcut **CTRL** + **U** (lowercase) and **CTRL** + **SHIFT** + **U** (uppercase) to rapidly switch the case of the selection. This is valid for all text shown in the editor, but most useful for string literals.

edited Sep 5 at 14:06



Wai Ha Lee

6,601 13 43 68

answered Apr 30 '10 at 10:40



João Angelo

46k 9 118 137

@serhio, I'm afraid Visual Studio only allows you to create tagged expression that you can then reference (/1, /2, etc), but does not support to change those values on the fly. – João Angelo Apr 30 '10 at 11:11
