

## 1. What is Entity Framework (EF)?

## **Simple Definition:**

Entity Framework (EF) is a tool in .NET that helps you connect your C# code with a database (like **SQL Server**), so you don't have to write SQL queries manually.

It lets you work with tables as C# classes and rows as objects.

## **Example to Understand:**

Instead of writing this SQL manually:

```
SELECT * FROM Students WHERE Age > 18;
```

With EF, you can do:

```
var data = db.Students.Where(s => s.Age > 18).ToList();
```

You're using C# code to talk to the database, and EF handles the SQL in the background.

## Key Features:

**Feature Description** 

ORM Tool EF is an Object-Relational Mapper

CRUD Operations Easily perform Create, Read, Update, Delete

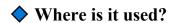
Code First / DB First Create tables from code or vice versa

LINQ Support Use LINQ queries for filtering/searching

Auto Mapping It auto-maps classes to tables, properties to columns

## Why Use Entity Framework?

- ✓ No need to write raw SQL
- Easier and faster development
- Code and DB are connected through models
- Changes to the model can auto-update DB (Code First)
- ✓ LINQ gives powerful data filtering in C#



- ASP.NET MVC / ASP.NET Core
- Console Applications
- Web APIs
- Desktop apps (WinForms, WPF)
- Any .NET project that needs to use a database

## **Weywords to Remember:**

- **ORM** = Tool to connect objects (C# classes) with relational DB (SQL tables)
- **DbContext** = Bridge between C# and DB
- **DbSet** = Table in DB
- Entity = Class mapped to a table

# **✓** How to Set Up Entity Framework (EF) in ASP.NET MVC (Practical Steps)

We will use Database First or Code First depending on your need, but for now, let's go with the simplest way using Code First approach.



## Step-by-Step Guide (Code First Approach)

- ✓ Step 1: Create ASP.NET MVC Project
  - 1. Open Visual Studio
  - 2. Click on Create New Project
  - 3. Choose: ASP.NET Web Application (.NET Framework)
  - 4. Name it: EF MVC Demo
  - 5. Select MVC template, click Create
- **✓** Step 2: Install Entity Framework Package

Open Tools → NuGet Package Manager → Package Manager Console Then run this command:

Install-Package EntityFramework

✓ It installs the latest stable EF version.

- **✓** Step 3: Create a Model (Entity Class)
- $\square$  Right-click on Models  $\rightarrow$  Add  $\rightarrow$  Class  $\rightarrow$  Name: Student.cs

```
public class Student
    public int StudentId { get; set; }
                                         // Primary Key
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public int Age { get; set; }
```

- ✓ Step 4: Create DbContext Class
- In Models folder, Add a class → AppDbContext.cs

```
using System.Data.Entity;
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
```

```
public AppDbContext() : base("DefaultConnection") { }
  public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
}
```

## Step 5: Add Connection String in Web.config

Open Web.config, find <connectionStrings> section, and add:

★ EF\_DB\_Demo is the database name, . means local SQL Server.

## **✓** Step 6: Enable Migrations (to create database)

Open Package Manager Console and run:

Enable-Migrations
Add-Migration InitialCreate
Update-Database

EF will automatically create the EF\_DB\_Demo database with the Students table.

## **✓** Step 7: Create Controller and Views

Right-click Controllers  $\rightarrow$  Add  $\rightarrow$  Controller

- Select: MVC 5 Controller with views, using Entity Framework
- Model Class: Student
- Data Context Class: AppDbContext

Click Add 🔽

## Step 8: Run and Test in Browser

- 1. Press F5 to run the project
- 2. Go to URL: /Student
- 3. You can now:
  - Add student

  - o Delete student
  - View details





Step	What You Did
1	Created MVC Project
2	Installed Entity Framework
3	Created Student model
4	Created DbContext (AppDbContext)
5	Added connection string
6	Ran migrations to create DB
7	Scaffolded Controller + Views
8	Run and test in browser



## 2. Approaches in Entity Framework (EF)

Entity Framework provides 3 main approaches to connect your C# code with a database. Let's understand each in very simple words:

## ✓ A. Code First Approach (Most Beginner-Friendly)

You create C# classes (called models), and EF will automatically create the database from those classes.

#### **Example:**

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
```

#### EF will:

- Create a table Students
- Map Id as Primary Key
- Map Name as a column

#### Tools Used:

- Migrations (Add-Migration, Update-Database)
- No need to touch SQL manually

#### Best For:

- New projects
- Full control from code

## **✓** B. Database First Approach

You already have a **ready SQL database** with tables.

EF will generate C# classes and DbContext from that database.

## **Example:**

If you already have a table like this in SQL Server:

```
CREATE TABLE Students (
  Id INT PRIMARY KEY,
 Name NVARCHAR (50)
```

#### Then EF will:

- Generate a Student.cs class
- Create a DbContext.cs
- You use it directly in your MVC code

#### **♦** Tools Used:

- EF Designer or .edmx file
- Visual Studio → "Add New Item → ADO.NET Entity Data Model"

#### **Best For:**

- Existing or legacy databases
- No need to write classes manually

## **✓** C. Model First Approach (Rarely used now)

- You design a visual model diagram using EF Designer (like drawing boxes for tables), and EF will:
  - Generate C# classes
  - Create database with tables

#### **♦** Not commonly used now because:

• Code First and DB First are more popular and flexible

# **✓** Simple Comparison Table

Feature	Code First	Database First	<b>Model First (Rare)</b>
Starts From	C# Classes	Existing SQL DB	Visual Diagram
DB Auto Created?	Yes (via migrations)	No (already exists)	Yes
Easy to Modify	✓ Yes	X Not always easy	▲ Less Flexible
Usage	Most Common	Used in Legacy apps	Not commonly used

## **Summary**

- Code First  $\rightarrow$  Start with classes  $\rightarrow$  Create DB  $\rightarrow$  Good for new projects
- **Database First** → Start with DB → Generate classes → Good for existing DBs
- Model First → Draw diagram → Create code + DB → Rare today

# **Code First Approach (using Migrations)**

#### **♦** What is Code First?

#### In Code First, you:

- Start by creating C# classes (models)
- EF will create the database and tables for you using Migrations

## Step-by-Step: Code First with Migrations

### **✓** Step 1: Create ASP.NET MVC Project

- Open Visual Studio
- File → New Project → ASP.NET Web Application (.NET Framework)
- Choose MVC, click Create

### **✓** Step 2: Install Entity Framework

#### In Package Manager Console, run:

Install-Package EntityFramework

## ✓ Step 3: Create Model Class (e.g., Student.cs)

```
public class Student
{
    public int Id { get; set; } // Primary Key by default
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public int Age { get; set; }
}
```

## **✓** Step 4: Create DbContext Class

```
using System.Data.Entity;
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{
    public AppDbContext() : base("DefaultConnection") { }
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
}
```

## **✓** Step 5: Add Connection String in Web.config

<connectionStrings>
 <add name="DefaultConnection"
 connectionString="Data Source=.;Initial Catalog=CodeFirstDB;Integrated
Security=True"
 providerName="System.Data.SqlClient" />
</connectionStrings>

## **✓** Step 6: Enable and Run Migrations

#### In Package Manager Console:

Enable-Migrations
Add-Migration InitialCreate
Update-Database

EF will create the database CodeFirstDB with Students table.

## **✓** Step 7: Use It in Controller

Use AppDbContext in your controller to add, update, fetch, delete data.

## **✓** Summary of Code First

Step	What Happens
Create Class	C# class = Table
DbContext	Link class to DB
Migrations	Used to create/update DB schema
Easy Changes	Change class → Add migration → Update DB

# **✓** Database First Approach (using Scaffold)

## **♦** What is Database First?

In Database First, you:

- Already have a SQL Database
- EF will generate all models and DbContext for you using a wizard
- Step-by-Step: Database First using Scaffold
- **✓** Step 1: Create ASP.NET MVC Project

(Same as above)

### **✓** Step 2: Create Database Manually

#### In SQL Server, create a database and a table:

```
CREATE DATABASE SchoolDB;

USE SchoolDB;

CREATE TABLE Students (
    Id INT PRIMARY KEY IDENTITY,
    Name NVARCHAR(50),
    Age INT
);
```

#### **✓** Step 3: Add ADO.NET Entity Data Model

 $\square$  Right-click on **Models**  $\rightarrow$  Add  $\rightarrow$  New Item  $\rightarrow$ 

Choose: ADO.NET Entity Data Model → Name it: SchoolModel.edmx

#### Then:

- 1. Select EF Designer from Database
- 2. Create new connection to SchooldB
- 3. Select table: Students
- 4. Click Finish

#### This will:

- Create a .edmx file (diagram)
- Auto-generate model classes and DbContext

## **✓** Step 4: Use Generated Classes

#### You can now use:

```
SchoolDBEntities db = new SchoolDBEntities();
var students = db.Students.ToList();
```

All tables are ready to use!

## **✓** Summary of Database First

Step	What Happens
Existing DB	You already have database
Scaffold	EF reads DB and creates classes
edmx File	Visual diagram + auto-generated classes
Easy to Start	No need to write model manually

# **©** Code First vs Database First - Quick Comparison

Feature	Code First	Database First
Start with	C# classes (models)	SQL tables (existing DB)
Tool Used	Migrations	EDMX, Scaffolded Code
Best For	New Projects	Legacy/Existing Databases
Database Updates	Use migration commands	Update model from DB

#### Would you like me to:

- Kelp you build a real example of both in your system?
- Show how to add foreign keys using Code First?
- Or move to the next EF topic like **CRUD Operations**?

Let me know how you'd like to proceed!



## 3. What is DBCONTEXT and DBSET in Entity Framework?

We'll learn both with simple definitions + real-world examples:



#### ♦ What is phontest?



DbContext is a bridge between your C# code and the database.

It manages database connections, tracks changes, and helps to perform operations like insert, update, delete, select, etc.

## **Example:**

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
```

- AppDbContext inherits from DbContext
- It means this class represents your database
- Students is a table inside that database

## **What DbContext Does:**

#### Feature What It Does

Connection Connects your app to database using connection string

CRUD Operations Helps you Add, Edit, Delete, Read data

Change Tracking Knows what data has changed

LINQ Support Allows filtering/searching with LINQ queries

Pushes all changes to the database SaveChanges()

## **Sample Usage:**

```
using (var db = new AppDbContext())
   var student = new Student { Name = "Sagar", Age = 22 };
   // Save to database
   db.SaveChanges();
}
```

## ♦ What is DbSet?

## **Simple Definition:**

A DbSet<T> represents a table in the database, where T is your model class (like Student).

## **Example:**

```
public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
```

• This line says: "There is a table named Students that stores student objects."

### Nou Can:

- Add ()  $\rightarrow$  Add a new row
- Find()  $\rightarrow$  Get data by ID
- ToList()  $\rightarrow$  Get all data
- Remove()  $\rightarrow$  Delete a row

## **Summary Table**

Term	Description	
DbContext	Main class that manages the database connection and actions	
DbSet <t></t>	Represents a table inside the database	
Example	<code>DbSet<student></student></code> Students $ ightarrow$ Table Students stores Student class	

# **Code Example (Both Together):**

```
public class Student
{
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
}

public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
}
```

#### And in Controller:



## ✓ 4. Entity Classes (also called Models) in Entity Framework

### What is an Entity Class?

## **✓** Simple Definition:

An **Entity Class** is a simple C# class that represents a **table** in the database. Each property in the class becomes a column in the table.

## **Example:**

```
public class Student
     public int Id { get; set; } // \rightarrow becomes a column named Id (Primary Key) public string Name { get; set; } // \rightarrow becomes a column named Name
     public int Age { get; set; }
                                                        // → becomes a column named Age
```

In the database, EF will create a **table** like this:

#### Id Name Age

1 Sagar 22

## ♦ Where is it used?

These entity classes (models) are used in:

- DbContext → to create DbSet<Student>
- Views  $\rightarrow$  to display or take input from user
- Controllers  $\rightarrow$  to fetch, pass and save data

#### How EF understands it?

- EF looks at **class name** and creates a table
- EF looks at **property names** and makes them **columns**
- If EF sees int Id or ClassNameId, it automatically sets it as Primary Key

## **You can also define:**

- Data types (string, int, DateTime)
- Relationships (1-to-1, 1-to-many)
- Validations (Required, StringLength, etc.)

## **Example with Validation:**

```
using System.ComponentModel.DataAnnotations;
public class Student
{
   public int Id { get; set; }

   [Required]
   [StringLength(50)]
   public string Name { get; set; }

   [Range(10, 30)]
   public int Age { get; set; }
}
```

Now if someone tries to enter:

- Empty name  $\rightarrow$  X Error
- Age less than 10 or greater than 30 → X Error

## **Part Practices:**

Rule	Why?
Keep class name singular	EF will make table plural (Student → Students)
Use Id or ClassNameId	EF treats it as Primary Key
Use DataAnnotations	For validations
Use PascalCase (Name, Age)	Follow C# conventions

# Summary

Term	Meaning
Entity Class	C# class that becomes a table
Properties	Become columns in that table
Used In	DbContext, Views, Controllers
Example	Student class becomes Students table



## 🗹 5. Relationships (Foreign Keys) in Entity Framework

Entity Framework can automatically manage relationships between tables (models) using Foreign Keys.



## Why Relationships?

In real-world databases, tables are **connected**.



- One **Department** has many **Employees**
- One **Hotel** has many **Rooms**
- One **Student** belongs to one **Class**

We need to connect them using Foreign Keys (FKs).



## Types of Relationships in EF

Relationship Type	Example
One-to-One	One Student ↔ One Passport
One-to-Many (Common)	One Department → Many Employees
Many-to-Many	Many Students ↔ Many Courses

## **Example: One-to-Many (Most Common)**

Let's connect Department and Employee.

## **Step 1: Department Entity (Parent)**

```
public class Department
    public int DepartmentId { get; set; }
   public string DeptName { get; set; }
    // Navigation Property
    public ICollection<Employee> Employees { get; set; }
```

## ✓ Step 2: Employee Entity (Child)

```
public class Employee
    public int EmployeeId { get; set; }
   public string Name { get; set; }
```

```
// Foreign Key
public int DepartmentId { get; set; }

// Navigation Property
public Department Department { get; set; }
}
```

## **✓** Step 3: Add to DbContext

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{
    public DbSet<Department> Departments { get; set; }
    public DbSet<Employee> Employees { get; set; }
}
```

## **✓** Step 4: Add Migration & Update Database

Add-Migration AddDeptAndEmployee Update-Database

- ✓ EF will:
  - Create two tables: Departments and Employees
  - Add DepartmentId as a foreign key in Employees

# **S** Navigation Properties

Туре	What It Means
Department in Employee	Access parent from child
ICollection <employee> in Department</employee>	Access all children from parent

# Summary Table

Concept	Meaning
Foreign Key	A column that links to another table
Navigation	Used to access related data in C#
One-to-Many	Most used relationship type
Auto Mapping	EF creates FK using conventions

# **Bonus: Add Data (with FK)**

```
var dept = new Department { DeptName = "IT" };
context.Departments.Add(dept);
context.SaveChanges();

var emp = new Employee { Name = "Sagar", DepartmentId = dept.DepartmentId };
context.Employees.Add(emp);
context.SaveChanges();
```

Let's now understand Migrations in Entity Framework (Code First Approach) in the easiest way possible:



## 6. What is Migration in Code First?



Migration is a way to keep your database in sync with your C# code (models).

Whenever you **change a model (add/edit property)** — you tell EF:

"Hey! Update the database to match my new class!"



## **When to Use Migrations?**

Anytime you:

- Create a new model
- Modify a model (add, delete, rename property)
- Create relationships (foreign keys)
- Rename a table or column



# **%** 3 Most Common Migration Commands

Command	Purpose
Enable-Migrations	Set up migration for the first time
Add-Migration <name></name>	Tell EF: "What changes I made in code"
Update-Database	Apply those changes to the actual database



## Step-by-Step Example: (Simple Code First Setup)

## Step 1: Create Model

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
```



```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{
    public AppDbContext() : base("DefaultConnection") { }
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
}
```

✓ Also add connection string in Web.config.

## **Step 3: Run Migration Commands**

Open Package Manager Console

(Tools → NuGet Package Manager → Package Manager Console)

### **✓** 1. Enable Migrations (only once)

Enable-Migrations

It will create a Migrations folder with a Configuration.cs file.

## **2.** Add Migration

Add-Migration InitialCreate

This generates a migration file with table structure for Students.

## **✓** 3. Update Database

Update-Database



Your database will be created with the **Students** table!

# What if you change your model?

### For example:

You add a new property:

```
public string Email { get; set; }
```

#### Then run again:

Add-Migration AddEmailToStudent Update-Database

# Summary

Step	Command	Purpose
Set up Migrations	Enable-Migrations	Create migrations setup
Track code changes	Add-Migration YourName	Prepare changes for database
Apply to DB	Update-Database	Actually update the SQL Server database



# **7. CRUD Operations using EF (Code First)**

EF lets you perform Create, Read, Update, Delete easily using DbContext and DbSet.

Let's take an example with a Student class and do everything step-by-step.



## Model Class: Student.cs

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
   public string Name { get; set; }
   public int Age { get; set; }
```



## Setup in AppDbContext.cs

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
```



## P Now Let's Do CRUD One by One:

## 1. Create (Insert New Record)

```
using (var context = new AppDbContext())
   Student s = new Student { Name = "Sagar", Age = 22 };
   context.Students.Add(s);  // Add to memory
                                 // Save to DB
   context.SaveChanges();
```

Adds one new row in the Students table.

## **2.** Read (Select All or By ID)

```
using (var context = new AppDbContext())
    // Get all students
   var allStudents = context.Students.ToList();
    // Get student by ID
    var singleStudent = context.Students.Find(1); // where ID = 1
```

You can display or use the fetched data.

## **✓** 3. Update (Edit Existing Record)

```
using (var context = new AppDbContext())
{
   var studentToUpdate = context.Students.Find(1);
   if (studentToUpdate != null)
   {
      studentToUpdate.Name = "Updated Sagar";
      studentToUpdate.Age = 23;
      context.SaveChanges(); // Apply update
   }
}
```

✓ Modifies the data in the database for that student.

## **✓** 4. Delete (Remove Record)

```
using (var context = new AppDbContext())
{
   var studentToDelete = context.Students.Find(1);
   if (studentToDelete != null)
   {
      context.Students.Remove(studentToDelete);
      context.SaveChanges(); // Delete from DB
   }
}
```

 $\checkmark$  Deletes student record with ID = 1.

# Summary Table

Operation	Code Snippet	Description
Create	Add() + SaveChanges()	Add new record
Read	Find(id) or ToList()	Read one or all records
Update	Change values + SaveChanges()	Modify existing data
Delete	Remove() + SaveChanges()	Delete a record

Let's now learn LINQ to Entities in very simple language — with many real examples you can use in your project.



# **8. LINQ to Entities (Entity Framework)**



## What is LINQ to Entities?

LINQ to Entities means using LINQ (Language Integrated Query) to query data from the database using Entity Framework.

✓ It helps you write C# queries instead of writing SQL.

## **Example Model:**

Let's say we have this Student model:

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
   public string Name { get; set; }
    public int Age { get; set; }
    public string City { get; set; }
And DbContext:
```

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
```

# Basic Syntax of LINQ

Method Syntax (commonly used)

```
var result = context.Students.Where(s => s.Age > 20).ToList();
```

Query Syntax (like SQL)

```
var result = from s in context.Students
             where s.Age > 20
             select s;
```



**✓** 1. Get All Students

var students = context.Students.ToList();

**✓** 2. Get Students Where Age > 20

var students = context.Students.Where(s => s.Age > 20).ToList();

**✓** 3. Get Students Whose City = "Delhi"

var delhiStudents = context.Students.Where(s => s.City == "Delhi").ToList();

✓ 4. Get First Student (Any Order)

var firstStudent = context.Students.FirstOrDefault();

 $\checkmark$  5. Get Student by ID = 2

var s = context.Students.Find(2); // OR use FirstOrDefault(s => s.Id == 2)

✓ 6. Get Top 3 Students

var top3 = context.Students.Take(3).ToList();

7. Get Students Ordered by Age (Ascending)

var ordered = context.Students.OrderBy(s => s.Age).ToList();

8. Get Students Ordered by Age (Descending)

var orderedDesc = context.Students.OrderByDescending(s => s.Age).ToList();

**✓** 9. Check if Any Student from "Mumbai"

bool exist = context.Students.Any(s => s.City == "Mumbai");

**10.** Count Total Students

int total = context.Students.Count();

✓ 11. Group by City

```
var grouped = context.Students
   .GroupBy(s => s.City)
   .Select(g => new { City = g.Key, Count = g.Count() })
   .ToList();
```

## **✓** 12. Select Only Name & City (Projection)

```
var data = context.Students
   .Select(s => new { s.Name, s.City })
   .ToList();
```

## **✓** 13. Search Student whose name contains "Sa"

```
var search = context.Students
.Where(s => s.Name.Contains("Sa"))
.ToList();
```

## **✓** 14. Max and Min Age

```
int maxAge = context.Students.Max(s => s.Age);
int minAge = context.Students.Min(s => s.Age);
```

## **✓** 15. Skip and Take (Pagination)

```
var page2 = context.Students.Skip(5).Take(5).ToList(); // Get 6th to 10th record
```

# **✓** Summary Table

LINQ Task	Method Example	
Get All	ToList()	
Where condition	Where(s => s.Age > 20)	
Order results	OrderBy, OrderByDescending	
Get 1 record	FirstOrDefault(), Find(id)	
Select some fields	Select(s => new { s.Name })	
Group data	GroupBy(s => s.City)	
Count, Max, Min	Count(), Max(), Min()	
Check existence	Any(condition)	
Pagination	Skip(n).Take(m)	

# **✓** LINQ makes EF powerful:

You don't need to write SQL queries — just use LINQ in C# and EF does the job!



# 9. Validation in ASP.NET MVC

Validation means: Checking if the user's input is correct or not.

Example: Name should not be empty, Age must be a number, Email must be valid, etc.



## Why We Need Validation?

To **stop wrong or bad data** from being saved into the database.

#### Examples:

- Someone leaves "Name" empty X
- Enters text in "Age" field 💢
- Email without @gmail.com



## Types of Validation in MVC

Type	Where Done?	Description
Client-side	In browser	Fast validation using JavaScript
Server-side	In controller	Safe, always checks on server
<b>Data Annotations</b>	In model class	Most commonly used in MVC



## How to Use Validation (Data Annotations)

Just add attributes in the **Model class** 

## Example: Student.cs

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
    [Required(ErrorMessage = "Name is required")]
    public string Name { get; set; }
    [Range(18, 30, ErrorMessage = "Age must be between 18 and 30")]
    public int Age { get; set; }
    [EmailAddress(ErrorMessage = "Invalid Email")]
    public string Email { get; set; }
```

## Common Validation Attributes

Attribute	Description	
[Required]	Field must not be empty	
[StringLength]	Limit max/min characters	
[Range(min, max)]	Value must be between range	
[EmailAddress]	Must be a valid email	
[Compare("Other")]	Must match another field (like password confirm)	
[RegularExpression]	For custom patterns like phone no	



## Showing Error in View

In your View (Razor Page):

#### Show error messages for each input

```
@Html.TextBoxFor(model => model.Name)
@Html.ValidationMessageFor(model => model.Name)
```

#### Enable client-side validation in Layout.cshtml or your view:

```
@section Scripts {
    @Scripts.Render("~/bundles/jqueryval")
```

✓ This will show validation instantly when user fills the form!



## Controller Code (with Model Validation)

```
[HttpPost]
public ActionResult Create(Student s)
    if (ModelState.IsValid)
        // Save to DB
        db.Students.Add(s);
        db.SaveChanges();
        return RedirectToAction("Index");
    return View(s); // Show errors
```



## **Summary**

- ✓ Add [Required], [Range], [EmailAddress] in Model
- ✓ Use @Html.ValidationMessageFor() in View
- ✓ Use ModelState.IsValid in Controller
- Works both in browser (client) and server

# 10. Lazy Loading, Eager Loading, and Explicit **Loading in Entity Framework**

We'll learn each one very simply with definitions, diagrams in your mind, and code examples.





## **First, What Are These?**

These are ways to load related data (like foreign key or navigation property data) from the database in Entity Framework.

#### Suppose you have:

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
   public string Name { get; set; }
    public int ClassId { get; set; }
    public virtual Class Class { get; set; } // Navigation Property
public class Class
    public int ClassId { get; set; }
   public string ClassName { get; set; }
    public virtual ICollection<Student> Students { get; set; }
```

Now — when you load Student, do you automatically want Class data also? Or load it only when needed?

→ That's where these 3 techniques come in.



## 🖊 1. Lazy Loading (Load When Needed 🔼)



### Related data is loaded only when you access it.

```
var student = context.Students.Find(1);
// Class is NOT loaded yet
string className = student.Class.ClassName; // NOW it's loaded
```

## **Requirements:**

- Navigation properties must be virtual
- Proxy must be enabled (default in EF)



- Saves memory and speed initially
- Loads related data only when you need it

### **X** Cons:

Multiple DB queries (when accessing multiple records)

# **2.** Eager Loading (Load With Main Data )

- Pros:
  - Only one query to fetch everything
  - Best when you know you'll need related data

## X Cons:

• Loads all related data — maybe more than needed

# 🔽 3. Explicit Loading (Load Manually 🔍)

First load main entity, then manually load related data using .Entry().Reference().Load().

```
var student = context.Students.Find(1);

// Later load related data
context.Entry(student)
          .Reference(s => s.Class)
          .Load();
```

- Pros:
  - You **control** when and what to load
  - Good for performance-sensitive cases

## X Cons:

- Requires more code
- You have to remember to load manually

# **Quick Comparison Table**

Feature	Lazy Loading	<b>Eager Loading</b>	<b>Explicit Loading</b>
When Loads?	When property used	With main entity	Only when told
Uses .Include()?	<b>X</b> No	✓ Yes	X No (uses .Load())
Number of Queries	Many small queries	1 big query	Controlled manually
Navigation Needed	virtual keyword	X Not needed	X Not needed

# **\*\*** When to Use Which?

Use Case	<b>Best Option</b>
You want related data always	✓ Eager Loading
You don't know if related data will be needed	✓ Lazy Loading
You want full control	Explicit Loading

# **Proposition Proposition P**

context.Students

- .Include(s => s.Class)
- .Include(s => s.Class.Teacher)
- .ToList();



# 11. Connection String in ASP.NET MVC

A Connection String is like a "Bridge" or "Address" that tells your app how to connect to the database (SQL Server, MySQL, etc).



## Where is it written?

In web.config file of your MVC project (inside root folder).



## Sample Code in Web.config:

```
<connectionStrings>
  <add name="DefaultConnection"
       connectionString="Data Source=.; Initial Catalog=StudentDB; Integrated
Security=True;"
      providerName="System.Data.SqlClient" />
</connectionStrings>
```

## Meaning of Each Part:

Part	Meaning	
name="DefaultConnection"	This name is used in your code (DbContext)	
Data Source=.	. means local SQL Server instance (you can also use localhost or YourServerName)	
Initial Catalog=StudentDB	This is your database name	
Integrated Security=True	Use Windows Authentication (no username/password)	

#### For SQL login (username/password), use:

```
connectionString="Data Source=.; Initial Catalog=StudentDB; User
ID=sa; Password=yourpassword"
```



## **How to Use This in Your DbContext Class?**

#### If you're using Entity Framework:

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
    public AppDbContext() : base("DefaultConnection") // Use connection string by name
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
```

```
✓ This line:
```

base("DefaultConnection")

Tells EF to use the connection string named **DefaultConnection** from Web.config.

# **Full Example:**

## Web.config

```
<connectionStrings>
   <add name="DefaultConnection"
        connectionString="Data Source=.;Initial Catalog=StudentDB;Integrated
Security=True;"
        providerName="System.Data.SqlClient" />
</connectionStrings>
```

## AppDbContext.cs

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{
    public AppDbContext() : base("DefaultConnection")
    {
    }
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
}
```

# Summary

Term Meaning		
Connection String	Info to connect to database	
Web.config	File where connection string is stored	
DbContext	Uses the connection string name to connect	



# **Tart 1: Handling Errors (Try-Catch)**

#### ♦ What is it?

Catch and safely handle any runtime errors during DB operations (like Save, Update, Delete).

## **Syntax:**

```
try
{
    // Risky code (e.g. DB insert)
    db.Students.Add(student);
    db.SaveChanges();
}
catch (Exception ex)
{
    // Handle error
    ViewBag.Error = "Something went wrong: " + ex.Message;
}
```

### Where to use:

- Inside Controller actions (like Create, Edit)
- For DB Save, Update, Delete

# **Example:** Create with Error Handling

## 😋 Displaying Error in View:

```
@if (ViewBag.Error != null)
    <div style="color:red">@ViewBag.Error</div>
```

## Part 2: Transactions in EF (All or Nothing)

### What is it?

If you want multiple database changes, and want either all to succeed or none, then use Transactions.

## **Example: Transaction with 2 Tables**

```
using (var transaction = db.Database.BeginTransaction())
    try
        db.Students.Add(new Student { Name = "Sagar", Age = 22 });
        db.SaveChanges();
        db.Classes.Add(new Class { ClassName = "MCA" });
        db.SaveChanges();
        transaction.Commit(); // 
    Everything worked
    }
    catch (Exception)
        transaction.Rollback(); // 💥 Undo everything
```

# Summary

Feature	Use for	Syntax Example
try-catch	Catch errors during DB operations	<pre>try { db.SaveChanges(); }</pre>
transaction	Group multiple DB operations together	db.Database.BeginTransaction()
Rollback()	Undo if anything fails	Inside catch block
Commit()	Confirm all changes	If everything succeeds

## **When to Use Transactions?**

- Saving data in multiple tables
- Updating related records (Ex: Hotel + Room)
- Booking scenarios where all must succeed



# **Global Error Handling in ASP.NET MVC**

Means: Catching and showing all unexpected errors from your whole app in one place — instead of writing try-catch in every controller.



## Why Do We Need Global Error Handling?

- To show friendly error pages to users
- To **log errors** for debugging
- To avoid application crashes



## **3** Main Ways to Handle Errors Globally:

Method	Place	Use For
1 customErrors	Web.config	Show custom HTML error page
2 HandleErrorAttribute	Global.asax/Controller	Catch unhandled exceptions
3 Global Filters	FilterConfig.cs	Apply error handling globally



## ✓ 1. customErrors in web.config (Simple HTML error page)

```
<system.web>
  <customErrors mode="On" defaultRedirect="~/ErrorPage.html">
   <error statusCode="404" redirect="~/NotFound.html"/>
 </customErrors>
</system.web>
```

Attribute	Use
mode="On"	Turns it on
defaultRedirect	Default error page
statusCode="404"	Page not found error



This is only for **simple static error pages**, no logic or logging.



## 2. Using HandleError Attribute (for MVC exceptions)

## Step 1: Add this in controller

```
[HandleError]
public class StudentController : Controller
    public ActionResult Index()
        throw new Exception ("Something went wrong");
```

### igotimes Step 2: Create a View ightarrow Views/Shared/Error.cshtml

```
<h2>Oops! An error occurred.</h2>
Please try again later.
```

Now if any error happens in that controller, it will automatically show Error.cshtml.

## 3. Global Filter Registration (HandleError for whole app)

Instead of writing [HandleError] in every controller — apply it globally:

## Step 1: Open App\_Start/FilterConfig.cs

```
public class FilterConfig
    public static void RegisterGlobalFilters(GlobalFilterCollection filters)
        filters.Add(new HandleErrorAttribute());
```

#### Step 2: Ensure it's called in Global.asax.cs

```
protected void Application Start()
    FilterConfig.RegisterGlobalFilters (GlobalFilters.Filters);
```

Now all unhandled exceptions will go to Error.cshtml.

## Optional: Logging Errors (e.g., to a file)

You can use try-catch + write logs to a text file or database using libraries like:

- NLog
- log4net
- Serilog

#### Example:

System.IO.File.AppendAllText("C:\\Logs\\errors.txt", ex.ToString());

## Summary Table

Technique	Use Case	File
customErrors	Show static error pages (404, 500)	Web.config

Technique	Use Case	File
[HandleError]	Handle exception in controller	Controller
Global Filter	Apply [HandleError] to whole app	FilterConfig.cs
Logging	Save errors to file/DB	Optional

## **lonus** Tip:

- Always keep a friendly Error.cshtml page under Views/Shared
- Never show raw error messages to users

# Seeding the Database in ASP.NET MVC using Entity Framework

**Seeding** means: Adding **initial/default data** into the database **automatically** when the application runs or the database is created.



#### When Do We Seed?

- When you want to **pre-fill** tables (e.g. Roles, Admin user, Categories).
- Helpful during development and testing.
- Example: When the app runs first time  $\rightarrow$  add a few Hotels, Rooms, Students, etc.

## **Seeding with Code First + Migrations**

### **♦** Step 1: Create a Seeder Method

```
public class AppDbInitializer : CreateDatabaseIfNotExists<AppDbContext>
{
    protected override void Seed(AppDbContext context)
    {
        // Seed data here
        context.Students.Add(new Student { Name = "Sagar", Age = 22 });
        context.Students.Add(new Student { Name = "Riya", Age = 21 });
        base.Seed(context);
    }
}
```

### ♦ Step 2: Set the initializer in Global.asax.cs

```
protected void Application_Start()
{
    Database.SetInitializer(new AppDbInitializer());

    // Other startup code
    AreaRegistration.RegisterAllAreas();
    RouteConfig.RegisterRoutes(RouteTable.Routes);
}
```

 $\checkmark$  Now, the first time the database is created  $\rightarrow$  this seed data will be inserted.

## Seeding with Migrations (Recommended Way)

If you're using **Code First + Migrations**, this is more modern.

♦ Step 1: Open Migrations/Configuration.cs

#### If you're using EF 6, you'll see:

```
protected override void Seed(AppDbContext context)
{
    // This method will be called after migrating to latest version.
    context.Students.AddOrUpdate(
        s => s.Name, // Match by Name to avoid duplicates
        new Student { Name = "Sagar", Age = 22 },
        new Student { Name = "Riya", Age = 21 }
    );
}
```

The Addorupdate() helps prevent duplicate records during each migration.

### **♦** Step 2: Apply Migration with Seeding

Use these commands in Package Manager Console:

```
Add-Migration SeedInitialData Update-Database
```

After this, your seed data will be inserted into the database automatically.

## Summary

Method	When to Use	Where to Write
CreateDatabaseIfNotExists	When no DB exists	Create custom initializer
Seed() in Migrations/Configuration.cs	With migrations	Migrations folder
AddOrUpdate()	Avoid duplicates	Inside Seed() method

## Example: Seed Hotel Data

```
context.Hotels.AddOrUpdate(
  h => h.Name,
  new Hotel { Name = "Taj", Location = "Mumbai" },
  new Hotel { Name = "Oberoi", Location = "Delhi" }
);
```

## Fluent API in Entity Framework (Very Simple) **Explanation**)



## **>** What is Fluent API?

Fluent API is a way to configure your EF model classes using C# code, not attributes.

Instead of using [Required], [MaxLength], [Key], etc. in your model you write all configuration using .Hasx(), .Isx() style code.

## Where to Write Fluent API Code?

Inside your DbContext class → override the OnModelCreating() method:

```
protected override void OnModelCreating(DbModelBuilder modelBuilder)
    // Fluent API here
```

## Fluent API vs Data Annotations

Feature	<b>Data Annotations</b>	Fluent API
Write where?	Inside model class	Inside OnModelCreating()
Example	[Required]	.IsRequired()
Can configure keys?	Partially	✓ Full control
Complex relationships	X Limited	✓ Powerful

## Examples

### 1 Make Property Required

```
modelBuilder.Entity<Student>()
    .Property(s => s.Name)
    .IsRequired();
Same as:
public class Student {
    [Required]
    public string Name { get; set; }
```

### 2 Set Max Length

```
modelBuilder.Entity<Student>()
    .Property(s => s.Name)
    .HasMaxLength(50);
```

#### **3** Rename Table Name

```
modelBuilder.Entity<Student>()
    .ToTable("tbl_Student");
```

### Set Primary Key

```
modelBuilder.Entity<Student>()
   .HasKey(s => s.StudentId);
```

### 5 Configure Foreign Key (One-to-Many)

```
modelBuilder.Entity<Student>()
   .HasRequired(s => s.Class)
   .WithMany(c => c.Students)
   .HasForeignKey(s => s.ClassId);
```

## **✓** Why Use Fluent API?

- Full control over DB schema
- Better for large/complex models
- Separate config logic from model class

## 🔁 Fluent API Syntax Format:

```
modelBuilder.Entity<ClassName>()
    .Property(x => x.PropertyName)
    .SomeConfiguration();
```

## 🗹 Summary

Feature	Fluent API Benefit
Required Fields	.IsRequired()
Max/Min Length	.HasMaxLength(), .HasColumnType()
Rename Table/Column	.ToTable(), .HasColumnName()
Primary/Foreign Key	.HasKey(), .HasForeignKey()
Relationships	.HasRequired(), .WithMany()

## DTOs (Data Transfer Objects) + AutoMapper in ASP.NET MVC



## 🔷 1. What is a DTO?

**DTO** = Data Transfer Object

A simple class used to send only the required data between layers (like from Controller to View or API to client).

## **Why use DTO?**

Problem without DTO	DTO Fixes it! 🗸
Expose full database model	Send only needed data
Security risk	Hide sensitive fields
Too much or wrong data sent	Send clean, shaped data only
Tight coupling with DB model	Loosely coupled data structure



## 2. Example – Without DTO

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
                                            // not needed in View
    public string Email { get; set; }
    public string Password { get; set; }
                                            // security issue!
```

Using this model in View exposes everything ②





### 3. Create DTO Class

```
public class StudentDto
    public string Name { get; set; }
```

Now only Name will be passed to the View/API.



## 🔷 4. What is AutoMapper?

A library that helps automatically convert one object type to another — like Student  $\rightarrow$  Student Dto.

## Why AutoMapper?

Without AutoMapper	With AutoMapper
Manual mapping	Automatic smart mapping
Lot of repeated code	Clean and short code

## 5. Install AutoMapper Package

#### In NuGet Package Manager:

Install-Package AutoMapper.Extensions.Microsoft.DependencyInjection



## 6. Create AutoMapper Profile

```
public class MappingProfile : Profile
    public MappingProfile()
        CreateMap<Student, StudentDto>();
        CreateMap<StudentDto, Student>(); // if needed
```

## ✓ 7. Register AutoMapper in Startup (Global.asax or Program.cs)

For ASP.NET MVC (Global.asax):

```
AutoMapper.Mapper.Initialize(cfg =>
    cfg.AddProfile<MappingProfile>();
});
```

✓ Now it's ready to map!



## 🗹 8. Use AutoMapper in Controller

```
public ActionResult Index()
    var students = db.Students.ToList();
    // Convert List<Student> to List<StudentDto>
    var studentDtos = students.Select(s => Mapper.Map<StudentDto>(s)).ToList();
    return View(studentDtos);
```

## 9. View Using DTO

```
@model List<ProjectName.DTOs.StudentDto>
@foreach (var s in Model)
{
      @s.Name <!-- Only Name, not password/email -->
}
```

## **✓** Summary Table

Term	Meaning
DTO	Class used to transfer data only
AutoMapper	Tool to convert one type to another
Profile	Configuration for mapping
.Map<>()	Method to convert

## Final Folder Structure Suggestion

- Models/
  - Student.cs
- DTOs/
  - StudentDto.cs
- Mappers/
  - MappingProfile.cs



## **Repository Pattern in ASP.NET MVC**

Think of **Repository** as a **middle helper** between your Controller and Database.



## Why Use Repository Pattern?

Without Repository	With Repository ( Better)
Controller directly talks to DB	Controller talks to Repository only
Hard to test	Easy to test and swap DB if needed
Code is tightly coupled	Loosely coupled, more organized
Code is repeated	Reusable functions in repository

## Simple Diagram:

```
Controller
Repository (Interface + Class)
DbContext (Entity Framework)
SQL Database
```



## **Steps to Implement Repository Pattern**

Let's say you have a **Student** table.

#### Step 1: Create a Model

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
```

### Step 2: Create DbContext

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
```

### **♦ Step 3: Create Repository Interface**

```
{
   List<Student> GetAll();
   Student GetById(int id);
   void Add(Student student);
   void Update(Student student);
   void Delete(int id);
}
```

### Step 4: Create Repository Class

```
public class StudentRepository : IStudentRepository
    private readonly AppDbContext context;
    public StudentRepository()
        context = new AppDbContext(); // Or inject it later
    public List<Student> GetAll()
        return context.Students.ToList();
    public Student GetById(int id)
        return context.Students.Find(id);
    public void Add(Student student)
        context.Students.Add(student);
        _context.SaveChanges();
    public void Update(Student student)
        _context.Entry(student).State = EntityState.Modified;
        _context.SaveChanges();
    public void Delete(int id)
        var student = _context.Students.Find(id);
        _context.Students.Remove(student);
        _context.SaveChanges();
```

### ♦ Step 5: Use Repository in Controller

```
public class StudentController : Controller
{
    private readonly IStudentRepository _repo;

    public StudentController()
    {
        _repo = new StudentRepository();
    }

    public ActionResult Index()
    {
        var students = repo.GetAll();
    }
}
```

```
return View(students);
}

public ActionResult Create(Student student)
{
    if (ModelState.IsValid)
    {
        _repo.Add(student);
        return RedirectToAction("Index");
    }
    return View(student);
}

// Same for Edit, Delete, Details using repository
}
```

## Summary

Layer	Responsibility
Model	Represents table
Repository	Handles DB operations
Controller	Calls Repository and returns view/data
DbContext	Connects to database via Entity Framework

## Folder Structure (Recommended)

```
- Models/
  - Student.cs
- Data/
  - AppDbContext.cs
- Repositories/
  - IStudentRepository.cs
  - StudentRepository.cs
- Controllers/
  - StudentController.cs
```

## Bonus: Generic Repository (For All Models)

Want to reduce code further? Use a **Generic Repository** like:

```
public interface IRepository<T> where T : class
{
    IEnumerable<T> GetAll();
    T GetById(int id);
    void Add(T item);
    void Update(T item);
    void Delete(int id);
}
```

And then implement for any model.

Let's now implement full CRUD using Repository Pattern in ASP.NET MVC with a practical example: **Student Management System.** 

## **✓** Full CRUD using Repository Pattern in **ASP.NET MVC**

## Step 1: Create the Student Model

Models/Student.cs

```
public class Student
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public string Email { get; set; }
```

### **Step 2: Create the DbContext**

Data/AppDbContext.cs

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
```

✓ Don't forget to add a connection string in web.config:

```
<connectionStrings>
  <add name="AppDbContext" connectionString="Data Source=.;Initial</pre>
Catalog=StudentDB; Integrated Security=True" providerName="System.Data.SglClient" />
</connectionStrings>
```

## **Step 3: Create the Repository Interface**

Repositories/IStudentRepository.cs

```
public interface IStudentRepository
    List<Student> GetAll();
    Student GetById(int id);
    void Add(Student student);
    void Update(Student student);
```



## Step 4: Create the Repository Class

Repositories/StudentRepository.cs

```
public class StudentRepository : IStudentRepository
    private readonly AppDbContext context;
    public StudentRepository()
        _context = new AppDbContext();
    public List<Student> GetAll()
        return context.Students.ToList();
    public Student GetById(int id)
        return context.Students.Find(id);
    public void Add(Student student)
        _context.SaveChanges();
    public void Update(Student student)
        _context.Entry(student).State = EntityState.Modified;
        _context.SaveChanges();
    public void Delete(int id)
        var student = _context.Students.Find(id);
        if (student != null)
           _context.SaveChanges();
```

## **Step 5: Create the Controller**

Controllers/StudentController.cs

```
public class StudentController : Controller
{
    private readonly IStudentRepository _repo;

    public StudentController()
    {
        _repo = new StudentRepository(); // You can later inject it
    }

    public ActionResult Index()
    {
        var students = repo.GetAll();
```

```
return View(students);
public ActionResult Details(int id)
    var student = repo.GetById(id);
   return View(student);
public ActionResult Create()
   return View();
[HttpPost]
public ActionResult Create(Student student)
    if (ModelState.IsValid)
        repo.Add(student);
        return RedirectToAction("Index");
    return View(student);
public ActionResult Edit(int id)
   var student = repo.GetById(id);
   return View(student);
[HttpPost]
public ActionResult Edit(Student student)
    if (ModelState.IsValid)
        _repo.Update(student);
       return RedirectToAction("Index");
   return View(student);
public ActionResult Delete(int id)
   var student = _repo.GetById(id);
   return View(student);
[HttpPost, ActionName("Delete")]
public ActionResult DeleteConfirmed(int id)
    repo.Delete(id);
   return RedirectToAction("Index");
```



## **Step 6: Create Views (Razor)**

Views/Student/Index.cshtml, Create.cshtml, Edit.cshtml, Details.cshtml, Delete.cshtml

I can provide all Razor View code as well — just say the word!



### Folder Structure Overview

- Models/
  - Student.cs
- Data/
  - AppDbContext.cs
- Repositories/
  - IStudentRepository.cs
  - StudentRepository.cs
- Controllers/
  - StudentController.cs
- Views/
  - Student/
    - Index.cshtml
    - Create.cshtml
    - Edit.cshtml
    - Delete.cshtml



private readonly AppDbContext <sub>.</sub>



## Simple Explanation:

Part	Meaning
private	Only this class can use it
readonly	It can only be assigned <b>once</b> (usually in the constructor)
AppDbContext	This is your database connection class (EF DbContext)
_context	This is the variable name you're using to store that database class

## In even simpler words:

You're saying:

"Create a permanent database object called \_context inside this class, so I can use it to talk to the database."

#### Why readonly?

- readonly means:
  - Once this variable is set (in constructor), you cannot change it again.
- This helps protect the database connection from accidentally being replaced.



## Full example:

```
private readonly AppDbContext _context;

public StudentRepository()
{
     _context = new AppDbContext(); // set it once here
}

// Use _context to talk to the database
public List<Student> GetAll()
{
    return _context.Students.ToList();
}
```

Now you can use \_context in any function to Add, Get, Update or Delete students from the database.