

# Nullable Reference Types in C#

By Shawn Wildermuth



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# > Who Am I?



**Microsoft MVP  
Docker Captain  
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Filmmaker**

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The background is a dark navy blue. It features several thin, light yellow lines that intersect at various angles, creating a web-like pattern. Two thicker, bright yellow lines are also present: one runs diagonally from the top left towards the center, and another runs diagonally from the top right towards the center. In the center of the image, there is a dark, semi-transparent triangle pointing downwards.

Don't You Wish Microsoft  
Would Stop Changing C#?

# It's Been A Long Road With C#

- “Cool”
- 1.0
- 1.2
- 2.0
- 3.0
- 4.0
- ...
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Foreword by Chris Sells



## Pragmatic ADO.NET

Data Access for the Internet World

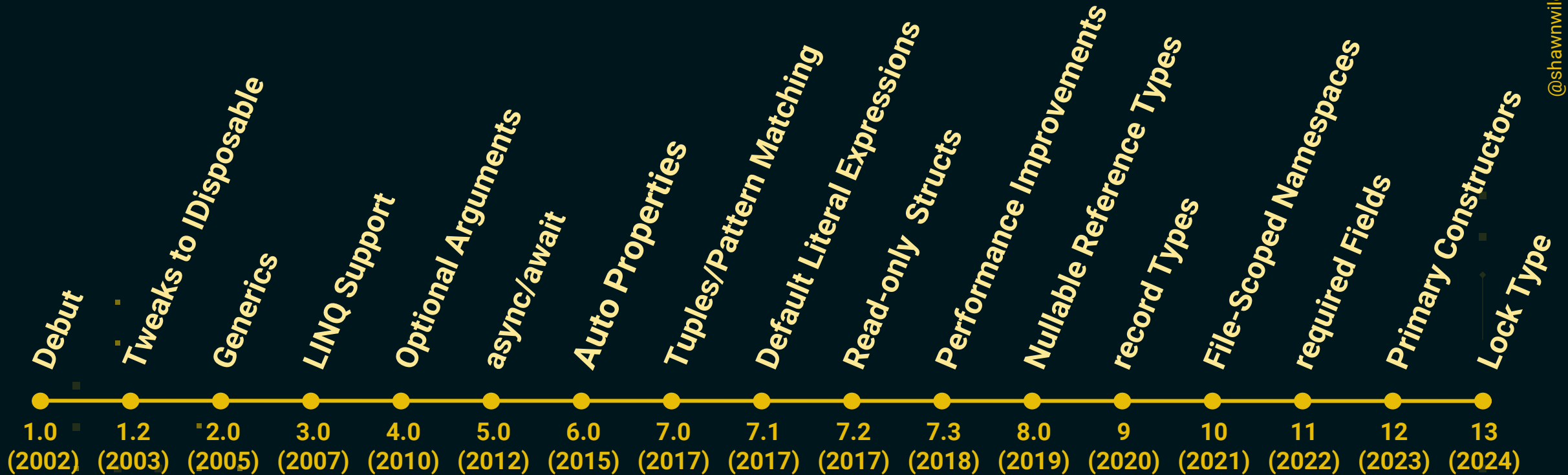
Microsoft®  
**.net**  
Development  
Series

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# The History of C#



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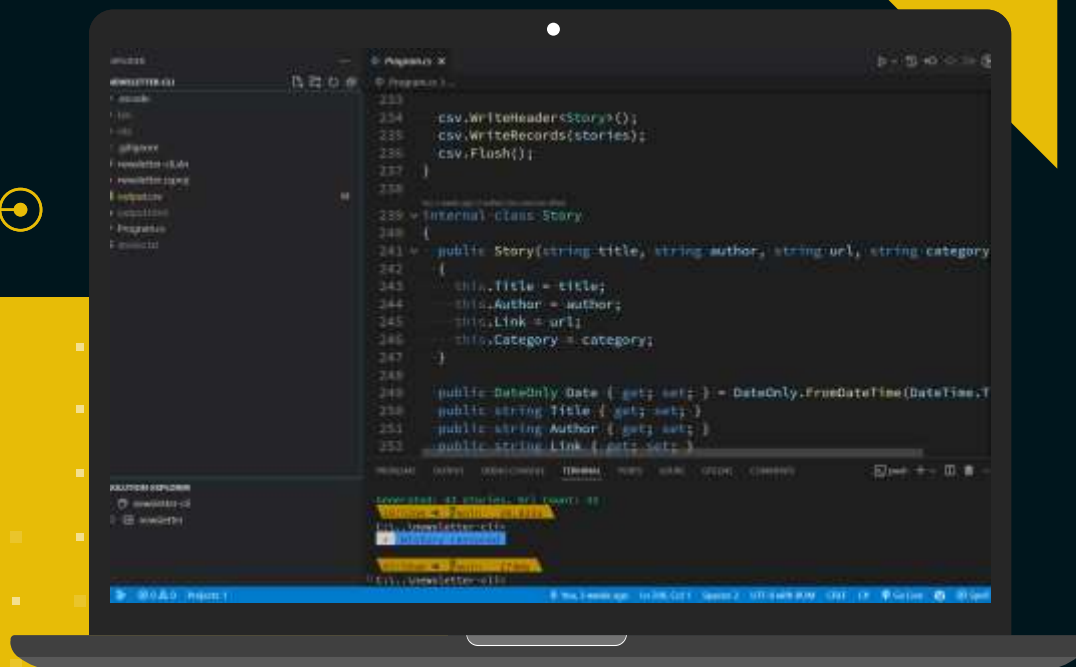


# Nullable Reference Types

- Misnamed I Think
  - Non-Nullable Reference Types
- Clearer Understanding of Null
- Better Match for Nullability of Values
- Compiler Tries to Help
- Operators Become Critical



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# The Demo

Let's write some code!



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The background is a dark navy blue with a network of thin, light yellow lines crisscrossing diagonally. A single, thicker yellow line runs from the top left towards the center. A dark grey triangle is positioned in the center, with its base at the bottom and its apex pointing upwards, partially overlapping the text.

“But should I enable it? My  
code is fine without it.”





Is it?

# Why Should You Enable It?

- Makes your intention explicit
- Less boilerplate code for nulls
- Same facility for all types
- Code can be smaller and clearer
- Can opt into it for parts of a codebase
- All the cool kids are doing it...
  - ...not a good reason, actually.



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# > Questions?



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# Links



- **My Blog:** <https://blog.wildermuth.com>
- **My Company:** <https://wildermuth.nl>
- **Nullable Reference Types:** <https://shawnl.in/nullablerefs>
- **My Coding Short:** <https://shawnl.in/cs-nullable-refs>
- **Follow me:** shawnwildermuth everywhere



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# THANK YOU

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SpreeView



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