

BCS 2203 | WEB APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT

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COURSE OUTCOMES

- Create and define your website's structure
- Showing the user's current location in the site's structure using a breadcrumb
- Displaying the site's structure using TreeView web control
- Using the Menu Web Control



What is Site Map

- The classification of a website's pages into logical categories is defined as site map.
- Based on amazon.com, which part is defined as site map?





Example:

Amazon.com has its site broken into product and categories such as books, music, DVD's and so forth. Each of these sections is further categorized by genre.



What is Site Navigation

- Site navigation is the collection of user interface elements that assist users in browsing the site.
- Common navigation elements include:
 - ✓ Menus
 - ✓ Treeviews
 - ✓ Breadcrumbs
- These user interface elements serve two tasks:
 - ✓ They let users know where in the site they are currently visiting.
 - ✓ They make it easy for the users to quickly jump to another part of the site



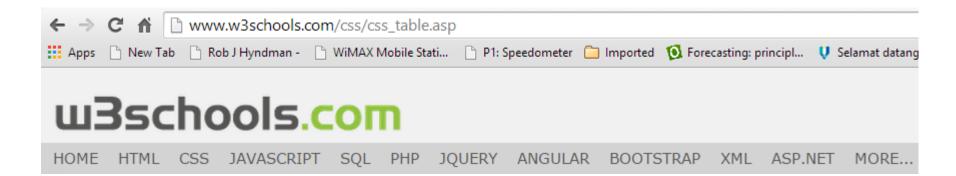
ASP.NET includes 3 navigation web controls:

- √ SiteMapPath
 - Provides a breadcrumb, which is a single line of text showing the user her location in the website's structure.
- ✓ TreeView
 - o Displays a hierarchical view of site's structure.
- ✓ Menu
 - Display the same data as the treeview, but render it as a collection of menu items and submenus.



SiteMapPath Control

- Provides a breadcrumb (a single line of text showing the user her location in the website's structure) navigation ability in a website that allows a user to jump from the current page to any of the page up until the home page
- Eg: The SiteMapPath control when www.w3schools.com/css/css_table.aspx is visited through a browser
- A breadcrumb allows the user to quickly see where she is in the site and to navigate back through the logical hierarchy







Breadcrumbs?





Defining the Website's Structure Using a Site Map

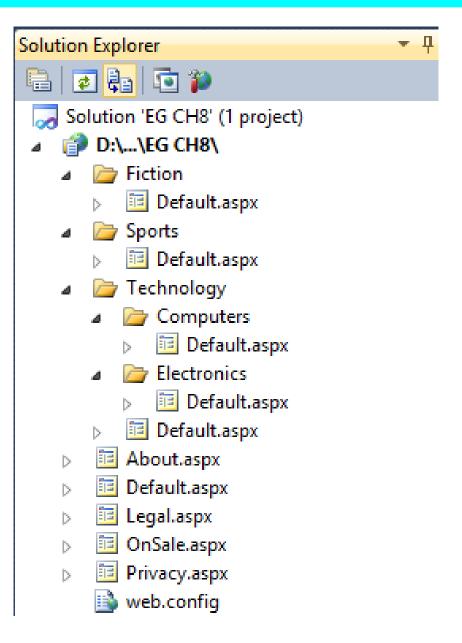
Steps:

- Create a new ASP.NET website
- Add 5 new ASP.NET pages:
 - ✓ Default.aspx
 - ✓ OnSale.aspx
 - ✓ Legal.aspx
 - ✓ Privacy.aspx
 - ✓ About.aspx
- Later, add 3 folders to the website: Sports, Fiction, and Technology
- In each of these folders, add a single ASP.NET page, Default.aspx.
- Finally, in the Technology folder, add 2 subfolders, Computers and Electronics, adding a Default.aspx page to each of these subfolders.



- To add a folder, right click the project name in the Solution Explorer – New Folder
- To add a webpage to a particular folder, right click that folder in the Solution Explorer – Add New Item



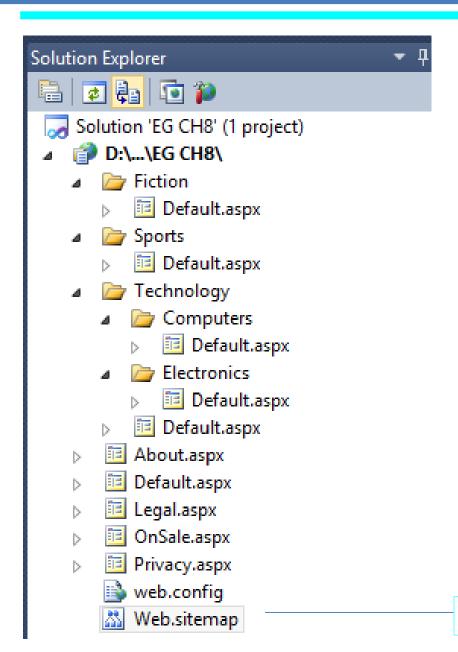




Adding the Site Map

- Follow the same steps as you normally would to add an ASP.NET page to the project
 - ✓ Right click project name in the Solution Explorer -> Add New Item
 - ✓ From Add New Item -> Site Map -> Add
 - Put the site map in the root directory
 - Leave the name of the file as Web.sitemap





When adding a site map to your project, remember to:

- 1. Put the site map in the root directory
- Leave the name of the file as Web.sitemap.

If you place this file in another folder or choose a different name, the navigation Web controls won't be able to find the site map because, by default, they look for a file named Web.sitemap in the root directory.

The Site Map



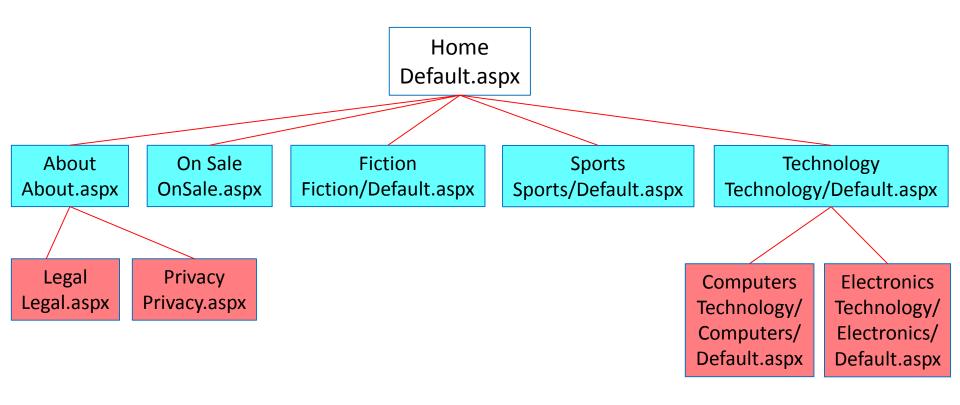
The default content of the Site Map

Formatting rules in editing the content of the Site Map:

- 1. Case sensitive
 - Eg: If you write <SITEMapNode>, you'll get an error.
- 2. All elements must have opening and closing tags



Building the Site Map





- To implement this structure in an ASP.NET site map:
 - ✓ Clear out the <SiteMapNode> elements, from line 3-6
 - ✓ Top to down of the hierarchy, add a <siteMapNode> or each section

First, let add a <siteMapNode> element for the Home section:



 Because the next sections in the hierarchy exist as decendants of the Home section, the corresponding <siteMapNode> elements will be nested within the Home <siteMapNode> element. There are 5 sections, requiring 5 <siteMapNode> elements:

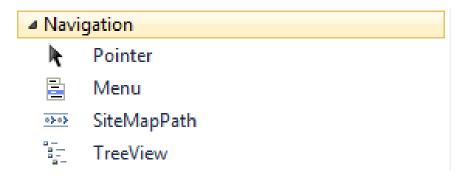


If you continue this process through the remainder section, you'll eventually wind up with the site map as shown below:

```
Web.sitemap X Technology/Electronics/Default.aspx
                                                                                           Technology/De
                                            Default.aspx
                                                          Technology/Computers/Default.aspx
 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
□ <siteMap xmlns="http://schemas.microsoft.com/AspNet/SiteMap-File-1.0" >
      <siteMapNode url ="Default.aspx" title ="Home" description ="">
          ksiteMapNode url ="About.aspx" title ="About" description ="">
              <siteMapNode url ="Legal.aspx" title ="Legal" description =""/>
              <siteMapNode url ="Privacy.aspx" title ="Privacy" description =""/>
          </siteMapNode>
          <siteMapNode url ="OnSale.aspx" title ="On Sale" description =""/>
          <siteMapNode url ="Fiction/Default.aspx" title ="Fiction" description =""/>
          <siteMapNode url ="Sports/Default.aspx" title ="Sports" description =""/>
          <siteMapNode url ="Tecnology/Default.aspx" title ="Technology" description ="">
              <siteMapNode url ="Technology/Computers/About.aspx" title ="About" description =""/>
              <siteMapNode url ="Technology/Electronics/About.aspx" title ="About" description =""/>
          </siteMapNode>
      </siteMapNode>
  </siteMap>
```



Displaying a Breadcrumb with the SiteMapPath control



Now, try add the SiteMapPath control to the Default.aspx pages in the root directory, in the Technology folder, and in the Computers subfolders

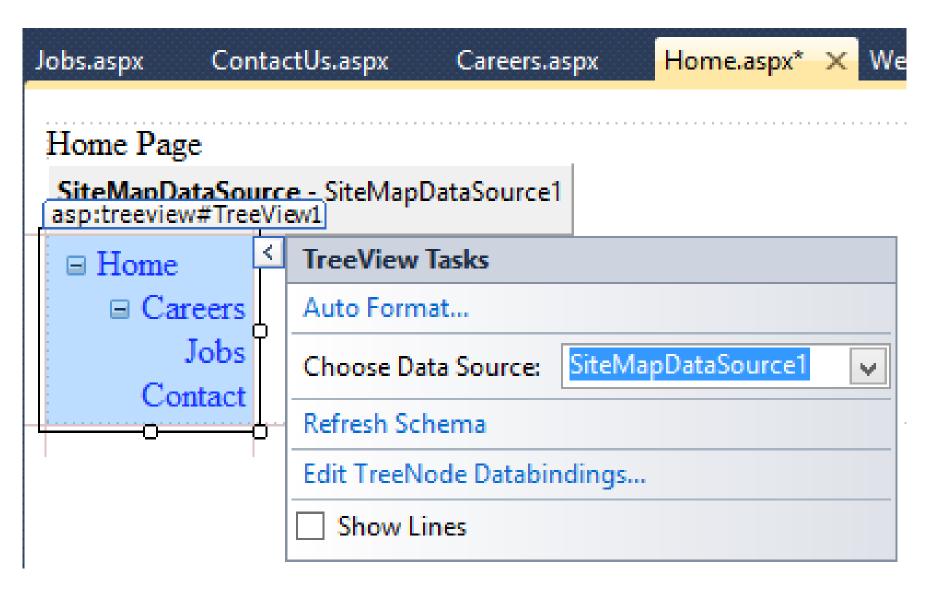
Sports/Default.aspx	OnSale.aspx	Web.sitemap	Technology/Electronics/Default.aspx ×	
body				
Home > Technology > About				
We provide good	electronic devic	es		



Displaying the Site's Structure in a TreeView

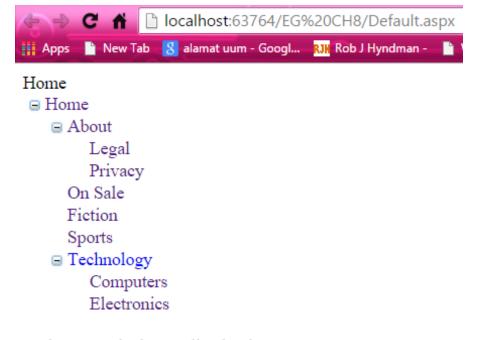
- TreeView
 - ✓ Displays a hierarchical view of the site's structure.
- Example:
 - ✓ Adding a TreeView to the Home section (Default.aspx in the root folder)
 - Add a SiteMapDataSourceControl to the page (Toolbox -> Data section)
 - 2. Add TreeView control to the page
 - 3. From its smart tag, select SiteMapDataSource we just added to the page from the Choose Data Source drop-down list











Welcome to the best online book store!

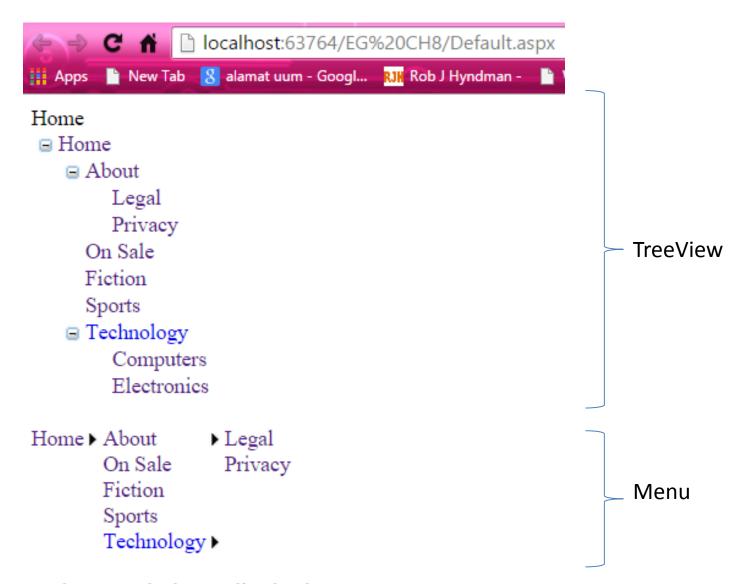


Using Menus to Show the Site's Structure

 Similarly like TreeView, the Menu Control displays the entire contents of the site map with the aid of SiteMapDataSource control.

TreeView	Menu
Display contents as a tree	Displays the items using a menu interface





Welcome to the best online book store!



Home

■ Home

■ About

Legal

Privacy

On Sale

Fiction

Sports

■ Technology

Computers

Electronics

Types of Nodes in TreeView	Description
Root Nodes	These nodes have no parent
Parent Nodes	These nodes are other than the Root Nodes that have children nodes
Leaf Nodes	These Nodes have a parent but no children nodes
Selected Nodes	The selected node in the one that corresponds to the current page being visited.



Configuring the Menu's Static and Dynamic Portions



Static:

The static portion of the menu is always shown when the page is viewed

Dynamic:

The dynamic portion is shown only when the user interacts with the menu



Summary

- The SiteMapPath displays a breadcrumb, showing the user the current page he is visiting and its location in the site map hierarchy
- The TreeView and Menu controls display the entire site map, either as a tree or a menu.
- To use the TreeView or Menu, you need to first add a SiteMapDatSource control to the page.

To be continued at Chapter 9...