

In C#, it is possible to inherit fields and methods from one class to another. We group the "inheritance concept" into two categories:

- **Derived Class** (child) - the class that inherits from another class
- **Base Class** (parent) - the class being inherited from

To inherit from a class, use the `:` symbol.

In the example below, the `Car` class (child) inherits the fields and methods from the `Vehicle` class (parent):

## Example

```
class Vehicle // base class (parent)
{
    public string brand = "Ford"; // Vehicle field
    public void honk()           // Vehicle method
    {
        Console.WriteLine("Tuut, tuut!");
    }
}
```

```
class Car : Vehicle // derived class (child)
{
    public string modelName = "Mustang"; // Car field
}

class Program
{
    static void Main(string[] args)
    {
        // Create a myCar object
        Car myCar = new Car();

        // Call the honk() method (From the Vehicle class) on the myCar object
        myCar.honk();

        // Display the value of the brand field (from the Vehicle class) and the value of the
        modelName from the Car class
        Console.WriteLine(myCar.brand + " " + myCar.modelName);
    }
}
```

## Why and When to Use "Inheritance"?

- It is useful for code reusability: reuse fields and methods of an existing class when you create a new class.

**Tip:** Also take a look at the next chapter, [Polymorphism](#), which uses inherited methods to perform different tasks.

## The sealed Keyword

If you don't want other classes to inherit from a class, use the `sealed` keyword:

If you try to access a `sealed` class, C# will generate an error:

```
sealed class Vehicle
{
    ...
}

class Car : Vehicle
{
    ...
}
```

The error message will be something like this:

```
'Car': cannot derive from sealed type 'Vehicle'
```