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**You said:**

when naming a .NET Core Web API Controller is the convention to use a singular name that relates to an entity - e.g. CarController, or plural - e.g. CarsController?

**ChatGPT said:**

In .NET Core (and ASP.NET Core) Web API development, **the common convention is to use plural names** for controllers that handle collections of entities. So, you would typically name your controller:

**CarsController**

**Why Plural?**

* **RESTful conventions** favor plural nouns for resource collections.
  + For example:
    - GET /cars — retrieve a list of cars
    - GET /cars/5 — retrieve a single car by ID
    - POST /cars — create a new car
    - PUT /cars/5 — update an existing car
    - DELETE /cars/5 — delete a car
* Plural controller names align with the resource's route by default when using [controller] token in routing:
  + [Route("api/[controller]")] → api/cars when using CarsController

**Are Singular Names Wrong?**

No — **they’re not wrong**, and in some cases, you might prefer singular names:

* For semantic clarity, especially if the controller represents a **single resource** (e.g., AuthController, StatusController)
* In **RPC-style APIs** or where the controller isn't tied directly to a collection of data

**Summary**

| **Use Case** | **Recommended Controller Name** |
| --- | --- |
| Standard entity CRUD | CarsController (plural) |
| Single resource logic | AuthController (singular) |

Let me know if you want naming suggestions or route templates for your specific use case.

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