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This article explains routing in MVC. How a route is executed by the routing engine and how to define a route for a URL.

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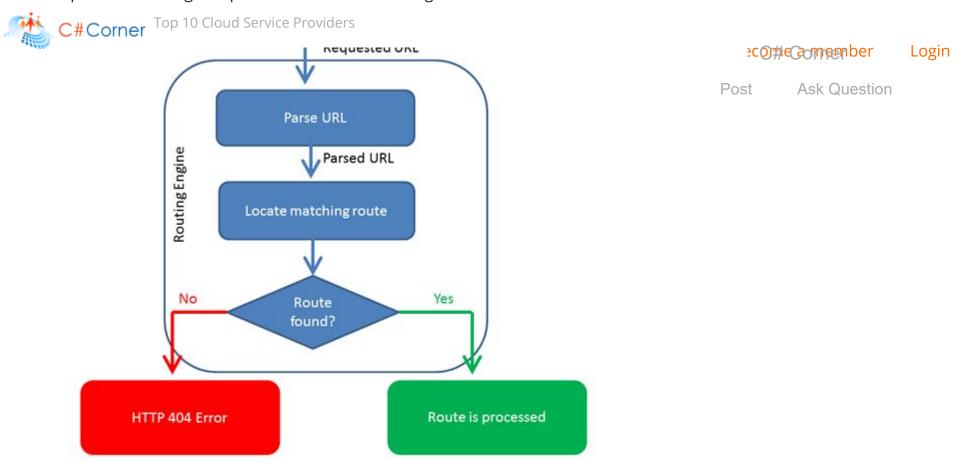
- 1. Overview
- 2. Properties of Route
- 3. Understand the Default Route

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Overview of ASP.NET MVC Routing

ASP.NET MVC routing is a pattern matching system that is responsible for mapping incoming browser requests to specified MVC controller actions. When the ASP.NET MVC application launches then the application registers one or more patterns w the framework's route table to tell the routing engine what to do with any requests that matches those patterns. When the

routing engine receives a request at runtime, it matches that request's URL against the URL patterns registered with it and gives the response according to a pattern match. Let's see Figure 1.1.



In Figure 1.1 we can see how the routing engine processes a request and what response it sends. It gives a response according to URL match or not in the route table.

1. When the request's URL matches any of the registered route patterns in the route table then the routing engine forwards the request to the appropriate handler for that request. Thereafter the route is processed and gets a view on the UI.

2. When the request's URL does not match any of the registered route patterns then the routing engine indicates that it could not determine how to handle the request by returning a 404 HTTP status code.



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ASP.NET MVC routes are responsible for determining which controller method to execute for Post 'R' Ask Question ts of the following properties:

- **Route Name:** A route is a URL pattern that is mapped to a handler. A handler can be a controller in the MVC application that processes the request. A route name may be used as a specific reference to a given route.
- **URL Pattern:** A URL pattern can contain literal values and variable placeholders (referred to as URL parameters). The literals and placeholders are located in segments of the URL that are delimited by the slash (/) character.

When a request is made, the URL is parsed into segments and placeholders, and the variable values are provided to the request handler. This process is similar to the way the data in query strings is parsed and passed to the request handler. In both cases variable information is included in the URL and passed to the handler in the form of key-value pairs. For guery strings both the keys and the values are in the URL. For routes, the keys are the placeholder names defined in the URL pattern, and only the values are in the URL.

- **Defaults:** When you define a route, you can assign a default value for a parameter. The defaults is an object that contains default route values.
- **Constraints:** A set of constraints to apply against the URL pattern to more narrowly define the URL that it matches.

The default ASP.NET MVC project templates add a generic route that uses the following URL convention to break the URL for a given request into three named segments.

url: "{controller}/{action}/{id}"

This route pattern is registered via call to the MapRoute() extension method of RouteCollection.

Figure 1.2 Default Routes for MVC Application

When the MVC application launches the Application_Start() event handler of the global.asax execute that call the RegisterRoutes() method from RouteConfig class under App_Start directory (App_Start/RouteConfig.cs). The RegisterRoutes() route has a parameter that is a collection of routes called the RouteCollection that contains all the registered routes in the application. Figure 1.2 represents the default method that adds routes to the route table.

ASP.NET MVC Routing with an Example

When the application starts up, ASP.NET MVC discovers all of the application's controllers by searching through the available assemblies for a class that implements the System.Web.Mvc. IController interface or derived from a class that implements this interface and whose class names end with the suffix Controller. When the routing framework uses this list to determine which controller it has access to, it chops off the Controller suffix from the entire controller class names.

on a book entity. So we will use this example to understand UKL routing. Our detault route is the same as in Figure 1.2 for CRUD applications also.

URL	Controller	Action	ld
http://localhost:4736/	HomeController	Index]
http://localhost:4736/Book/	BookController	Index	I

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http://localhost:4736/Book/Create	BookController	Create	
http://localhost:4736/Book/Edit/2	BookController	Edit	2



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The last request's URL (http://localhost:4736/Book/Edit/2) in table 1.1 is a perfect match to the Post 2 Ask Question attern because it satisfies every segment of the route pattern, but when we don't provide a complete request's UKL then the routing engine automatically calls the controller and action method as per the default route pattern.

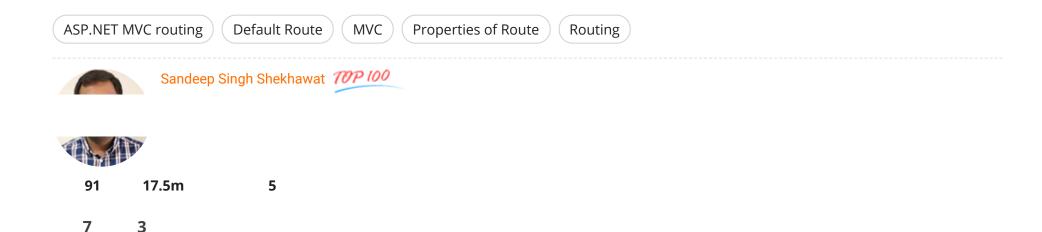
Conclusion

The controller and action values in the route are not case-sensitive. URL route patterns are relative to the application root, so they don't need to start with a forward slash (/) or virtual path designator (~/).

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Thank You @Sachin. Its my typing mistake and no other mean. Thanks for notice it. I will update it.

Sandeep Singh Shekhawat

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Dear Gud one..kindly replace Acrion exist in table with Action

Sachin Kalia Aug 12, 2013

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