

Functional Programming With C# 7.1

CHEAT SHEET

Functional programming is a style that treats computation as the evaluation of mathematical functions and avoids changing-state and mutable data.

Immutable Types

An object whose state cannot be modified after it is created, lowering the risk of side-effects.

<https://dotnetfiddle.net/K928pP>

Mutable

```
public class Rectangle
{
    public int Length {get;set;}
    public int Height {get;set;}

    public void Grow(int length, int height)
    {
        Length += length;
        Height += height;
    }
}
Rectangle r = new Rectangle();
r.Length = 5;
r.Height = 10;
r.Grow(10, 10);
// r.Length is 15, r.Height is 20, same
instance of r
```

Immutable

```
public class ImmutableRectangle
{
    int Length { get; }
    int Height { get; }

    public ImmutableRectangle(int length,
int height)
    {
        Length = length;
        Height = height;
    }

    public ImmutableRectangle Grow(int length,
int height) =>
        new ImmutableRectangle(Length +
length, Height + height);
}

ImmutableRectangle r = new
ImmutableRectangle(5, 10);

r = r.Grow(10, 10);
// r.Length is 15, r.Height is 20, is a new
instance of r
```

Expressions Instead of Statements

Statements define an action and are executed for their side-effect.

Expressions produce a result without mutating state.

<https://dotnetfiddle.net/ozZIL3>

Example

Both of the following code examples produce the same results. The expression produces a result without mutations.

Statement

```
public static string GetSalutation(int hour) {
    string salutation; // placeholder value
    if (hour < 12)
        salutation = "Good Morning";
    else
        salutation = "Good Afternoon";
    return salutation; // return mutated
variable
}
```

Expression

```
public static string GetSalutation(int hour) =>
    hour < 12 ? "Good Morning" : "Good
Afternoon";
```

ValueTuples

Tuple is a more efficient and more productive lightweight syntax to define a data structure that carries more than one value. **Requires NuGet Package System.ValueTuple**

- Represent data without DTO classes
- Lower memory footprint than a class
- Return multiple values from methods without the need for out variables

Example

```
(double lat, double lng) GetCoordinates(string
query)
{
    //DO search query ...
    return (lat: 47.6450905056185,
lng: 122.130835641356);
}

var pos = GetCoordinates("15700 NE 39th St,
Redmond, WA");

pos.lat; //47.6450905056185
pos.lng; //122.130835641356
```

Func Delegates

Func Delegates encapsulate a method. When declaring a Func, input and output parameters are specified as T1-T16, and TResult.

<https://dotnetfiddle.net/EyGLvp>

- **Func<TResult>** – matches a method that takes no arguments, and returns value of type **TResult**.
- **Func<T, TResult>** – matches a method that takes an argument of type T, and returns value of type **TResult**.
- **Func<T1, T2, TResult>** – matches a method that takes arguments of type T1 and T2, and returns value of type **TResult**.
- **Func<T1, T2, ..., TResult>** – and so on up to 16 arguments, and returns value of type **TResult**.

Example

Both of the following code examples produce the same results. The expression produces a result without mutations.

```
Func<int, int> addOne = n => n + 1;
Func<int, int, int> addNums = (x,y) => x + y;
Func<int, bool> isZero = n => n == 0;
```

```
Console.WriteLine(addOne(5)); // 6
Console.WriteLine(isZero(addNums(-5,5))); //
True
```

```
int[] a = {0,1,0,3,4,0};
Console.WriteLine(a.Count(isZero)); // 3
```

Higher Order Functions / Functions as Data

A function that accepts another function as a parameter, or returns another function.

<https://dotnetfiddle.net/jhn5BZ>

Example

method signature

```
int IEnumerable.Count<T>(Func<T, Bool>
predicate)
```

Source code for Count()

```
int count = 0;
foreach (TSource element in source)
{
    checked // overflow exception check
    {
        if (predicate(element)) //
func<T,Bool> invoked
        {
            count++;
        }
    }
}
return count;
```

usage

```
bool[] bools = { false, true, false, false };

int f = bools.Count(bln => bln == false); //
out = 3
int t = bools.Count(bln => bln == true); // out
= 1
```

Method Chaining (~Pipelines)

Since C# lacks a Pipeline syntax, pipelines in C# are created with design patterns that allow for methods to chain. The result of the method chain should produce the desired value and type.

<http://demos.telerik.com/aspnet-mvc/grid>

Example

Both of the following code examples produce the same results. The expression produces a result without mutations.

```
string str = new StringBuilder()
    .Append("Hello ")
    .Append("World ")
    .ToString()
    .TrimEnd()
    .ToUpper();
// HELLO WORLD
```

Example, Telerik Grid HTML Helper

```
Html.Kendo()
    .Grid(Model)
    .Name("grid")
    .Columns(columns =>
    {
        columns.Bound(product => product.ProductID);
        columns.Bound(product => product.ProductName);
        columns.Bound(product => product.UnitsInStock);
    }) // Render HTML Data Grid
```

Extension Methods

Extension methods are a great way to extend method chains and add functionality to a class.

Note: [Telerik UI for ASP.NET MVC's HTML Helpers](#) are built using extension methods.

Example

```
// Extends the StringBuilder class to accept a predicate
```

```
public static StringBuilder AppendWhen(
    this StringBuilder sb, string value,
    bool predicate) =>
    predicate ? sb.Append(value) : sb;
```

Usage

```
string htmlButton = new StringBuilder()
    .Append("<button")
    .AppendWhen(" disabled", isDisabled)
    .Append(">Click me</button>")
    .ToString();
```

Tip

Add the `[DebuggerNonUserCodeAttribute]` attribute to utility extension methods for easier debugging.

You can read more about this attribute at davefanher.com:

<https://davefanher.com/2016/01/28/functional-c-debugging-method-chains/>

Yield

Using **yield** to define an iterator removes the need for an explicit extra class (the class that holds the state for an enumeration).

You consume an iterator method by using a foreach statement or LINQ query.

Yield is the basis for many LINQ methods.

<https://dotnetfiddle.net/D4tgdG>

Example

Without Yield

```
public static IEnumerable<int>  
GreaterThan(int[] arr, int gt) {  
    List<int> temp = new List<int>();  
    foreach (int n in arr) {  
        if (n > gt) temp.Add(n);  
    }  
    return temp;  
}
```

With Yield

```
public static IEnumerable<int>  
GreaterThan(int[] arr, int gt) {  
    foreach (int n in arr) {  
        if (n > gt) yield return n;  
    }  
}
```

LINQ

The gateway to functional programming in C#. LINQ makes short work of most imperative programming routines that work on arrays and collections.

Methods by Category

Quantify

All, Any, Contains

Filter

Where, OfType

Project/Transform

Select, SelectMany, Zip

Criteria/Set

Distinct, Except, Intersect, Union

Sorting

OrderBy, OrderByDescending, ThenBy,
ThenByDescending, Reverse

Aggregation

Aggregate, Average, Count, LonCount, Max, Min,
Sum

Partition/Join

Skip, SkipWhile, Take, TakeWhile, Join, GroupJoin

Grouping

GroupBy, ToLookup

Thread-Safe Collections

Since Functional programming promotes thread safety via immutability, these Thread-Safe Collections important to know.

The .NET Framework 4 introduces the **System.Collections.Concurrent** namespace, which includes several collection classes that are both thread-safe and scalable. Multiple threads can safely and efficiently add or remove items from these collections, without requiring additional synchronization in user code.

Thread-Safe Collections

Blocking Collection<T>

Provides bounding and blocking functionality for any type that implements `IProducerConsumerCollection<T>`.

IProducerConsumerCollection<T>

The interface that a type must implement to be used in a `BlockingCollection`.

Concurrent Queue<T>

Thread-safe implementation of a FIFO (first-in, first-out) queue.

Concurrent Dictionary<TKey, TValue>

Thread-safe implementation of a dictionary of key-value pairs.

Concurrent Stack<T>

Thread-safe implementation of a LIFO (last-in, first-out) stack.

Concurrent Bag<T>

Thread-safe implementation of an unordered collection of elements.

Resources

[Functional Programming Self Guided Workshop](#)

[Functional Programming vs. Imperative Programming \(C#\)](#)

[Refactoring Data Grids with C# Extension Methods](#)

[Better Code with Functional Programming](#)

[Functionally Similar – Comparing Underscore.js to LINQ](#)

[Giving Clarity to LINQ Queries by Extending Expressions](#)

[Channel 9's Visual Studio Toolbox: Functional Programming in C#](#)



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