**ListView vs DetailView in Django**

| **Feature** | **ListView** | **DetailView** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Purpose** | Displays a **list of objects** from a model. | Displays **a single object** from a model. |
| **Model relation** | Works on **multiple rows** (queryset). | Works on **one row** (single object). |
| **Default context object** | object\_list (or custom context\_object\_name). | object (or custom context\_object\_name). |
| **Use case** | Show all students, products, blog posts, etc. | Show details of a single student, product, blog post, etc. |
| **Template expectation** | Loops over items in the template. | Shows fields of one item. |
| **Example template file name (default)** | <app>/<model>\_list.html | <app>/<model>\_detail.html |
| **URL requirement** | Normally does **not** need an ID/PK (just shows list). | Needs a **PK** or **slug** in URL to fetch a single record. |

**🔹 Example: Student Model**

# models.py

from django.db import models

class Student(models.Model):

    name = models.CharField(max\_length=100)

    roll = models.IntegerField(unique=True)

    city = models.CharField(max\_length=100)

    def \_\_str\_\_(self):

        return self.name

**1. ListView → Show all students**

# views.py

from django.views.generic import ListView

from .models import Student

class StudentListView(ListView):

    model = Student

    template\_name = "students/student\_list.html"

    context\_object\_name = "students"

# urls.py

from django.urls import path

from .views import StudentListView

urlpatterns = [

    path("students/", StudentListView.as\_view(), name="student-list"),

]

<!-- students/student\_list.html -->

<h2>All Students</h2>

<ul>

  {% for student in students %}

    <li>

      {{ student.name }} - {{ student.city }}

      <a href="{% url 'student-detail' student.id %}">View Details</a>

    </li>

  {% endfor %}

</ul>

**2. DetailView → Show one student**

# views.py

from django.views.generic import DetailView

from .models import Student

class StudentDetailView(DetailView):

    model = Student

    template\_name = "students/student\_detail.html"

    context\_object\_name = "student"

# urls.py

from django.urls import path

from .views import StudentDetailView

urlpatterns = [

    path("students/<int:pk>/", StudentDetailView.as\_view(), name="student-detail"),

]

<!-- students/student\_detail.html -->

<h2>Student Details</h2>

<p><strong>Name:</strong> {{ student.name }}</p>

<p><strong>Roll:</strong> {{ student.roll }}</p>

<p><strong>City:</strong> {{ student.city }}</p>

<a href="{% url 'student-list' %}">Back to list</a>

✅ **Summary in one line:**

* **ListView** = list of objects.
* **DetailView** = single object details.