

Using `IDisposable` Type Objects

The common language runtime's garbage collector (GC) reclaims the memory used by managed objects. Typically, types that use unmanaged resources implement the `IDisposable` or `IAsyncDisposable` interface to allow the unmanaged resources to be reclaimed. When you finish using an object that implements `IDisposable`, you call the object's `Dispose` or `DisposeAsync` implementation to explicitly perform cleanup. You can do this in one of two ways:

- With the C# `using` statement or declaration (Using in Visual Basic).
- By implementing a `try/finally` block, and calling the `Dispose` or `DisposeAsync` method in the `finally`.

Objects that implement `System.IDisposable` or `System.IAsyncDisposable` should always be properly disposed of, regardless of variable scoping, unless otherwise explicitly stated. Types that define a finalizer to release unmanaged resources usually call `GC.SuppressFinalize` from either their `Dispose` or `DisposeAsync` implementation. Calling `SuppressFinalize` indicates to the GC that the finalizer has already been run and the object shouldn't be promoted for finalization.

The `using` statement

The `using` statement in C# and the `Using` statement in Visual Basic simplify the code that you must write to cleanup an object. The `using` statement obtains one or more resources, executes the statements that you specify, and automatically disposes of the object. However, the `using` statement is useful only for objects that are used within the scope of the method in which they are constructed.

The following example uses the `using` statement to create and release a `System.IO.StreamReader` object.

Example:

```
using System.IO;
class UsingStatement
{
    static void Main()
    {
        var buffer = new char[50];
        using (StreamReader streamReader = new("file1.txt"))
        {
            int charsRead = 0;
            while (streamReader.Peek() != -1)
            {
                charsRead = streamReader.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length);
                //
                // Process characters read.
                //
            }
        }
    }
}
```

```
    }  
}
```

With C# 8, a `using` declaration is an alternative syntax available where the braces are removed, and scoping is implicit.

Example:

```
using System.IO;  
class UsingDeclaration  
{  
    static void Main()  
    {  
        var buffer = new char[50];  
        using StreamReader streamReader = new("file1.txt");  
  
        int charsRead = 0;  
        while (streamReader.Peek() != -1)  
        {  
            charsRead = streamReader.Read(buffer, 0, buffer.Length);  
            //  
            // Process characters read.  
            //  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Try/finally block

Instead of wrapping a `try/finally` block in a `using` statement, you may choose to implement the `try/finally` block directly. It may be your personal coding style, or you might want to do this for one of the following reasons:

- To include a `catch` block to handle exceptions thrown in the `try` block. Otherwise, any exceptions thrown within the `using` statement are unhandled.
- To instantiate an object that implements `IDisposable` whose scope is not local to the block within which it is declared.

Example:

```
using System;  
using System.Globalization;  
using System.IO;  
class TryExplicitCatchFinally  
{  
    static void Main()  
    {  
        StreamReader? streamReader = null;  
        try  
        {  
            streamReader = new StreamReader("file1.txt");  
        }  
    }  
}
```

```
        string contents = streamReader.ReadToEnd();
        var info = new StringInfo(contents);
        Console.WriteLine($"The file has {info.LengthInTextElements} text
elements.");
    }
    catch (FileNotFoundException)
    {
        Console.WriteLine("The file cannot be found.");
    }
    catch (IOException)
    {
        Console.WriteLine("An I/O error has occurred.");
    }
    catch (OutOfMemoryException)
    {
        Console.WriteLine("There is insufficient memory to read the file.");
    }
    finally
    {
        streamReader?.Dispose();
    }
}
}
```