

# System.IFormatProvider Interface

```
[ILASM]
.class interface public abstract IFormatProvider
[C#]
public interface IFormatProvider
```

## 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

Implemented by classes that supply objects that provide formatting services.

**Library:** BCL

## Description

[*Note:* When a *format specifier* includes symbols that vary by culture, such as the currency symbol included by the "C" and "c" formats, a *formatting object* supplies the actual characters used in a string representation of a numeric value. For example, a formatting object may supply "\$" for the currency symbol. The formatting object for system-supplied numeric types is a **System.Globalization.NumberFormatInfo** instance. For **System.DateTime** instances, a **System.Globalization.DateTimeFormatInfo** is used.

**System.IFormatProvider** contains the **System.IFormatProvider.GetFormat** method. The consumer of an object should call this method to obtain a formatting object.]

# 1 IFormatProvider.GetFormat(System.Type) 2 Method

```
3 [ILASM]  
4 .method public hidebysig virtual abstract object  
5 GetFormat(class System.Type formatType)  
  
6 [C#]  
7 object GetFormat(Type formatType)
```

## 8 Summary

9 Returns a **System.Object** that provides formatting services.

## 10 Parameters

Parameter	Description
<i>formatType</i>	The <b>System.Type</b> of the formatting object to be returned.

## 14 Return Value

16 A formatting object of the specified **System.Type**. If no formatting  
17 object of the specified type is available, or *formatType* is a null  
18 reference, returns the formatting object for the current culture.

## 19 Behaviors

20 As described above.

## 21 How and When to Override

22 Implement in classes that provide formatting objects for use in  
23 methods that generate or parse string representations of objects, such  
24 as **ToString** and **Parse**.