

# System.NullReferenceException Class

```
[ILASM]
.class public serializable NullReferenceException extends
System.SystemException

[C#]
public class NullReferenceException: SystemException
```

## Assembly Info:

- *Name:* mscorlib
- *Public Key:* [00 00 00 00 00 00 00 00 04 00 00 00 00 00 00]
- *Version:* 1.0.x.x
- *Attributes:*
  - CLSCompliantAttribute(true)

## Summary

Represents the error that occurs when there is an attempt to dereference a null object reference.

## Inherits From: System.SystemException

## Library: BCL

**Thread Safety:** All public static members of this type are safe for multithreaded operations. No instance members are guaranteed to be thread safe.

## Description

[Note: Applications throw the **System.ArgumentNullException** rather than **System.NullReferenceException**.

The following IL instructions throw **System.NullReferenceException**:

- callvirt
- cpblk
- cpobj
- ldelema
- ldelem.<type>

- 1       • Idfld
- 2       • Idflda
- 3       • Idind.<type>
- 4       • Idlen
- 5       • stelem.<type>
- 6       • stind.<type>
- 7       • stfld
- 8       • throw
- 9       • unbox
- 10      • initblk
- 11      ]

## 12   **Example**

### 13

14       The following example demonstrates an error that causes a  
15       **System.NullReferenceException** exception.

```
16       [C#]  
17  
18       using System;  
19       public class Ints {  
20           public int[] myInts;  
21       }  
22       public class NullRefExample {  
23           public static void Main() {  
24               Ints ints = new Ints();  
25               try {  
26                   int i = ints.myInts[0];  
27               }  
28               catch(NullReferenceException e) {  
29                   Console.WriteLine("Caught error: {0}.", e);  
30               }  
31           }  
32       }  
33
```

34       The output is

```
35  
36       Caught error: System.NullReferenceException: Object  
37       reference not set to an instance of an object.
```

```
1      at NullRefExample.Main().
2
3
```

# 1    **NullReferenceException()** Constructor

```
2    [ILASM]  
3    public rtspecialname specialname instance void .ctor()  
  
4    [C#]  
5    public NullReferenceException()
```

## 6    **Summary**

7       Constructs and initializes a new instance of the  
8       **System.NullReferenceException** class.

## 9    **Description**

10       This constructor initializes the  
11       **System.NullReferenceException.Message** property of the new  
12       instance to a system-supplied message that describes the error, such  
13       as "The value 'null' was found where an instance of an object was  
14       required." This message takes into account the current system culture.

15       The **System.NullReferenceException.InnerException** property is  
16       initialized to **null**.  
17

18

# 1    **NullReferenceException(System.String)**

## 2    **Constructor**

```
3    [ILASM]  
4    public rtspecialname specialname instance void .ctor(string  
5    message)  
  
6    [C#]  
7    public NullReferenceException(string message)
```

### 8    **Summary**

9       Constructs and initializes a new instance of the  
10      **System.NullReferenceException** class.

### 11   **Parameters**

12  
13

Parameter	Description
<i>message</i>	A <b>System.String</b> that describes the error. The content of <i>message</i> is intended to be understood by humans. The caller of this constructor is required to ensure that this string has been localized for the current system culture.

14

### 15   **Description**

16       This constructor initializes the  
17      **System.NullReferenceException.Message** property of the new  
18      instance using *message*. If *message* is **null**, the  
19      **System.NullReferenceException.Message** property is initialized to  
20      the system-supplied message provided by the constructor that takes  
21      no arguments. The  
22      **System.NullReferenceException.InnerException** property is  
23      initialized to **null**.

24

# 1    **NullReferenceException(System.String, 2    System.Exception) Constructor**

```
3    [ILASM]  
4    public rtspecialname specialname instance void .ctor(string  
5    message, class System.Exception innerException)  
  
6    [C#]  
7    public NullReferenceException(string message, Exception  
8    innerException)
```

## 9    **Summary**

10       Constructs and initializes a new instance of the  
11       **System.NullReferenceException** class.

## 12    **Parameters**

Parameter	Description
<i>message</i>	A <b>System.String</b> that describes the error. The content of <i>message</i> is intended to be understood by humans. The caller of this constructor is required to ensure that this string has been localized for the current system culture.
<i>innerException</i>	An instance of <b>System.Exception</b> that is the cause of the current Exception. If <i>innerException</i> is non-null, then the current Exception was raised in a catch block handling <i>innerException</i> .

## 16    **Description**

17       This constructor initializes the  
18       **System.NullReferenceException.Message** property of the new  
19       instance using *message*, and the  
20       **System.NullReferenceException.InnerException** property using  
21       *innerException*. If *message* is **null**, the  
22       **System.NullReferenceException.Message** property is initialized to  
23       the system-supplied message provided by the constructor that takes  
24       no arguments.

26       [Note: For information on inner exceptions, see  
27       **System.Exception.InnerException**.]