

.NET MVC Ambiguous Type Reference

Asked 16 years, 3 months ago Modified 6 years, 10 months ago Viewed 8k times



Not entirely sure what's going on here; any help would be appreciated.

4

I'm trying to create a new .NET MVC web app. I was pretty sure I had it set up correctly, but I'm getting the following error:



The type 'System.Web.Mvc.ViewPage' is ambiguous: it could come from assembly 'C:\MyProject\bin\System.Web.Mvc.DLL' or from assembly 'C:\MyProject\bin\MyProject.DLL'. Please specify the assembly explicitly in the type name.



The source error it reports is as follows:

```
Line 1: <%@ Page Language="C#" MasterPageFile="~/Views/Shared/Site.Master"
Inherits="System.Web.Mvc.ViewPage" %>
Line 2:
Line 3: <asp:Content ID="indexContent"
ContentPlaceHolderID="MainContentPlaceHolder" runat="server">
```

Anything stand out that I'm doing completely wrong?

asp.net-mvc

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edited Jul 13, 2012 at 6:45



tereško

58.4k ● 25 ● 100 ● 150

asked Sep 7, 2008 at 16:54



Jordan H.

457 ● 5 ● 10

9 Answers

Sorted by: Highest score (default)



I suppose you named one of your page "ViewPage" is that the case?

3

And like @Jonathan mentioned, this smells:



```
Inherits="System.Web.Mvc.ViewPage"
```



On my MVC application, all the view pages have this instead:

```
Inherits="MySite.Views.Pages.Home"
```

Or something along the line. Your aspx page markup should have "Inherits" point to your code-behind class name, not the actual class that it is inheriting. The attribute name is rather misleading but its an artifact of earlier days.

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answered Sep 7, 2008 at 17:24



chakrit

61.5k ● 25 ● 136 ● 163



2

Are you using a CodeBehind file, I don't see CodeBehind="" attribute where you are specifying the Inherits from? Then you have to point inherits to the class name of the codebehind.



Example:



```
<%@ Page Language="C#" MasterPageFile="~/Views/Shared/Site.Master"
AutoEventWireup="true" CodeBehind="Index.aspx.cs"
Inherits="MvcApplication4.Views.Home.Index" %>
```

Make sure the Inherits is fully qualified. It should be the namespace followed by the class name.

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answered Sep 7, 2008 at 17:20



Dale Ragan

18.3k ● 3 ● 55 ● 71



2

I'm running ASP.NET MVC Beta and also encountered this error.

It came about while I was trying to remove the code behind file for a view. I removed the "CodeBehind" attribute in the @Page directive and changed the "Inherits" attribute to point to System.Web.Mvc.ViewPage, but left the actual aspx.cs code behind file untouched in my project.



At this point, if I tried to run my project, I got the error you mentioned.

I resolved this error by deleting the aspx.cs (code behind) file for the view from my project.

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answered Jan 7, 2009 at 5:23



Peter M



Check your assembly references to `System.Web.Mvc` in `web.config`.

2

Mine were explicitly specifying `2.0.0.0`, but my project referenced `3.0.0.0`



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edited Nov 9, 2012 at 15:22

answered Nov 9, 2012 at 14:59

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Artemix

2,161 ● 2 ● 23 ● 35



Paul

41 ● 1



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I got the same error when upgraded project from MVC 2 to MVC 5. Need to replace `System.Web.Mvc` version in both `web.config` files (in `~/` and `~/Views/`). – [Der_Meister](#) Jan 14, 2014 at 0:59



This error usually indicates a class naming conflict. You are referencing two namespaces or you created a class with the same name in another namespace that you are using. I would start by looking at what that could be.

1



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answered Sep 7, 2008 at 16:58



Dale Ragan

18.3k ● 3 ● 55 ● 71



```
Inherits="System.Web.Mvc.ViewPage"
```

1

I'd imagine that this should be pointed at your View codebehind file class, not at the base `ViewPage` class.



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answered Sep 7, 2008 at 17:10



FlySwat

175k ● 75 ● 248 ● 314



Open up `C:\MyProject\bin\MyProject.DLL` in Reflector and look for `ViewPage` to see if you've defined one by accident.

1

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answered Jun 26, 2009 at 17:24



Haacked

59k ● 14 ● 91 ● 115



0



No this should be a structural error message.

Check <http://trikks.wordpress.com/2011/08/26/the-type-is-ambiguous-it-could-come-from-assembly-or-from-assembly-please-specify-the-assembly-explicitly-in-the-type-name/>



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answered Aug 26, 2011 at 9:52



[Eric Herlitz](#)

26.2k ● 28 ● 116 ● 162



0



I had the same exact error this week.

My Webform.aspx file had a generated designer.cs file. In this file the class was actually named "ViewPage". Delete the designer file, or move the class contents to the webform.aspx.cs file and my error was gone.

Just putting it out there in case someone had this error.



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answered Feb 16, 2018 at 2:34



[Don P](#)

539 ● 6 ● 13