# Implementing Data Validation



**Alex Wolf** 

www.alexwolfthoughts.com



#### To-Do List



Validating Form Inputs in Web Forms

Understanding Data Validation in MVC

Demo: Adding Validation to the Task Form

Implementing Custom Validation in MVC

**Demo: Creating Custom Data Attributes** 

**Demo: Customizing Model Level Validation** 



## Exploring Validation in MVC



#### Understanding Data Attributes

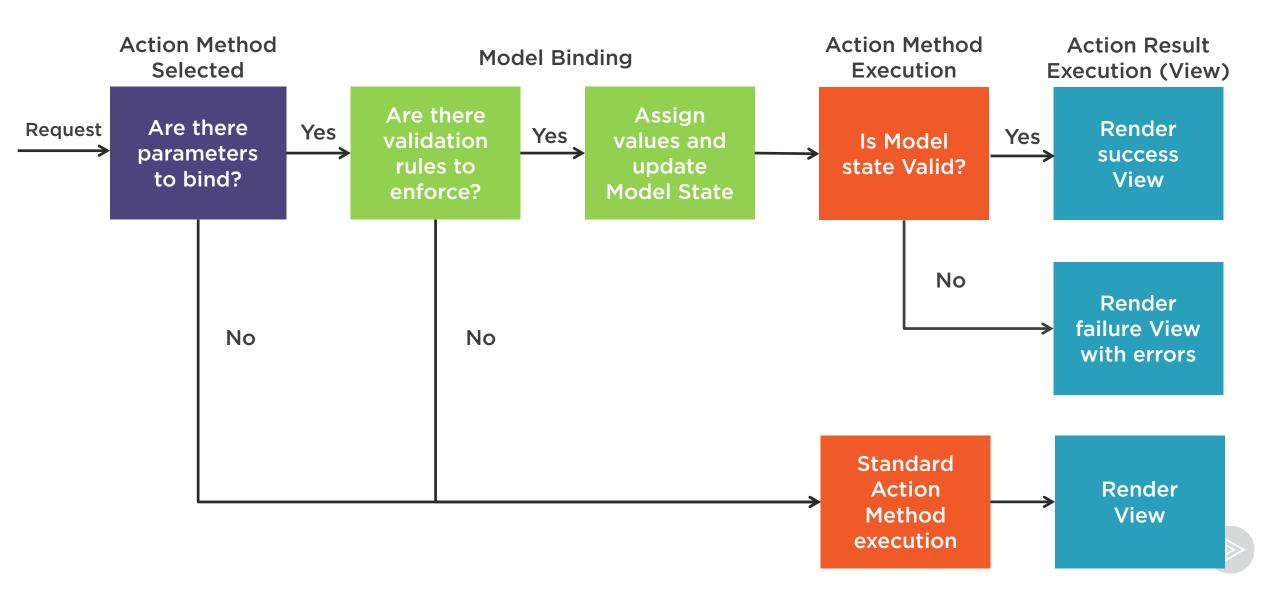
```
public class Task
     public int Id { get; set; }
     [Required]
     public string Title { get; set; }
     [Required]
     public string Description { get; set; }
    /// Other Properties
```

#### The Default Validation Attributes

Required StringLength RegularExpression Range Compare Remote



### Data Validation and the MVC Pipeline



```
<div class="form-group">
    @Html.LabelFor(x => x.Description, "Description")
    @Html.TextAreaFor(x => x.Description)
    @Html.ValidationMessageFor(x => x.Description)
</div>
```

### Razor Validation Helpers

ValidationMessageFor renders Property level errors



```
@Html.ValidationSummary()

<div class="form-group">
    @Html.LabelFor(x => x.Description, "Description")
    @Html.TextAreaFor(x => x.Description)

</div>
```

### Razor Validation Helpers (cont.)

ValidationSummary renders Model and (optionally) Property level errors



#### Client Side Validation

Razor Validation Helpers can auto generate data attributes for validation scripts



## Applying Validation in MVC



## Customizing Validation in MVC

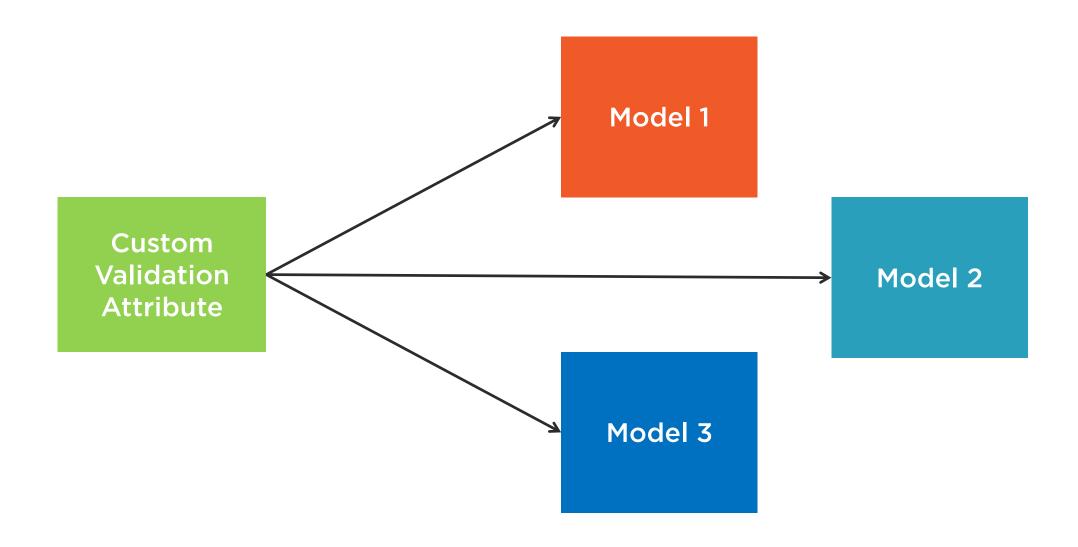


### Creating Custom Data Validation Attributes





### Reusable Validation Components



```
public interface IValidatableObject
{
    IEnumerable < ValidationResult > Validate(ValidationContext)
}
```

### The IValidatableObject Interface

Implemented on the Model rather than a specific Property

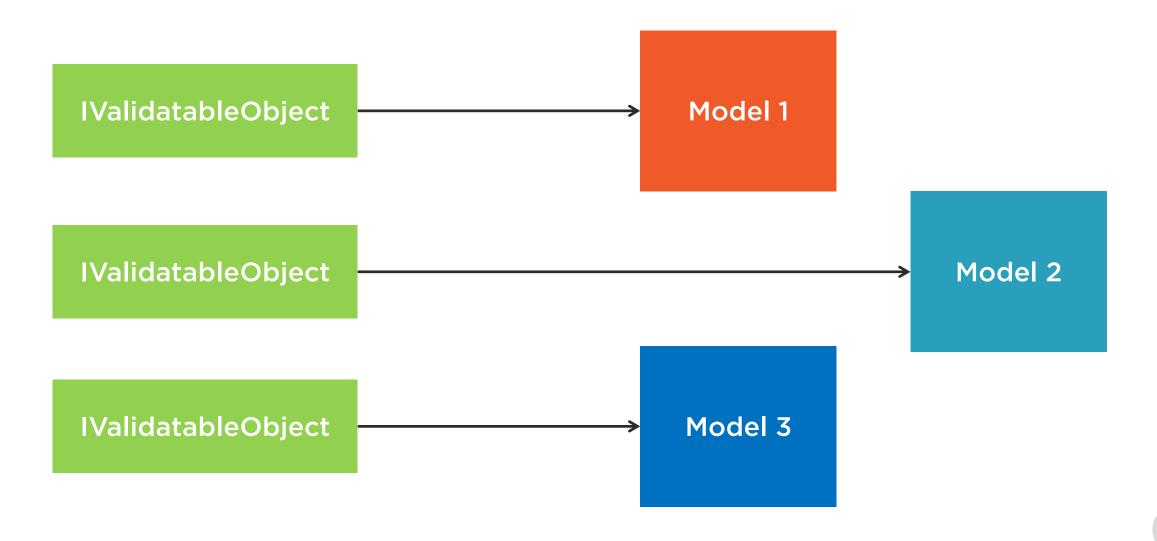


### Understanding Model Level Validation

```
public class Task
     public int Id { get; set; }
     [Required]
     public string Title { get; set; }
     [Required]
     public string Description { get; set; }
     public string Notes { get; set; } <</pre>
     public string Completed { get; set; }
```



### Limited Code Reusability





```
public class Task: IValidatableObject
       public int Id { get; set; }
       [Required]
       public string Title { get; set; }
       [Required]
       public string Notes{ get; set; }
       public IEnumerable < ValidationResult >
       Validate(ValidationContext
                                         validationContext)
             //Validation Logic
```

◆ Often not ideal to include logic in models



### Summary



Web Forms validates form data through associated server controls

MVC implements validation through the Model Binding process

Data Attributes or the IValidatableObject interface can be used to apply validation

Razor offers helper methods to streamline displaying error messages

Both framework implementations offer client side enhancements as well



### A Short Detour

