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ASP.NET MVC: ValidationMessage

You have learned how to implement validation in a view in the previous section. Here, we will see the HtmlHelper extension method `ValidationMessage` in detail.

The `Html.ValidationMessage()` is an extension method, that is a loosely typed method. It displays a validation message if an error exists for the specified field in the `ModelStateDictionary` object.

ValidationMessage() Signature

```
MvcHtmlString ValidateMessage(string modelName, string validationMessage, object htmlAttributes)
```

Visit MSDN to know all the [overloads of ValidationMessage\(\) method](#).

Example: ValidationMessage

```
@model Student
```

```
@Html.Editor("StudentName") <br />
```

```
@Html.ValidationMessage("StudentName", "", new { @class = "text-danger" })
```

In the above example, the first parameter in the ValidationMessage method is a property name for which we want to show the error message e.g. StudentName. The second parameter is for custom error message and the third parameter is for html attributes like css, style etc.

The ValidationMessage() method will only display an error, if you have configured the DataAnnotations attribute to the specified property in the model class. The following is a Student model class where the DataAnnotations attribute "Required" is applied to the StudentName property.

Example: Student Model

```
public class Student
{
    public int StudentId { get; set; }
    [Required]
    public string StudentName { get; set; }
    public int Age { get; set; }
}
```

The above code will generate following html.

```
<input id="StudentName"
      name="StudentName"
      type="text"
      value="" />

<span class="field-validation-valid text-danger"
      data-valmsg-for="StudentName"
      data-valmsg-replace="true">

</span>
```

Now, when the user submits a form without entering a StudentName, then ASP.NET MVC uses a data- attribute of Html5 for the validation and a default validation message will be injected, when the validation error occurs, as shown below.

Html with Validation message:

```
<span class="field-validation-error text-danger"
      data-valmsg-for="StudentName"
      data-valmsg-replace="true">The StudentName field is required.</span>
```

The error message will look like below.

StudentName

The StudentName field is required.

Output of ValidationMessage() method

Custom Error Message

You can display your own error message instead of the default error message as shown above. You can provide a custom error message either in the DataAnnotations attribute or ValidationMessage() method.

Use the parameter of the DataAnnotation attributes to provide your own custom error message as shown below.

Example: Custom error message in the Model

```
public class Student
```

```
{  
    public int StudentId { get; set; }  
    [Required(ErrorMessage="Please enter student name.")]  
    public string StudentName { get; set; }  
    public int Age { get; set; }  
}
```

Also, you can specify a message as a second parameter in the ValidationMessage() method as shown below.

Example: Custom error message

```
@model Student
```

```
@Html.Editor("StudentName") <br />
```

```
@Html.ValidationMessage("StudentName", "Please enter student name.", new { @class = "text-danger" })
```



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