

Validation

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Validation

- Data usually flows in two directions:
 1. It either comes from the server and is sent to the end user's browser.
 - Files and databases

or

2. The data is entered by the user and sent to the server to be processed or stored.
 - Page requests, contact forms, shopping cart scenarios

Validation

- To prevent your system from receiving *invalid* data, it's important to **validate this data** before you allow your system to work with it.
- Gathering data from the user:
 - **GET**: Data is appended to the actual address of the page being requested.
 - **POST**: Data is sent in the body of the request for the page.

GET

- Data is added to the requested address for a page.
- You can retrieve it using the `QueryString` property of the `Request` object.

`http://www.MyWebSite.com/Reviews/ViewDetails.aspx?ReviewId=34&CategoryId=3`

- To access individual items in the query string, you can use the `Get` method of the `QueryString` collection:

```
// Assigns the value 34 to the reviewId variable
int reviewId = Convert.ToInt32(Request.QueryString.Get("ReviewId"));
// Assigns the value 3 to the categoryId variable
int categoryId = Convert.ToInt32(Request.QueryString.Get("CategoryId"));
```

POST

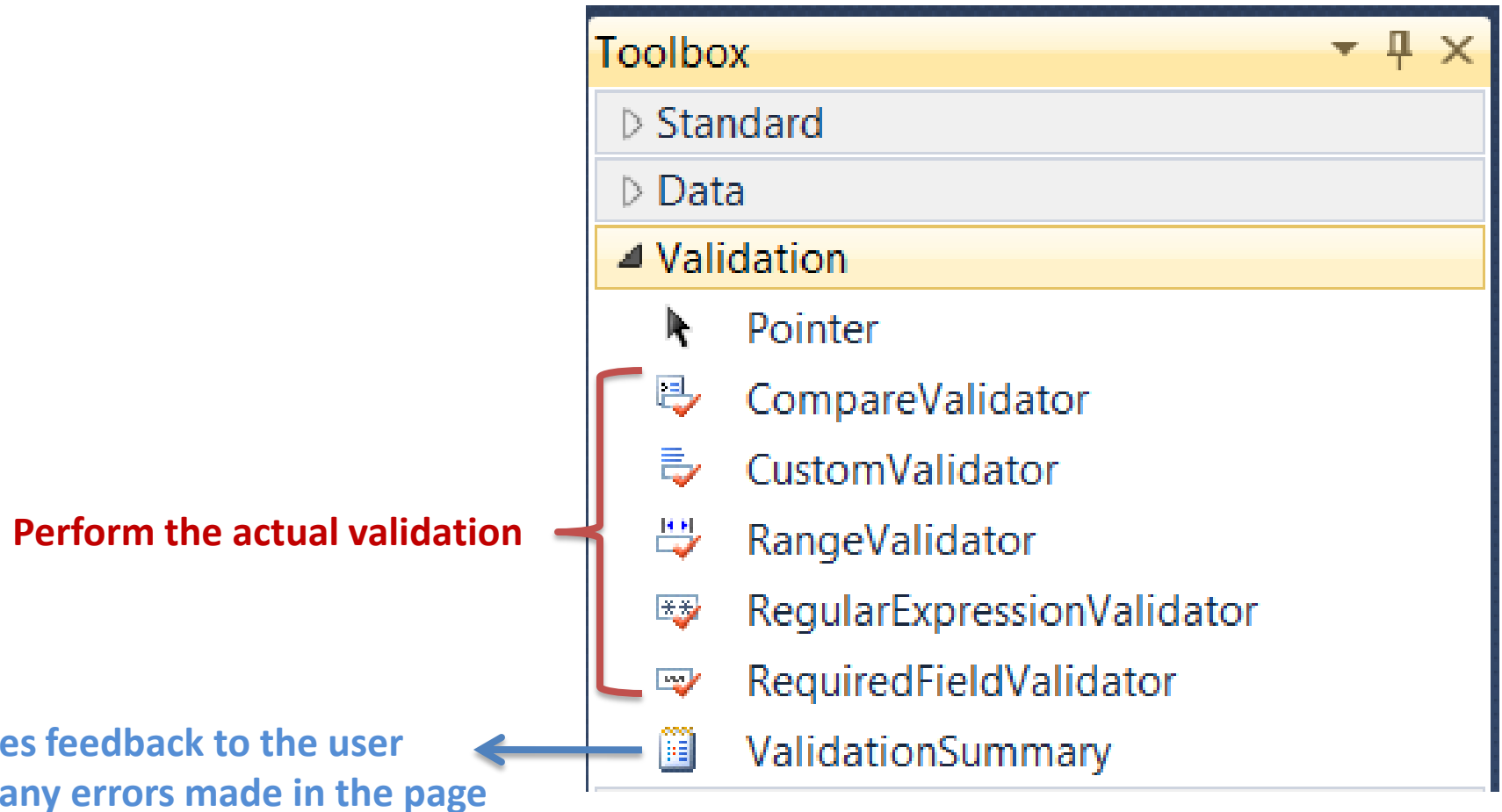
- Gets its data from a form with controls that have been submitted to the server.
- A `TextBox` called `Age` to hold the user's age and a `Button` to submit that age to the server.
- In the `Button` control's `Click` event:

```
int age = Convert.ToInt32(Age.Text);           // age now holds the user's age
```

- What happens when a user submits invalid data, either deliberately or by accident?
 - **Code will crash & throw an exception**
 - **Validate** all the data that is being sent to server.

ASP.NET Validation Controls

Never trust user input!



Validation Controls

- Check the input at the **client** and at the **server**.
- ***Never*** rely on client-side validation as the only solution to validation.
- Server-side validation is the ***only*** real means of validation.

Read

- `specifiedPickupDirectory`
- Sets the directory where applications save mail messages to be processed by the SMTP server.

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms164241.aspx>