

# ExcelTemplate.Open(System.IO.Stream)

## Description

Opens an ExcelWriter template from a [System.IO.Stream](#). An ExcelWriter template is a file created in Microsoft Excel that contains data markers where data source values will be inserted.

**C#**

```
public virtual void Open(System.IO.Stream stream)
```

**vb.net**

```
Public Overridable Sub Open(ByVal stream As System.IO.Stream)
```

## Parameters

### *templateStream*

A [System.IO.Stream](#) object, or a class derived from [System.IO.Stream](#) (for example, [System.IO.FileStream](#)).

## Exceptions

### *ArgumentNullException*

[Open](#) will throw this exception if `null` (C#) or `Nothing` (VB.NET) is passed to the method.

### *ArgumentException*

## Remarks

If your template file is the new Office Open XML (.xlsx) format, you can pass it into the [ExcelTemplate.Open](#) method just as you would a BIFF8 (.xls) Excel file. You will need to remember to give the output file a ".xlsx" extension when you call [Save](#), as ExcelWriter cannot convert .xlsx files to .xls.

## Examples

## C#

```
//--- Open an Excel BIFF8 (.xls) file
FileStream oFileStream = New FileStream(@"C:\Templates\Template.xls",
FileMode.Open);
oExcelTemplate.Open(oFileStream);

//--- Open an Office Open XML Excel (.xlsx) file
FileStream oFileStream = New FileStream(@"C:\Templates\Template.xlsx",
FileMode.Open);
oExcelTemplate.Open(oFileStream);
```

## vb.net

```
'--- Open an Excel BIFF8 (.xls) file
Dim oFileStream As New FileStream("C:\Templates\Template.xls",
FileMode.Open)
oExcelTemplate.Open(oFileStream)

'--- Open an Office Open XML Excel (.xlsx) file
Dim oFileStream As New FileStream("C:\Templates\Template.xlsx",
FileMode.Open)
oExcelTemplate.Open(oFileStream)
```