

Re: Difference between 'out' and 'ref' parameters.

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Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.general/2005-04/msg01256.html>

- *From:* "Chris Mayers" <chris_mayersBLUE@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 18 Apr 2005 14:40:00 +0100
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Thanks for your answer, that has helped a lot.

There does seem to be another difference though,

this is legal (Compiler allows it)

```
private int DoStuff(ref string x)
{
    x = x + ":";
    return -1;
}
```

wheras this will not compile:

```
private int DoStuff(out string x)
{
    x = x + ":";
    return -1;
}
```

(says " 'Use of unassigned local vairable 'x' ")

This, however is fine:

```
private into DoStuff(out string x)
{
    x = "1";
    return -1;
}
```

So you can't pass a value INTO a method using a 'out' parameter like you can with a 'ref' parameter. (?) I guess that's why its called 'out' :-)

Chris

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- **Follow-Ups:**

- ◆ **Jorge: Difference between 'out' and 'ref' parameters.**
◇ From: Chris Mayers
- ◆ **Re: Difference between 'out' and 'ref' parameters.**
◇ From: Sean Hederman
- ◆ **Re: Difference between 'out' and 'ref' parameters.**
◇ From: Jorge L Matos

- **References:**

- ◆ **Difference between 'out' and 'ref' parameters.**
◇ From: Chris Mayers
- ◆ **RE: Difference between 'out' and 'ref' parameters.**
◇ From: Jorge L Matos

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