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Why is C# a rapid application development (RAD) language?

I heard that C# is a rapid application development (RAD) language. Even after reading an [article in wikipedia about RAD](#) I didn't understand it.

Could you please explain it for me?

c# rad

asked Oct 20 '09 at 20:02

 [Sergey](#)
5,041 8 45 86

Python developers might argue that C# isn't a RAD language. :) – [Imagist](#) Oct 20 '09 at 21:15

6 Answers

It is a marketing term IMHO :) Basically Microsoft is saying you can build applications rapidly with it (as opposed to languages like C).

In general RAD languages will have:

- Lots of pre-built software components you can use (File IO components, network components, classes for serializing and remoting etc.)
- Development environments that support WYSISYG GUI creation.
- Lots of tools for diagnostics, testing and debugging.
- Automatic memory management (garbage collection).

answered Oct 20 '09 at 20:07



RichAmberale

3,930 6 26 51

+1 for garbage collection – [Scott Ferguson](#) Oct 20 '09 at 21:19

Many things that are commonly tedious are provided for you by the framework (XML parsing, interaction with web services, memory management). You don't have to focus as much on the smaller things so you can work on the actual product.

answered Oct 20 '09 at 20:04



Chris T

3,816 8 31 50

RAD is usually more a function of tools than of language and/or library.

So the RAD-ness lays more in Visual Studio and consists of the Designers (GUI's and DataSet/Linq2Sql/L2E etc). To see what RAD means, add a DataSource to your Application and drag&drop a Table on a WinForm. VS will add and configure a Grid and some supporting Components.

And on a side-note, RAD isn't always the best approach for making an App.

answered Oct 20 '09 at 20:13



Henk Holterman

168k 12 142 286

I agree. RAD is a general terms and it is not a language level thing but rather a tool chain level thing. Good examples are Delphi and C++Builder, who use "old" languages but offer RAD to developers. – [Lex Li](#) Oct 21 '09 at 6:59

'RAD'ness is not an attribute of a programming language, but rather of a methodology (of which language choice is a small part). With a capable team, you can do RAD in C#; heck, with a capable team you can do RAD in ADA if you really want to.

As Chris T mentions, .Net (of which C# is a part) has a large and capable set of base libraries,

and an IDE that makes it a relatively speedy language to build with. So you could say that C# is a RADer language than, for example, unmanaged C++...but again, that's a generalization that doesn't really apply to the language per se.

answered Oct 20 '09 at 20:06



Dan Davies Brackett

6,469 1 17 42

Mainly, .NET has big comprehensive libraries to abstract away the low level stuff for you.

answered Oct 20 '09 at 20:06



Dinah

18.2k 23 97 127

Bascially, everything is rapid these days. Back in the olden days it might take weeks to create a simple utility. RAD languages, such as Visual Basic, allowed you to create a simple utility in a day.

answered Oct 20 '09 at 20:06



Gerry Male

29 3
