2.2.0 – Basic Web Site Customization

Introduction

The basic solution has been created uses *default* values throughout; this is done so that the web site will run. There are many ways we can customize our web site but we will focus on some of the basics: (1) Application Name, (2) Default page, (3) Contact Information, (4) About page, and (5) Navigation menu.

Application Name

If not already done, open your Visual Studio project from the previous lesson. In the **eStoreWeb** project scroll down and open the **Site.master** file. It should look like:

Figure 1: Site.master Original

1. The first change is on line 9 and replace My ASP.NET Application with eStore.

Figure 2: Line 9 Changed

2. Scroll down to line 49 and change Application name to eStore.

```
// A8
49

// Spun Class= "navbar-brand" runat="server" href="~/">Application name</a>

// Figure 3: Line 49 of Site.master - Original

// Class="navbar-brand" runat="server" href="~/">eStore</a>

// Figure 4: Line 49 of Site.master - Changed

// Class="navbar-brand" runat="server" href="~/">eStore</a>
```

3. Scroll down to line 81 and replace My ASP.NET Application with eStore.

Figure 5: Line 81 of Site.master - Original

Figure 6: Line 81 of Site.master - Changed

When finished, run the web page, press , or press the **F5** key, to see the default page load in the browser (the red arrows point to the text that was changed in the Site.master file):

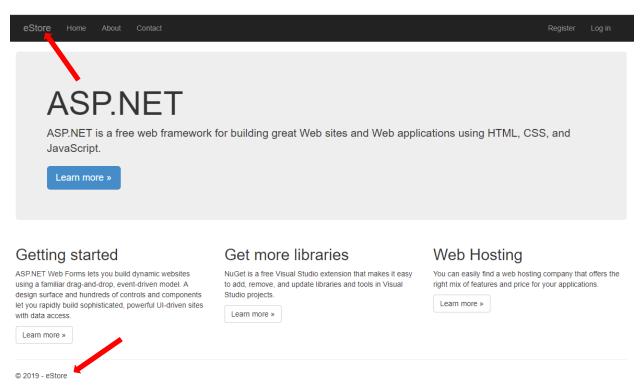


Figure 7: Default.aspx Loaded in the Browser

Default.aspx

In the previous lesson we set Defualt.aspx as the start page for the web site. Figure 4 (above) shows this page running in the browser. When we examine the code for this page we see:

```
<asp:Content ID="BodyContent" ContentPlaceHolderID="MainContent" runat="server">
           <h1>ASP.NET</h1>
           ASP.NET is a free web framework for building great Web sites and Web applications using HTML, CSS, and JavaScript.
           <a href="http://www.asp.net" class="btn btn-primary btn-lg">Learn more &raquo;</a>
10
11
      <div class="row">
12
13
           <div class="col-md-4">
               <h2>Getting started</h2>
15
                   ASP.NET Web Forms lets you build dynamic websites using a familiar drag-and-drop, event-driven model.
16
17
              A design surface and hundreds of controls and components let you rapidly build sophisticated, powerful UI-driven sites with data access.
               >
19
                   <a class="btn btn-default" href="http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=301948">Learn more &raquo;</a>
               21
           </div>
               <h2>Get more libraries</h2>
                  NuGet is a free Visual Studio extension that makes it easy to add, remove, and update libraries and tools in Visual Studio projects.
                   <a class="btn btn-default" href="http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=301949">Learn more &raquo;</a>
           </div>
           <div class="col-md-4">
32
33
34
               <h2>Web Hosting</h2>
                   You can easily find a web hosting company that offers the right mix of features and price for your applications.
               36
37
                   <a class="btn btn-default" href="http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=301950">Learn more &raquo;</a>
               </div>
       </div>
41 </asp:Content>
```

Figure 8: Default.aspx - Original

Notice the code in line 1; the page loads the Site.master file:

Line 3 has a Main Content, which ends on line 41:

```
<asp:Content ID="BodyContent" ContentPlaceHolderID="MainContent" runat="server">
</asp:Content>
```

All the code between these 2 lines is what we can change.

On Moodle, in the Code Files (2.2.0) folder, there is a file called **Default.aspx.txt**. This file contains the code that we will use to replace the existing/default code for Defualt.aspx.

- 1. Download the file.
- 2. Open in any preferred text editor
- 3. Copy all the code

4. Paste over the code in Default.aspx

When finished run the web page to see:

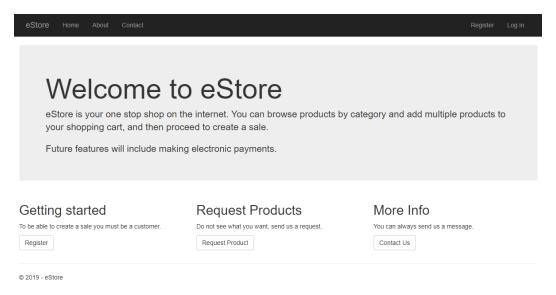


Figure 9: Updated Default.aspx Viewed in Browser

About.aspx

The **About** page is designed so that you can put information about your business for visitors. There is a file called **About.aspx.txt** on Moodle (same folder as used previously) that contains the content of the **About** page. Use the same steps as used for Default.aspx to modify About.aspx.

Contact.aspx

The **Contact** page is designed so that you can put contact information for visitors to be able to contact you. Like previous pages, there is a file on Moodle called **Contact.aspx.txt** that contains the content of the **Contact** page. You will need to change Your Name, Your Email, and Your Phone Number to your contact information.

Next Steps

When both **About** and **Contact** pages have been modified, run the web site in your browser. You should see the following when selecting the pages from the navigation menu:



Figure 10: Modified About Page



Figure 11: Modified Contact Page

Navigation Menu

The navigation menu is found in the Site.master file.

Figure 12: Original Navigation Menu

In this code, there are some things you need to know:

- 1. href="~/": means to go to the root of the website; the web page defined as the start page, which is Default.aspx.
- 2. : means that the menu is simply a formatted list of URLs.
- 3. Each item, ... , can only represent a menu item displayed on the navigation bar; it is not possible to have a drop-down menu.

What we want to do is to create a menu where we can have simple menu choices like the default menu and to have a drop-down menu option. To do this, we need to replace the existing menu with our own, custom, menu. The first thing to do is to locate the default menu and either delete it or comment it out (preferred just in case you make a mistake in creating your new menu).

Comment Out Original Menu

Modify lines 51 and 56 to give:

Add New Menu

Use the file called asp_menu.tx as the content of your new menu. You will need to copy this code to a blank line after line 72 (</asp:LoginView>):

```
Listing 2:New Navigation Menu
<asp:Menu ID="NavMenu" runat="server"
          BackColor="#222222"
          BorderColor="#ff0000"
                                                                             Menu styling
          StaticMenuItemStyle-ForeColor="#9d9d9d"
                                                                             to match the
          StaticMenuItemStyle-VerticalPadding="15px"
          StaticMenuItemStyle-HorizontalPadding="10px"
                                                                            original colours
          RenderingMode="List"
          Orientation="Horizontal"
          DynamicMenuItemStyle-ForeColor="#9d9d9d"
          DynamicMenuStyle-BackColor="#222222">
    <Items>
        <asp:MenuItem Text="Home" NavigateUrl="~/" />
                                                                                    Menu
        <asp:MenuItem Text="About" NavigateUrl="~/About.aspx" />
                                                                                    items
        <asp:MenuItem Text="Contact" NavigateUrl="~/Contact.aspx"</pre>
    </Items>
</asp:Menu>
```

TEST!

Rerun the web site to ensure the navigation still works!

Later, we will be adding more web forms to eStoreWeb, thus we will be modifying this menu to be able to navigate between the exiting web forms, and the new web forms.

Exercise

Complete Exercise 2.2.1.