

## Re: C++ vs C#

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*Source:*

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.languages.csharp/2005-05/msg01577.html>

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- *From:* "Stephen" <[stephen@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:stephen@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 9 May 2005 14:15:44 -0400
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x-no-archive: yes

C++ is a pedal to the metal nitty gritty very high performance object oriented programming language with wide support, an excellent STL (Standard Template Library) and many other libraries and lots of books written for it. It is a very complicated language however and you'd better get real used to pointers, references, and pointers to pointers, and pointers to references of pointers to objects containing arrays of pointers if you want to use it.

If you use C++ to program for Windows you will have to learn five thousand, four hundred and fifty-two (5,452) different macro names for strings and no two are really compatible with only 314 different versions of every function needed for each one: LPSTR LPCSTR LPCTSTR WCTSTR WPCSTR STRWPCSTR STR cstr cstring CString WCString WCPyString <string> wstr strcpyw strcpyl lstrcpy cpypystyr STSTRSS CSTRWP LPSTRCPY LWPSTR CSTRWPLSTR ... etc.

C# is a high performance (managed) interpreted object oriented language. Lots of books, expanding libraries, lots of support and an excellent .NET framework. It has simplified programming for Windows and seems to be the future of programming for Windows. Yes, engines for the language are being developed for other than Windows platforms. It stays relatively uncomplicated until you get into interfaces, delegates and attributes etc. In C#, strings actually seem to make real sense.

You can mix C++ and C# languages but there are considerations when you do so.

TStoltz wrote:

> Hi,  
>  
> I'm sorry if this question comes inappropriate but hope you can help me  
> answer the following:  
>  
> What is the difference between C++ and C#. Can I use C++ code within  
> the C# code. I've heard positive things about Framework which should  
> be similar to MDSN - or what is it better/worse?  
>

Re: C++ vs C#

> Please tell me why I should go for C-sharp instead of C++  
>  
> Thx

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• *Follow-Ups:*

- ◆ [Re: C++ vs C#](#)  
    ◇ *From:* Rick Elbers
- ◆ [Re: C++ vs C#](#)  
    ◇ *From:* Jon Skeet [C# MVP]

• *References:*

- ◆ [C++ vs C#](#)  
    ◇ *From:* TStoltz
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