

C# 8 Feature Cheat Sheet

Default interface methods

Allows you to add new functionality to your interfaces of your libraries and ensure the backward compatibility with code written for older versions of those interfaces.

```
interface IWriteLine
{
    public void WriteLine()
    {
        Console.WriteLine("Wow C# 8!");
    }
}
```

Nullable reference types

Emits a compiler warning or error if a variable that must not be null is assigned to null.

```
string? nullableString = null;
// WARNING: may be null! Take care!
Console.WriteLine(nullableString.Length)
```



Pattern matching enhancements

Provides the ability to deconstruct matched objects, and giving you access to parts of their data structures. C# offers a rich set of patterns that can be used for matching:

- Switch expressions
- Property patterns
- Tuple patterns
- Positional patterns



```
static bool Positive(Point p) => p switch
{
    (0, 0) => true,
    (var x, var y) when x > 0 && y > 0 => true,
    _ => false
};
```

Asynchronous streams

Allows to have enumerators that support `async` operations.

```
await foreach (var x in enumerable)
{
    Console.WriteLine(x);
}
```

Using declarations

Enhances the 'using' operator to use with Patterns and make it more natural.

```
using var repository = new Repository();
Console.WriteLine(repository.First());
// repository is disposed here!
```

Enhancement of interpolated verbatim strings

Allows `@$" "` as a verbatim interpolated string, `var file = @$"c:\temp\{filename}"; //C# 8`

Null-coalescing assignment

Simplifies a common coding pattern where a variable is assigned a value if it is null.

It is common to see the code of the form:

```
if (variable == null)
{
    variable = expression; // C# 1..7
}

variable ??= expression; // C# 8
```

Static local functions

Allows you to add the 'static' modifier to the local functions.

```
int AddFiveAndSeven()
{
    int y = 1; int x = 2;
    return Add(x, y);

    static int Add(int o, int t) => o + t;
}
```

Indices and ranges

Allows you to use more natural syntax for specifying subranges in an array or a collection.

```
int[] a = { 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 };
```

Index: Used to obtain the collection from the beginning or from the end.

```
// Number 4 from end of the collection
Index i2 = ^4;
Console.WriteLine($"{a[i2]}"); // "6"
```

Range: Access a sub-collection(slice) from a collection.



```
var slice = a[i1..i2]; // { 3, 4, 5 }
```

Unmanaged constructed types

Allows you to take a pointer to unmanaged constructed types, such as `ValueTuple<int, int>`, as long as all the elements of the generic type are unmanaged.

```
struct Foo<T> where T : unmanaged
{
}

public unsafe void Test()
{
    var foo = new Foo<int>();
    var bar = &foo; // C# 8
}
```

ReadOnly-Member

Allows you to apply the `readonly` modifier to any member of a `struct`.

```
public struct XValue
{
    private int X { get; set; }
    public readonly int IncreaseX()
    {
        // This will not compile: C# 8
        X = X + 1;

        var newX = X + 1; // OK
        return newX;
    }
}
```

Stackalloc in nested expressions

The result of a `stackalloc` expression is of the `System.Span<T>` or `System.ReadOnlySpan<T>` type.

```
Span<int> set = stackalloc[] { 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 };
var subSet = set.Slice(3, 2);
foreach (var n in subSet)
    Console.WriteLine(n); // Output: 4 5
```

Disposable ref structs

Allows you to use the 'using' pattern with `ref struct` or `readonly ref struct`.

```
// Pattern-based using for ref struct
ref struct Test {
    public void Dispose() {}
}
```

```
using var test = new Test();
// test is disposed here!
```

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Powerful Feature