View state, control state, hidden fields, cookies, and query strings all involve storing data on the client in various ways. However, application state, session state, and profile properties all store data in memory on the server. Each option has distinct advantages and disadvantages, depending on the scenario.

**What is Control State?**

The control state is a way to save a control’s state information when the EnableViewState property is turned off. Unlike ViewState a developer can’t turn off control state. The control state can be implemented only in controls that you implement.

**How to Use Control State?**

Control state implementation is easy. First, override the OnInit method of the control and add the call for the Page.RegisterRequiresControlState method with the instance of the control to register. Then, override the  LoadControlState and SaveControlState in order to save the required state information.

The next example shows a simple implementation for a control that saves a string as a state information:

[view source](http://dotnet.dzone.com/news/aspnet-client-side-state-manag-1#viewSource)

[print](http://dotnet.dzone.com/news/aspnet-client-side-state-manag-1#printSource)[?](http://dotnet.dzone.com/news/aspnet-client-side-state-manag-1#about)

01.public class ControlStateWebControl : Control

02.{

03.#region Members

04.

05.private string \_strStateToSave;

06.

07.#endregion

08.#region Methods

09.

10.protected override void OnInit(EventArgs e)

11.{

12.    Page.RegisterRequiresControlState(this);

13.    base.OnInit(e);

14.}

15.

16.protected override object SaveControlState()

17.{

18.    return \_strStateToSave;

19.}

20.

21.protected override void LoadControlState(object state)

22.{

23.    if (state != null)

24.    {

25.    \_strStateToSave = state.ToString();

26.    }

27.}

28.

29.#endregion

30.}

You need to remember only one thing – the control state takes away the choice to disable ViewState. You should   
only use it whenever you have to keep a state information that without it your control won’t work.

[http://i.msdn.microsoft.com/Hash/030c41d9079671d09a62d8e2c1db6973.gif](javascript:void(0))