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Abstract

In this module I learn basic things about .NET Core

.Net core

Documentation



Index

[1 Overview of .NET Core 1](#_Toc134025811)

[1.1 Introduction 1](#_Toc134025812)

[1.2 Why .NET Core 2](#_Toc134025813)

[1.3 Characteristics 2](#_Toc134025814)

[1.4 .Net Core Composition 4](#_Toc134025815)

[1.5 .Net Core versions 4](#_Toc134025816)

[2 Overview of ASP.NET Core 6](#_Toc134025817)

[2.1 Introduction 6](#_Toc134025818)

[2.2 Why ASP.NET Core 6](#_Toc134025819)

[2.3 Project Structure 7](#_Toc134025820)

[3 Controller Initialization 12](#_Toc134025821)

[3.1 Introduction 12](#_Toc134025822)

[3.2 What is Controller 13](#_Toc134025823)

[3.3 How to create controller 14](#_Toc134025824)

[4 Action Method 16](#_Toc134025825)

[4.1 Introduction 16](#_Toc134025826)

[4.2 Action Result 16](#_Toc134025827)

[5 Routing 19](#_Toc134025828)

[5.1 Introduction 19](#_Toc134025829)

1. Overview of .NET Core

# Introduction

* .NET Core is a new version of .Net framework.
* Which is a free, open-source, general-purpose development platform maintained by Microsoft.
* It is a cross-platform framework that runs on Windows, macOS, and Linux operating systems.
* .NET Core Framework can be used to build different types of applications such as mobile, desktop, web, cloud, IoT, machine learning, microservices, game, etc.
* .NET Core is written from scratch to make it modular, lightweight, fast, and cross-platform Framework.
* It includes the core features that are required to run a basic .NET Core app.
* Other features are provided as NuGet packages, which you can add it in your application as needed.
* In this way, the .NET Core application speed up the performance, reduce the memory footprint and becomes easy to maintain.

# Why .NET Core

* There are some limitations with the .NET Framework.
* For example, it only runs on the Windows platform.
* Also, you need to use different .NET APIs for different Windows devices such as Windows Desktop, Windows Store, Windows Phone, and Web applications.
* In addition to this, the .NET Framework is a machine-wide framework.
* Any changes made to it affect all applications taking a dependency on it.
* Today, it's common to have an application that runs across devices.
* A backend on the web server, admin front-end on windows desktop, web, and mobile apps for consumers.
* So, there is a need for a single framework that works everywhere.
* So, considering this, Microsoft created .NET Core.
* The main objective of .NET Core is to make .NET Framework open-source, cross-platform compatible that can be used in a wide variety of verticals, from the data center to touch-based devices.

# Characteristics

**Open-source Framework:**

* .NET Core is an open-source framework maintained by Microsoft and available on GitHub under MIT and Apache 2 licenses.
* It is a .NET Foundation project.
* You can view, download, or contribute to the source code using the following GitHub repositories:
* Language compiler platform Roslyn: https://github.com/dotnet/roslyn
* .NET Core runtime: https://github.com/dotnet/runtime
* .NET Core SDK repository. https://github.com/dotnet/sdk
* ASP.NET Core repository. <https://github.com/dotnet/aspnetcore>

**Cross-platform:**

* .NET Core runs on Windows, macOS, and Linux operating systems.
* There are different runtime for each operating system that executes the code and generates the same output.

**Consistent across Architectures:**

* Execute the code with the same behavior in different instruction set architectures, including x64, x86, and ARM.

**Wide-range of Applications:**

* Various types of applications can be developed and run on .NET Core platform such as mobile, desktop, web, cloud, IoT, machine learning, microservices, game, etc.

**Supports Multiple Languages:**

* You can use C#, F#, and Visual Basic programming languages to develop .NET Core applications.
* You can use your favorite IDE, including Visual Studio 2019/2022, Visual Studio Code, Sublime Text, Vim, etc.

**Modular Architecture:**

* .NET Core supports modular architecture approach using NuGet packages.
* There are different NuGet packages for various features that can be added to the .NET Core project as needed.
* Even the .NET Core library is provided as a NuGet package.
* The NuGet package for the default .NET Core application model is Microsoft.NETCore.App.
* This way, it reduces the memory footprint, speeds up the performance, and easy to maintain.

**CLI Tools:**

* .NET Core includes CLI tools (Command-line interface) for development and continuous-integration.

**Flexible Deployment:**

* .NET Core application can be deployed user-wide or system-wide or with Docker Containers.

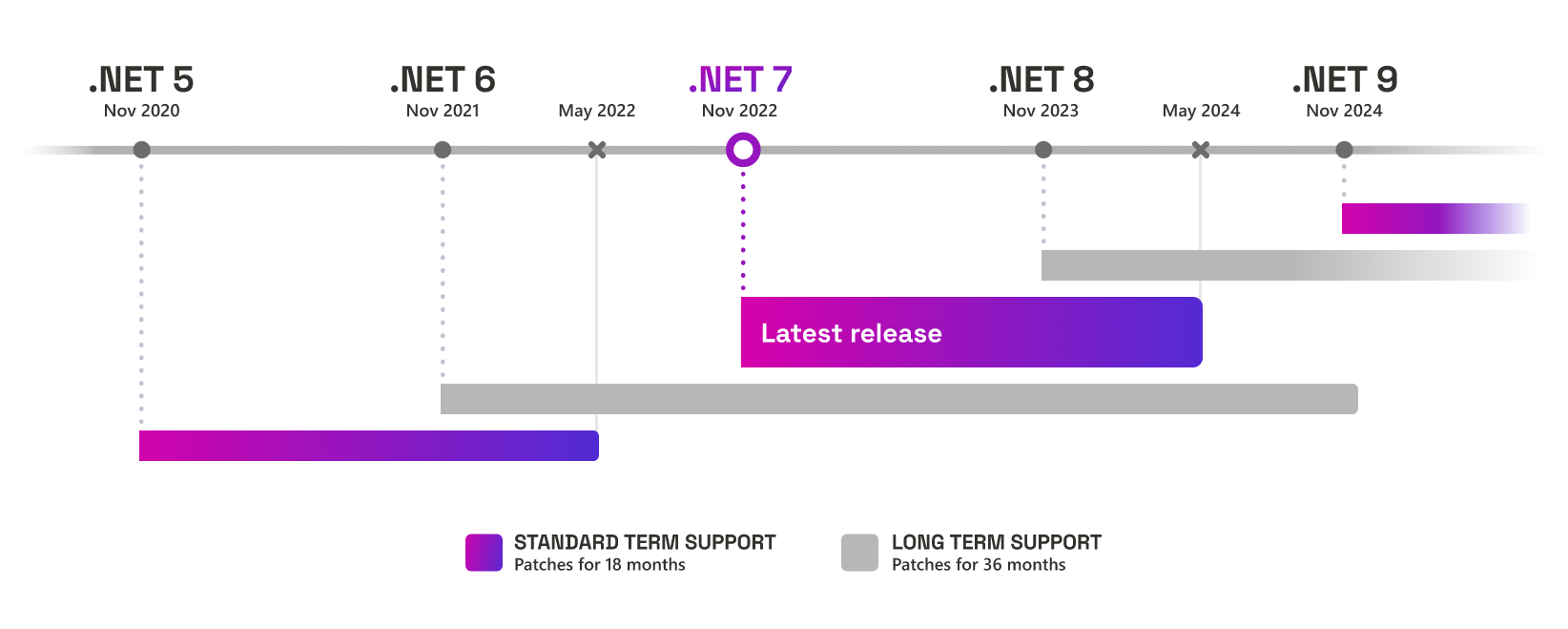
**Compatibility:**

* Compatible with .NET Framework and Mono APIs by using .NET Standard specification.

# .Net Core Composition

* CLI Tools: A set of tooling for development and deployment.
* Roslyn: Language compiler for C# and Visual Basic
* CoreFX: Set of framework libraries.
* CoreCLR: A JIT based CLR (Command Language Runtime).

# .Net Core versions

* It release in 27 June 2016.
* .Net core first version to .Net core 3.1 it know as .Net core after 4th version skip and release next version of .Net core which know as .Net 5.
* After it continues it’s sequence.
* .Net Core 3.1 is LTS and .Net 5 is Current term version, after every even version is LTS and odd version is Current term version.
* Every LTS version is supported by 3 year and current term is 18 months.
* Every year Microsoft release first preview version of next .Net core on 17 to 21 February.
* Every year Microsoft release 7 preview versions of next .Net core.
* Every year Microsoft release first release candidate version of next .Net core on 14 September.
* Every year Microsoft release 2 release candidate versions of next .Net core.
* Every year Microsoft release stable version new version on 8 November.

1. Overview of ASP.NET Core

# Introduction

* ASP.NET Core is the new version of the ASP.NET web framework mainly targeted to run on .NET Core platform.
* ASP.NET Core is a free, open-source, and cross-platform framework for building cloud-based applications, such as web apps, IoT apps, and mobile backends.
* It is designed to run on the cloud as well as on-premises.
* Same as .NET Core, it was architected modular with minimum overhead, and then other more advanced features can be added as NuGet packages as per application requirement.
* This results in high performance, require less memory, less deployment size, and easy to maintain.

# Why ASP.NET Core

**Supports Multiple Platforms:**

* ASP.NET Core applications can run on Windows, Linux, and Mac.
* So you don't need to build different apps for different platforms using different frameworks.

**Fast:**

* ASP.NET Core no longer depends on System.Web.dll for browser-server communication.
* ASP.NET Core allows us to include packages that we need for our application.
* This reduces the request pipeline and improves performance and scalability.

**IoC Container:**

* It includes the built-in IoC container for automatic dependency injection which makes it maintainable and testable.

**Integration with Modern UI Frameworks:**

* It allows you to use and manage modern UI frameworks such as Angular, ReactJS, Umber, Bootstrap, etc.

**Hosting:**

* ASP.NET Core web application can be hosted on multiple platforms with any web server such as IIS, Apache etc.
* It is not dependent only on IIS as a standard .NET Framework.

**Code Sharing:**

* It allows you to build a class library that can be used with other .NET frameworks such as .NET Framework 4.x or Mono.
* Thus a single code base can be shared across frameworks.

**Side-by-Side App Versioning:**

* ASP.NET Core runs on .NET Core, which supports the simultaneous running of multiple versions of applications.

**Smaller Deployment Footprint:**

* ASP.NET Core application runs on .NET Core, which is smaller than the full .NET Framework.
* So, the application which uses only a part of .NET CoreFX will have a smaller deployment size.
* This reduces the deployment footprint.

# Project Structure

**Properties:**

* The Properties Folder in ASP.NET Core Web Application by default contains one JSON file called as launchSettings.json file as shown in the below image.

**Models:**

* The Models folder of an ASP.NET Core MVC application contains the class files which are used to store the domain data (you can also say business data) as well as business logic to manage the data.

**View:**

* The Views Folder of an ASP.NET Core MVC application contains all the “.cshtml” files of your application.
* In MVC, the .cshtml file is a file where we need to write the HTML code along with the C# code.
* The Views folder also includes separate folders for each and every controller for your application.
* For example: all the .cshtml files of the HomeController will be in the View => Home folder.
* We also have the Shared folder under the Views folder.
* The Shared Folder contains all the views which are needed to be shared by different controllers.
* For example: error files, layout files, etc.

**Controllers:**

* The ASP.NET Core Web API is a controller-based approach.
* All the controllers of your ASP.NET Core Web API Application should and must reside inside the Controllers folder.
* It contain business logic of Web API, It handles all requests and give corresponding response.
* This File inherited from **“Controller”** class or **“ControllerBase”** class.
* **“Controller”** class is derived from the **“ControllerBase”** class.
* **“Controller”** should use when we want to return View from **“ActionMethod”**, Because when we use **“ControllerBase”** class then we can’t render View.

**appsettings.json file:**

* This is the same as web.config or app.config of our traditional .NET Application.
* The appsettings.json file is the application configuration file in ASP.NET Core Web Application used to store the configuration settings such as database connections strings, any application scope global variables, etc.

**appsettings.Development.json:**

* If you want to configure some settings based on the environments then you can do such settings in appsettings.{Environment}.json file.
* You can create n number of environments like development, staging, production, etc.
* If you set some settings in the appsettings.Development.json file, then such settings can only be used in the development environment, can not be used in other environments.

**wwwroot:**

* The **“wwwroot”** folder in the ASP.NET Core project is treated as a web root folder.
* Static files can be stored in any folder under the web root and accessed with a relative path to that root.
* **Libmen.json:** This file contains the list of libraries for static file to download.
* Each library has a name, a version, a list of files to download, and the location where the file will be copied.

**Program.cs:**

* It has a public static void Main() method.
* The Main method is the entry point of our Application.
* Each ASP.NET Core Web API Application initially starts as a Console Application and the Main() method is the entry point to the application.
* So, when we execute the ASP.NET Core Web API application, it first looks for the Main() method and this is the method from where the execution starts for the application.
* The Main() method then configures ASP.NET Core and starts it. At this point, the application becomes an ASP.NET Core Web API application.

**Startup.cs:**

* The Startup class is like the Global.asax file of our traditional .NET application.
* As the name suggests, it is executed when the application starts.
* Startup class includes two public methods:
  + ConfigureServices
  + Configure

**ConfigureServices:**

* + The ConfigureServices method of the Startup class is the place where we can register our dependent classes with the built-in IoC container.
  + Once we register the dependent classes, they can be used anywhere within the application.
  + The ConfigureServices method includes the IServiceCollection parameter to register services to the IoC container.

**Configure:**

* + The Configure method of the Startup class is the place where we configure the application request pipeline using the IApplicationBuilder instance that is provided by the built-in IoC container.
  + ASP.NET Core introduced the middleware components to define a request pipeline, which will be executed on every request.
* If you look at the Configure method, it registered UseDeveloperExceptionPage, UseSwagger, UseSwaggerUI, UseHttpsRedirection, UseRouting, UseAuthorization, and UseEndpoints middleware components to the request processing pipeline.
* After coming .Net 6 **“Startup.cs”** file was removed and combine the functionality with the **“Program.cs”** file.
* So now after .Net 6 we have only **“Program.cs”**.

**launchSetting.json:**

* The launchsettings.json file contains some settings that are going to be used by .NET Core when we run the application either from Visual Studio or by using .NET Core CLI.
* The launchSettings.json file is only used within the local development machine.
* So, this file is not required when we publishing our ASP.NET Core Web API application into the production server.
* Now, open the launchSettings.json file, by default you will see the following settings.
* If you are running your application from the visual studio then IIS Express Profile will be used (for HTTP the port number will be 63044 and for HTTPS the port number will be 44395).
* if you are running your application using .NET Core CLI, then WebAPIDemo profile will be used which is nothing but using Kestrel Web Server and for HTTP protocol it uses the port number 5000 and for HTTPS protocol it uses the port number 5001.

1. Controller Initialization

# Introduction

* In ASP.NET Core, controller initialization refers to the process of creating an instance of a controller class and preparing it for handling incoming HTTP requests.
* When a request is made to the server, ASP.NET Core follows a series of steps to initialize the controller before invoking the appropriate action method.
* Here's an overview of the controller initialization process in ASP.NET Core,

**Routing:**

* The request first goes through the routing middleware, which examines the URL and determines the appropriate controller and action method based on the defined routes in the application.

**Controller Activation:**

* Once the routing middleware identifies the controller, ASP.NET Core activates an instance of the controller class.
* By default, the framework uses the built-in dependency injection (DI) container to create the controller instance.
* The DI container resolves any dependencies required by the controller, injecting them through constructor parameters.

**Action Method Selection:**

* After the controller instance is created, ASP.NET Core selects the appropriate action method to handle the request.
* The action method is determined based on the HTTP verb (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE, etc.) and the name of the method.
* The framework also considers any route constraints or attribute-based routing when selecting the action method.

**Model Binding:**

* If the action method has parameters, ASP.NET Core performs model binding.
* Model binding maps the data from the request (query string parameters, form values, JSON payload, etc.) to the parameters of the action method.
* The framework uses model binders to perform this mapping automatically.

**Action Method Execution:**

* Once the model binding is complete, ASP.NET Core invokes the selected action method, passing in the bound parameters.
* The action method contains the logic to process the request and generate a response.

**Result Execution:**

* After the action method executes, it typically returns a result object, such as a view, JSON, or HTTP status code.
* ASP.NET Core handles the result and sends the appropriate response back to the client.
* It's important to note that ASP.NET Core supports extensibility points throughout the controller initialization process.
* We can customize the behavior by implementing filters, middleware, or overriding default conventions to suit your application's requirements.
* Overall, controller initialization in ASP.NET Core is a crucial step in handling HTTP requests, involving the creation of a controller instance, action method selection, model binding, execution, and result handling.

# What is Controller

* In ASP.NET Core, a controller is a class that inherits from the Controller base class or ControllerBase for API controllers.
* It contains a set of action methods that are responsible for processing specific HTTP requests and generating appropriate responses.
* Each action method typically corresponds to a specific endpoint or route in the application.
* The controller receives the incoming HTTP request, determines the appropriate action method to execute based on the request's route and HTTP verb, and then executes the method.
* The action method performs the required business logic, such as retrieving data, updating the model, or interacting with other services, and generates a response that is sent back to the client.
* Controllers in ASP.NET Core are responsible for tasks such as,

**Handling user input:**

* Controllers receive user input from the client, such as form data, query parameters, or JSON payloads, and process that input as needed.

**Model binding:**

* Controllers facilitate the process of binding incoming request data to action method parameters, allowing easy access to user input.

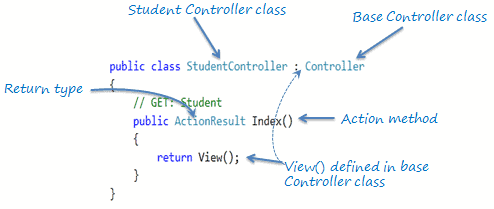
**Coordinating actions:**

* Controllers coordinate the necessary actions to fulfill the user request, such as retrieving data from a database, performing calculations, or invoking other services.

**Returning responses:**

* Controllers generate and return responses to the client, which can include rendering views, returning JSON or XML data, or redirecting to other URLs.

# How to create controller

* A controller is a special class that can be created in web development.

* Here are some important things to know about controllers,

**Naming Convention:**

* A controller class typically has a name that ends with "Controller".
* This naming convention helps identify it as a controller.

**Inheritance or Attribute:**

* A controller class can inherit from another class with a "Controller" suffix or have the [Controller] attribute applied to it.
* This indicates that it is a controller.

**Public and Instantiable:**

* Controllers are usually declared as public classes that can be instantiated.
* This allows them to handle incoming requests.

**UI-Level Responsibility:**

* The main role of a controller is to handle user requests and ensure that the received data is valid.
* It decides which view or result should be returned based on the request.

**Delegation of Responsibilities:**

* In well-structured applications, controllers typically delegate data access and business logic tasks to separate services.
* The controller focuses on handling the request and coordinating with these services.

1. Action Method

# Introduction

* It is used in controller classes to handle incoming HTTP requests and produce an HTTP response.
* It is responsible for executing the logic and returning the result to the client.
* The Action method is a public method defined within a controller class and is typically decorated with attributes to define the HTTP method it handles (such as [HttpGet], [HttpPost], etc.) and to specify route templates.
* Action method must be public.
* Action method cannot be overloaded, a static method and private or protected.

**Syntax:**

*public* *class* HomeController : Controller

{

    [HttpGet]

*public* *IActionResult* Index()

    {

*// Perform some logic here*

*// Return the appropriate IActionResult*

*return* View();

    }

}

* Action method return any thing like,
  + Void
  + Object – like int, List<Product>
  + ActionResult, or IActionResult

# Action Result

* ActionResult and IActionResult are classes/interfaces that represent the result of an action method in a controller.
* They provide a way to encapsulate the result that will be sent back to the client in response to an HTTP request.
* The IActionResult interface contains a single method, ExecuteResultAsync, which is responsible for executing the result and generating the appropriate response.
* ActionResult is a base class that implements the IActionResult interface.
* It provides a set of common functionality and properties that can be used by derived classes.
* It also provides a default implementation of the ExecuteResultAsync method.

**Syntax:**

*public* *interface* IActionResult

{

*Task* ExecuteResultAsync(*ActionContext* *context*);

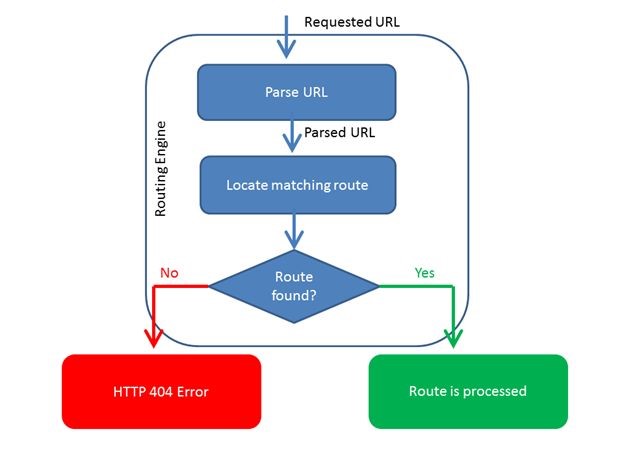
}

* Using ActionResult or IActionResult as the return type for an action method allows you to return different types of results based on the specific needs of your application.
* It provides flexibility in generating responses and enables you to handle various scenarios, such as rendering views, returning JSON data, redirecting to other actions or URLs, returning specific HTTP status codes, and more.
* It have different types of response which it can be return,

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Return Type | Description |
| PhysicalFileResult | Represents an action result that returns a physical file from the server. |
| ChallengeResult | Represents an action result that initiates an authentication challenge. |
| JsonResult | Represents an action result that serializes an object to JSON format. |
| StatusCodeResult | Represents an action result that returns a specific HTTP status code. |
| FileResult | Represents an action result that returns a file to the client. |
| ObjectResult | Represents an action result that serializes an object to a specific format. |
| RedirectResult | Represents an action result that performs a redirection to a specified URL. |
| ContentResult | Represents an action result that returns a user-defined content. |
| ViewResult | Represents an action result that renders a specified view to the response stream. |
| RedirectToActionResult | Represents an action result that performs a redirection to a specified action and controller. |
| ForbidResult | Represents an action result that indicates an access denied response. |
| VirtualFileResult | Represents an action result that returns a virtual file from the server. |
| OkResult | Represents an action result that indicates a successful HTTP request with no content. |
| CreatedResult | Represents an action result that returns a HTTP 201 Created response. |
| AcceptedResult | Represents an action result that returns a HTTP 202 Accepted response. |
| BadRequestResult | Represents an action result that indicates a HTTP 400 Bad Request response. |
| NoContentResult | Represents an action result that indicates a HTTP 204 No Content response. |
| NotFoundResult | Represents an action result that indicates a HTTP 404 Not Found response. |
| UnauthorizedResult | Represents an action result that indicates a HTTP 401 Unauthorized response. |
| RedirectToRouteResult | Represents an action result that performs a redirection to a specified route. |
| OkObjectResult | Represents an action result that returns a HTTP 200 OK response with an object. |
| ActionResult | Represents a generic base class for action results. |
| PartialViewResult | Represents an action result that renders a partial view to the response stream. |

1. Routing

# Introduction

* Routing is a system that matches incoming requests to specific actions or resources.
* When a user requests a URL, the routing system examines it and looks for a matching route.
* If a match is found, the system knows how to handle the request, such as serving a webpage or executing a controller action.
* If there's no matching route, it returns a 404 error.
* Essentially, routing helps determine what should be done with each user request.
* We have two types of routing,
  + Conventional based routing
  + Attribute routing

**Conventional based routing:**

* It creates routes based on a series of conventions which represent all the possible routes in your system.
* Convention-based are defined in the program.cs file.

app.MapControllerRoute(

    name: "default",

    pattern: "{controller=Home}/{action=Index}/{Id?}");

**Example:**

*using* Microsoft.AspNetCore.Mvc;

*namespace* RoutingLearn.Controllers

{

*public* *class* ProductController : Controller

    {

*// Product/Get*

        [HttpGet]

*public* *IActionResult* Get()

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// Product/Get/1*

        [HttpGet]

*public* *IActionResult* GetById(*int* id)

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// Product/Create*

        [HttpPost]

*public* *IActionResult* Create()

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// Product/Update/1*

        [HttpPut]

*public* *IActionResult* Update(*int* id)

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// Product/Delete/1*

        [HttpDelete]

*public* *IActionResult* Delete(*int* id)

        {

*return* View();

        }

    }

}

**Attribute based routing:**

* It creates routes based on attributes placed on controller or action level.
* Attribute routing provides us more control over the URLs generation patterns which helps us in SEO.

**Example:**

*using* Microsoft.AspNetCore.Mvc;

*namespace* RoutingLearn.Controllers

{

*//[Route("[controller]/[action]/{:id?}")]*

*public* *class* UserController : Controller

    {

*// User/Get*

*// GetUsers*

        [HttpGet]

        [Route("User/Get")]

        [Route("GetUsers")]

*public* *IActionResult* Get()

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// User/Get/1*

        [HttpGet]

        [Route("User/GetById/{:id}")]

*public* *IActionResult* GetById(*int* id)

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// User/Create*

        [HttpPost]

        [Route("User/Create")]

*public* *IActionResult* Create()

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// User/Update/1*

        [HttpPut]

        [Route("User/Update/{:id}")]

*public* *IActionResult* Update(*int* id)

        {

*return* View();

        }

*// User/Delete/1*

        [HttpDelete]

        [Route("User/Delete/{:id}")]

*public* *IActionResult* Delete(*int* id)

        {

*return* View();

        }

    }

}