

# IOException Class

.NET Framework 2.0

The exception that is thrown when an I/O error occurs.

**Namespace:** System.IO

**Assembly:** mscorlib (in mscorlib.dll)

## Syntax

### C#

```
[SerializableAttribute]  
[ComVisibleAttribute(true)]  
public class IOException : SystemException
```

### J#

```
/** @attribute SerializableAttribute() */  
/** @attribute ComVisibleAttribute(true) */  
public class IOException extends SystemException
```

### JScript

```
SerializableAttribute  
ComVisibleAttribute(true)  
public class IOException extends SystemException
```

## Remarks

**IOException** is the base class for exceptions thrown while accessing information using streams, files and directories.

The Base Class Library includes the following types, each of which is a derived class of **IOException** :

- DirectoryNotFoundException
- EndOfStreamException
- FileNotFoundException
- FileLoadException

- PathTooLongException

Where appropriate, use these types instead of IOException.

**IOException** uses the HRESULT COR\_E\_IO which has the value 0x80131620.

## Example

This code example is part of a larger example provided for the `FileStream.Lock` method.

**C#**

```
// Catch the IOException generated if the
// specified part of the file is locked.
catch(IOException e)
{
    Console.WriteLine(
        "{0}: The write operation could not " +
        "be performed because the specified " +
        "part of the file is locked.",
        e.GetType().Name);
}
```

**J#**

```
// Catch the IOException generated if the
// specified part of the file is locked.
catch(IOException e) {
    Console.WriteLine(
        "{0}: The write operation could not "
        + "be performed because the specified "
        + "part of the file is locked.",
        e.GetType().get_Name());
}
```

## Inheritance Hierarchy

System.Object  
System.Exception  
System.SystemException  
**System.IO.IOException**  
Derived Classes

## Thread Safety

Any public static (**Shared** in Visual Basic) members of this type are thread safe. Any instance members are not guaranteed to be thread safe.

## Platforms

Windows 98, Windows 2000 SP4, Windows CE, Windows Millennium Edition, Windows Mobile for Pocket PC, Windows Mobile for Smartphone, Windows Server 2003, Windows XP Media Center Edition, Windows XP Professional x64 Edition, Windows XP SP2, Windows XP Starter Edition

The .NET Framework does not support all versions of every platform. For a list of the supported versions, see [System Requirements](#).

## Version Information

### .NET Framework

Supported in: 2.0, 1.1, 1.0

### .NET Compact Framework

Supported in: 2.0, 1.0

## See Also

### Reference

[IOException Members](#)

[System.IO Namespace](#)

[Exception](#)

### Other Resources

[Handling and Throwing Exceptions](#)

[File and Stream I/O](#)

[How to: Read Text from a File](#)

[How to: Write Text to a File](#)

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## Community Additions

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### HRESULT Not Always COR\_E\_IO

The documentation vaguely implies that the HRESULT is always COR\_E\_IO which has the value 0x80131620. However, I have discovered by experiment that the actual code is E\_HANDLE (0x80070006L) when the exception is the result of an invalid handle, such as arises when `Console.Clear()` is called by a process whose standard output handle (`Console.Out`) is redirected.

That being so, I am writing a non-throwing wrapper around `Console.Clear()` that verifies the `HRESULT` to determine whether the exception is one that can be anticipated, or something else worthy of reporting.



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