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Thread: [Using array format with strings](#)

guycheap - September 17, 2015, 4:27 pm

Hey Everyone,

I'm still a relatively new C# programmer but I'd love to help other programmers who may not be familiar with something like this. This is a great way to organize strings in a format where it's easily accessible instead of having to scroll through a bunch of things, it also makes things like text to command easier. Without wasting time here's the format to get started:

```
Code string soandso = String.Format("",blah,blah);
```

To analyze this, we are first declaring the string soandso, after that we are setting a blank value for the string although that is not the purpose. Lastly we are using the array system to link something that's currently non-existent ?. Remember the array system starts with 0.

Let's take up a normal example of this:

```
Code string soandso = String.Format("Hi {0} How's it going? It's a {1} day out today huh?", "joe", "nice");
```

Remember since these aren't strings we will still use quotation marks to work with the values.

Now let's use this for user input from a textbox.

```
Code string soandso = String.Format("Hey {0} I'm {1}, I am {2} years old and currently live in {3}.",  
textbox1.text, textbox2.text, textbox3.text, textbox4.text);
```

That's all. Happy programming everyone.

BahNahNah - September 17, 2015, 4:55 pm

You can actually do a whole lot more with string.format.

```
Code decimal[] prices = new decimal[] {100m, 124.99m, 1.24m };
```

```
for(int i = 0; i < prices.Length; i++)  
{  
    Console.WriteLine("Index {0} {1, 12:C2}", i, prices[i]);  
}
```

Will output:

Quote:Index 0 \$100.00

Index 1 \$124.99

Index 2 \$1.24

It uses this formatting:

Quote:{index[,alignment][:formatString] }

So for the "{1, 12:C2}" example:

The 1 is just getting the value at index 1 (like normal)

Then the ",12" is adding a 12 character spacing

Finally the ":C2" is formatting the number as currency to two decimal points.

You can also use the :formatString to pass in .ToString arguments.

```
Code Guid id = Guid.Empty;
Console.WriteLine("{0}", id);
Will output the standard id.ToString()
```

Quote:000000-0000-0000-0000-000000
But we can pass in some arguments

```
Code Guid id = Guid.Empty;
Console.WriteLine("{0:n}", id);
Console.WriteLine("{0:x}", id);
outputs
```

Quote:000000
{0x000000,0x0000,0x0000,{0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00,0x00}}
just like this would:
Code Console.WriteLine(id.ToString("n"));
Console.WriteLine(id.ToString("x"));
More: [MSDN](#)

Odus - September 18, 2015, 2:19 am

BahNahNah beat me to it, there's a lot more you can do with Format. Buuut with C# 6.0 we get some cool new interpolation sugar:

```
Code string name = "Odus";
int age = 9;
```

```
Console.WriteLine("Hey my name is {name} and I'm {age} years old!");
```

guycheap - September 18, 2015, 7:36 am

Excellent examples guys. I'll be sure to add them all in the OP when I'm home :).

Carlsson94 - September 18, 2015, 11:22 am

You can also use string interpolation.

This

```
Code string soandso = String.Format("Hi {0} How's it going? It's a {1} day out today huh?", "joe",
"nice");Could look like
```

```
Code string soandso = $"Hi {joe} How's it going? It's a {nice} day out today huh?";
```