Routing and Binding, Views, DI and Services

Custom Model Binding and Validation, Files, Razor Syntax, Special Views, Routing and Dependency Injection



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Have a Question?



sli.do

#csharp-web

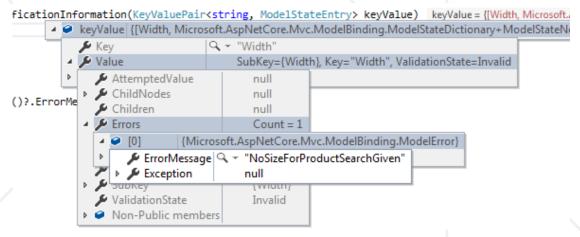


Custom Model Binding

Model Binding Overview



- Bridge between HTTP request and action method parameters
- Data from HTTP requests is used by controllers
 - Retrieved from route data, form fields, query strings, etc.
- Request data is bind to action parameters by name
 - If binding is not successful, an error is not thrown



The model binding behavior can be customized

Attributes



- Built-in Model binding behavior can be directed to a different source
 - The framework provides several attributes for that

Attribute	Description
[BindRequired]	Adds a model state error if binding cannot occur.
[BindNever]	Tells the model binder to never bind this parameter.
[From{source}]	Used to specify the exact binding source. [FromHeader], [FromQuery], [FromRoute], [FromForm]
[FromServices]	Uses dependency injection to bind parameters from services.
[FromBody]	Use configure formatters to bind data from request body. Formatter is selected based on Content-Type of Request.
[ModelBinder]	Used to override the default model binder, binding source and name.

Custom Model Binder (1)



- Custom Model Binding can be completely customized
 - You need to create a BindingProvider and a Binder

```
[ModelBinder(BinderType = typeof(StudentEntityBinder))]
public class Student
   public int Id { get; set; }
   public string Name { get; set; }
   public int Age { get; set; }
public class StudentEntityBinder : IModelBinder
   public Task BindModelAsync
         (ModelBindingContext bindingContext)
       // TODO: Do Magic ...
       bindingContext.Result
            = ModelBindingResult.Success(model);
       return Task.CompletedTask;
```

Custom Model Binder (2)



```
public class StudentEntityBinderProvider : IModelBinderProvider
    public IModelBinder GetBinder(ModelBinderProviderContext context)
        if(context == null)
            throw new ArgumentNullException(nameof(context));
        if(context.Metadata.ModelType == typeof(Student))
            return new BinderTypeModelBinder(typeof(StudentEntityBinder));
        return null;
```

```
services.AddControllerWithViews(options =>
{
    options.ModelBinderProviders
        .Insert(0, new StudentEntityBinderProvider());
    // Add custom binder to beginning
});
```



Model Validation Overview



- Model validation occurs after model binding
 - Reports errors that originate from model binding
- Two types of validation
 - Server-side
 - Client-side
- ModelState.IsValid property indicates if the model validation is successful
 - Iterates over the errors

Custom Model Validation (1)



- Validation attributes work for most needs, but not for all
 - Sometimes you need to implement your own validation attributes

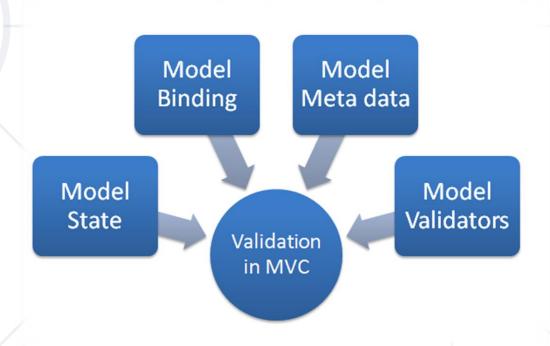
```
public class IsBefore : ValidationAttribute
   private const string DateTimeFormat = "dd/MM/yyyy";
    private readonly DateTime date;
   public IsBefore(string dateInput)
        date = DateTime.ParseExact(dateInput, DateTimeFormat, CultureInfo.InvariantCulture);
    protected override ValidationResult IsValid(object value, ValidationContext validationContext)
        if ((DateTime)value >= date) return new ValidationResult(ErrorMessage);
        return ValidationResult.Success;
```

Custom Model Validation (2)



Then you can use it in your model

```
public class RegisterUserModel
    [Required]
    public string Username { get; set; }
    [Required]
    [StringLength(20)]
    public string Password { get; set; }
    [Required]
    public string FirstName { get; set; }
    [Required]
    public string LastName { get; set; }
    [IsBefore("01/01/2000")]
    public DateTime BirthDate { get; set; }
```



Custom Model Validation (3)



- You can also use validation directly in the Binding Model
 - This is done by using the IValidatableObject interface

```
public class RegisterUserModel : IValidatableObject
{
   public string Username { get; set; }
   public string Password { get; set; }
   public string ConfirmPassword { get; set; }

   public IEnumerable<ValidationResult> Validate(ValidationContext validationContext)
   {
      if(string.IsNullOrEmpty(Username)) yield return new ValidationResult("Username cannot be empty");
      if(string.IsNullOrEmpty(Password)) yield return new ValidationResult("Password cannot be empty");
      if(ConfirmPassword != Password) yield return new ValidationResult("Passwords do not match");
   }
}
```



Uploading and Downloading Files

Files

Uploading Files (1)



- ASP.NET Core MVC supports File Upload using simple model binding
 - For larger files, Streaming is used

Multiple-file upload is also supported

Uploading Files (2)



- When uploading files using model binding, your action should accept
 - IFormFile (for single file) or IEnumerable<IFormFile> (or List<IFormFile>)

```
[HttpPost("Upload")]
public async Task<IActionResult> Upload(List<IFormFile> files)
   var filePath = Path.GetTempFileName(); // Full path to file in temp location
   foreach (var formFile in files.Where(f => f.Length > 0))
        using (var stream = new FileStream(filePath, FileMode.Create))
            await formFile.CopyToAsync(stream);
    } // Copy files to FileSystem using Streams
   var bytes = files.Sum(f => f.Length);
    return Ok(new { count = files.Count, bytes, filePath});
```

Downloading Files (1)



- ASP.NET Core abstracts file system access through File Providers
 - File Providers are used throughout the ASP.NET Core framework
- Examples of where ASP.NET Core uses File Providers internally
 - IHostingEnvironment exposes the app's content root and web root
 - Static File Middleware uses File Providers to locate static files
 - Razor uses File Providers to locate pages and views









Downloading Files (2)



- To access physical files, you have to use PhysicalFileProvider
 - You'll have to initialize it with your server physical files folder path
 - Then you can extract information about the File

```
public IActionResult Download(string fileName)
   // Construct the path to the physical files folder
    string filePath = this.env.ContentRootPath + this.config["FileSystem:FilesFolderPath"];
   IFileProvider provider = new PhysicalFileProvider(filePath); // Initialize the Provider
   IFileInfo fileInfo = provider.GetFileInfo(fileName); // Extract the FileInfo
   var readStream = fileInfo.CreateReadStream(); // Extact the Stream
   var mimeType = "application/octet-stream"; // Set a mimeType
   return File(readStream, mimeType, fileName); // Return FileResult
} // NOTE: There is no check if the File exists. This action may result in an error
```



What is Razor?



- Simple-syntax view engine
- Code-focused templating approach
- Easy transition between HTML and code
- Combining HTML and C#

Razor Syntax (1)



@ – For values (HTML encoded)

■ @{...} – For code blocks (keep the view simple)

```
@{
    var productName = "Energy drink";
    if (Model != null) { productName = Model.ProductName; }
    else if (ViewBag.ProductName != null) { productName = ViewBag.ProductName; }
}
Product "@productName" has been added in your shopping cart
```

Razor Syntax (2)



- If, else, for, foreach, etc. C# statements
 - HTML markup lines can be included at any part
 - @: For plain text line to be rendered

Razor Syntax (3)



Comments

```
@*
    A Razor Comment
*@
    @{
        // A C# comment
        /* A Multi
        line C# comment
        */
}
<!-- HTML Comment -->
```

Escaping @

```
This is the sign that separates email names from domains: @@<br/>
And this is how smart Razor is: spam_me@gmail.com
```

Razor Syntax (4)



■ @(...) – Explicit code expression

- @using for including namespace into view
- @model for defining the model for the view

```
@using MyWebApp.Models;
@model UserModel
@Model.Username
```

Views – Dependency Injection

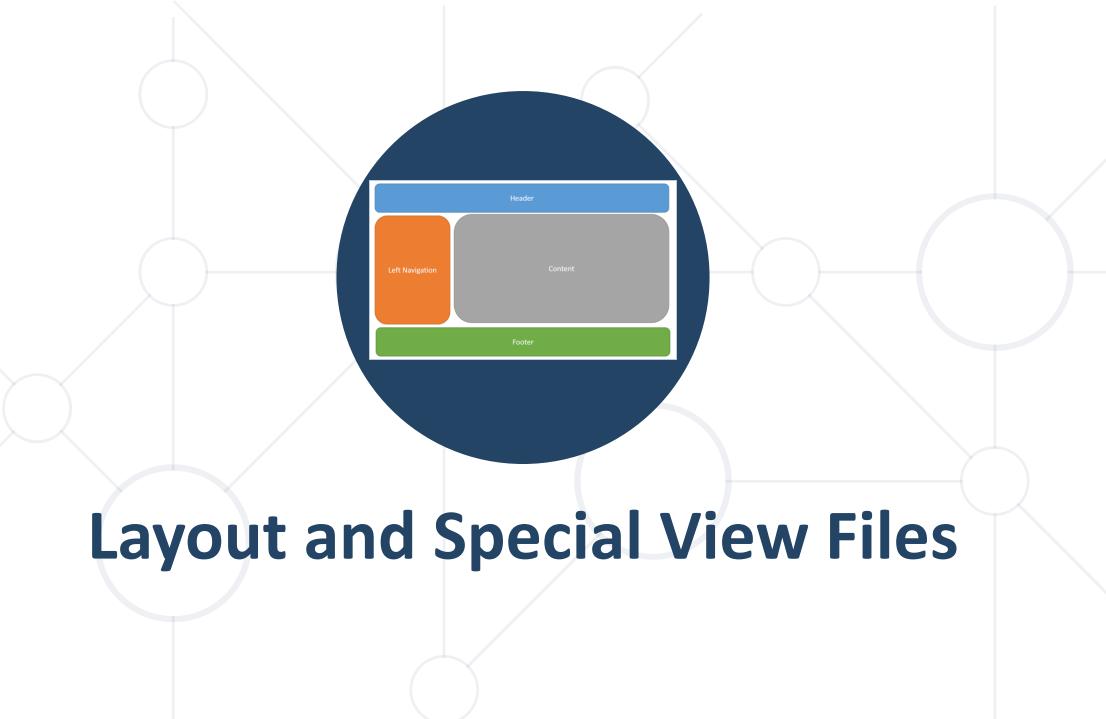


- ASP.NET Core supports dependency injection into views
 - You can inject a Service into a View by using @inject

```
public class DataService
{
    1 reference
    public IEnumerable<string> GetData()
    {
        return new[] { "David", "John", "Max", "George" };
    }
}
```

```
builder.Services.AddScoped<DataService, DataService>();
```

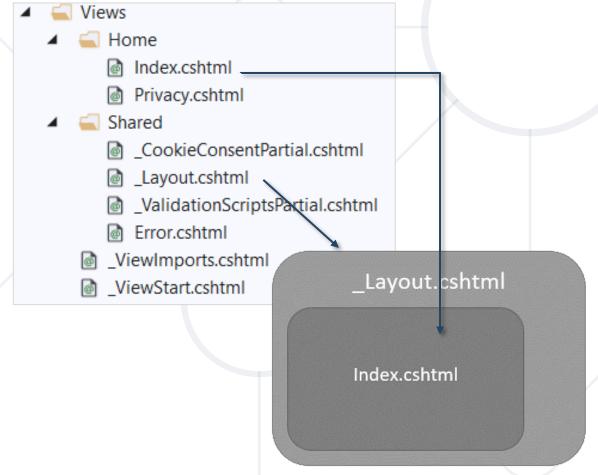
John Max George

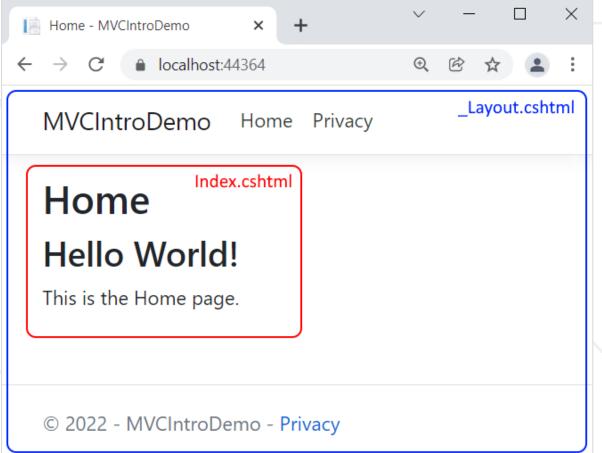


_Layout.cshtml (1)



Defines a common site template(~/Views/Shared/_Layout.cshtml)





_Layout.cshtml (2)



- Razor View engine renders content inside-out
 - First the View is rendered, and after that the Layout
- @RenderBody() indicate where we want the views based on this layout to "fill in" their core content at that location in the HTML

Sections



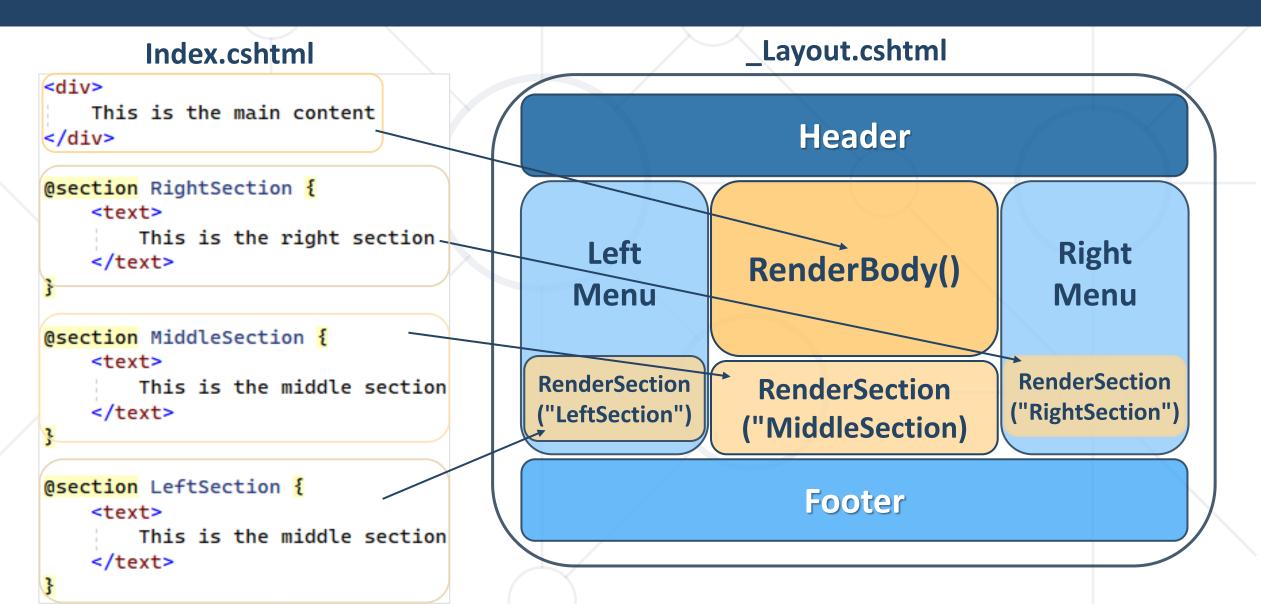
 You can have one or more "sections" (optional), defined in views

- Can be rendered anywhere in the layout page using the method RenderSection()
 - @RenderSection(string name, bool required)
 - If the section is required and not defined, an exception will be thrown (IsSectionDefined())

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
    <title>@ViewBag.Title</title>
    <link href="@Url.Content("~/Content/site.css")</pre>
        rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" />
</head>
<body>
    <div id="header">
        <h1>My Site Header</h1>
    </div>
    <div id="sidebar">
      @RenderSection("SideBar", required: false);
    </div>
    <div id="content">
        @RenderBody();
    </div>
    <div id="footer">
        <h1>Site Footer - &copy; </h1>
    </div>
</body>
</html>
```

Scheme





_ViewStart.cshtml



- Views don't need to specify layout since their default layout is set in their __ViewStart file
 - ~/Views/_ViewStart.cshtml (code for all views)
- Each view can specify custom layout pages

```
@{
    Layout = "~/Views/Shared/_UncommonLayout.cshtml";
}
```

Views without layout

```
@{
    Layout = null;
}
```

_ViewImports.cshtml



- If a directive or a dependency is shared between many Views, it can be specified globally in the ViewImports
 - ~/Views/_ViewImports.cshtml (code for all views)

```
@using MyWebApp
@using MyWebApp.Models
@using MyWebApp.Models.AccountViewModels
@using MyWebApp.Models.ManageViewModels
@using Microsoft.AspNetCore.Identity
@addTagHelper *, Microsoft.AspNetCore.Mvc.TagHelpers
```

This file does not support other Razor features

_ValidationScriptsPartial.cshtml



- This file contains validation scripts in the form of a partial view
 - ~/Views/Shared/_ValidationScriptsPartial.cshtml

```
<script
   src="~/lib/jquery-validation/dist/jquery.validate.min.js">
</script>
<script
   src="~/lib/jquery-validation-unobtrusive/jquery.validate.unobtrusive.min.js">
</script></script></script>
```

To use them, render the partial view inside a view in a section

```
@section Scripts {
    <partial name="_ValidationScriptsPartial" />
}
```



Partial View

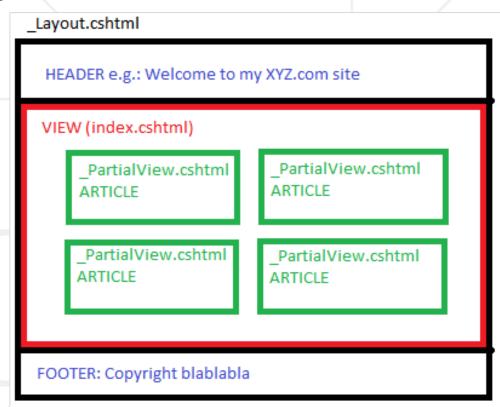
Partial View in Partial View

Partial Views and View Components

Partial Views



- Partial Views render portions of a page
 - Break up large markup files into smaller components
 - Reduce the duplication of common view code
- Razor partial views are normal views (.cshtml files)
 - Usually placed in /Shared/ or in the same directory where used



Use of Partial Views



HTML Helper for Partial Views

```
@using WebApplication.Models;
@model ProductsListViewModel

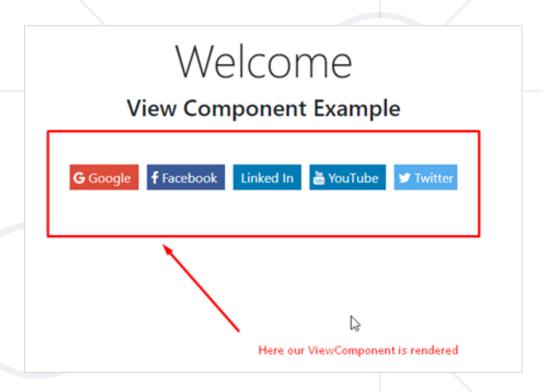
@foreach (var product in Model.Products)
{
     @await Html.PartialAsync("_ProductPartial", product);
}
```

Tag Helper for Partial Views

View Components (1)



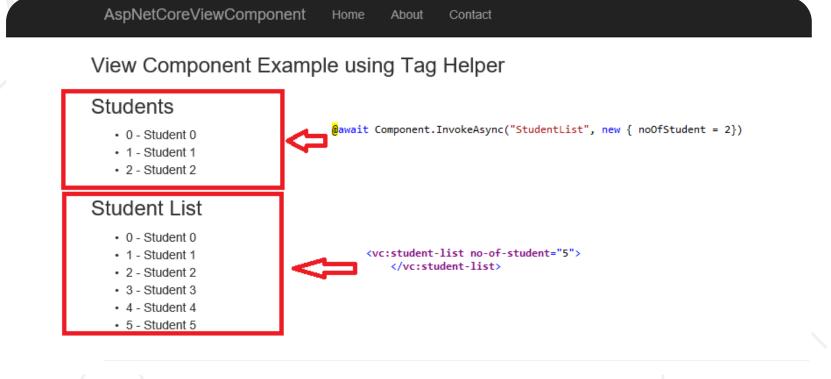
- View Components are similar to Partial Views, but much more powerful
 - No model binding
 - Depend only on the data provided to it
- View Components
 - Render a chunk rather than a whole response
 - Can have parameters and business logic
 - Typically invoked from a Layout page
 - Include the same separation of concerns and testability benefits between controller / view



View Components (2)



- View components are intended anywhere you have reusable rendering logic that's too complex for a partial view
 - Dynamic navigation menus
 - Login panels
 - Shopping carts
 - Sidebar content
 - Recently published articles
 - Tag cloud



View Components (3)



- View Components consist of 2 parts
 - A class typically derived from ViewComponent
 - A result typically a View
- View Components
 - Define their logic in a method called InvokeAsync()
 - Never directly handle a Request
 - Typically initialize a Model which is passed to the View

Defining Your Own ViewComponent (1)



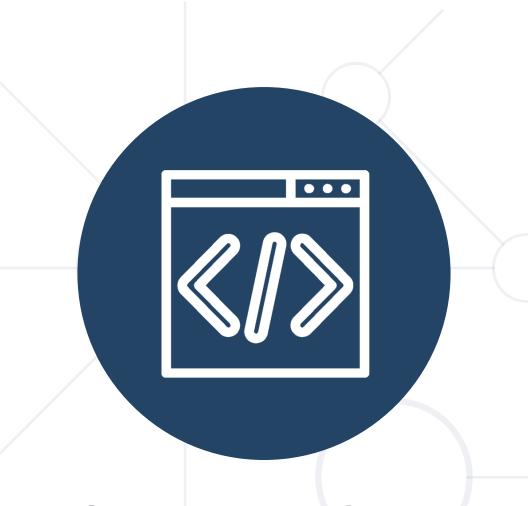
```
Inherit the
           \ViewComponents\HelloWorldViewComponent.cs
                                                               ViewComponent class
public class HelloWorldViewComponent: ViewComponent
                                                                 Components don't
    private readonly DataService _dataService;
                                                                  handle requests
    public HelloWorldViewComponent(DataService dataService)
      => _dataService = dataService;
                                                                      directly
    public async Task<IViewComponentResult> InvokeAsync(string name)
        string helloMessage =
                                                       Async method with logic
            await _dataService.GetHelloAsync();
        ViewData["Message"] = helloMessage;
        ViewData["Name"] = name;
                                                  They often initialize a
        return View();
                                                     model which is
                     Typically return a view
                                                   passed to the view
```

Defining Your Own ViewComponent (2)



```
Views
                                                                      Home
   \Views\Shared\Components\HelloWorld\Default.cshtml
                                                                      Shared
                                                                        Components
<h1>@ViewData["Message"]!!! I am @ViewData["Name"]</h1>
                                                                          HelloWorld
                                                                            Default.cshtml
                       \Views\Home\Index.cshtml
<div class="view-component-content">
    @await Component.InvokeAsync("HelloWorld", new { name = "David" });
    <vc:HelloWorld name="John"></vc:HelloWorld>
</div>
```

To use a Tag Helper, register the assembly of the view component using the @addTagHelper directive



HTML Helpers and Tag Helpers

HTML Helpers



- Each view inherits RazorPage
 - RazorPage has a property named Html
- The Html Property has methods that return string can be used to
 - Create inputs
 - Create links
 - Create forms
- Avoid using HTML Helpers
 - Use Tag Helpers instead

HTML Helpers	
@Html.ActionLink	@Html.TextBox
@Html.BeginForm	@Html.TextArea
@Html.CheckBox	@Html.Password
@Html.Display	@Html.Hidden
@Html.Editor	@Html.Label
@Html.DropDownList	@Html.Action

Tag Helpers



- Tag Helpers enable the participation of Server-side code in the HTML element creation and rendering, in Razor views
 - There are built-in Tag Helpers for many common tasks
 - Forms, Links, Assets, etc.
 - There are custom Tag Helpers in GitHub repos and NuGet

Often start with asp-

Tag Helpers vs HTML Helpers



- Tag Helpers attach to HTML elements in Razor Views
- Tag Helpers reduce the explicit transitions between HTML & C#
- Tag Helpers make the Razor markup quite clean and the views – quite simple

 HTML Helpers are invoked as methods which generate content

- HTML Helpers tend to include a lot of C# code in the markup
- HTML Helpers use complex and very C#-specific Razor syntax in some cases

<label asp-for="firstName">First Name: </label>



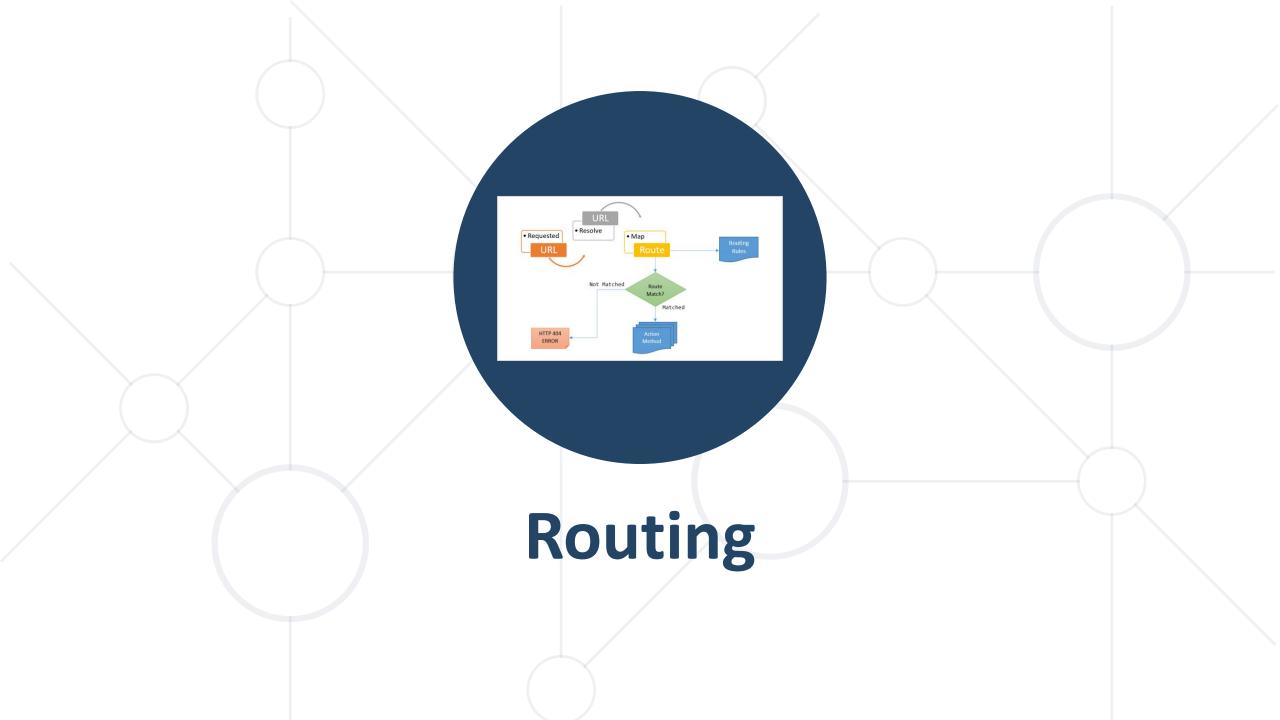
@Html.Label("firstName", "FirstName: ");

Creating Your Own Tag Helper



```
[HtmlTargetElement("h1")]
public class HelloTagHelper : TagHelper
{
    private const string MessageFormat = "Hello, {0}";
    public string TargetName { get; set; }

    public override void Process(TagHelperContext context, TagHelperOutput output)
    {
        string formattedMessage = string.Format(MessageFormat, this.TargetName);
        output.Content.SetContent(formattedMessage);
    }
}
```



Route Constraints



Route Constraints are rules on the URL segments

```
endpoints.MapControllerRoute(
  name: "blog",
  pattern: "{year}/{month}/{day}",
  defaults: new { controller = "Blog", action = "ByDate" },
  constraints: new { year = @"\d{4}", month = @"\d{1,2}", day = @"\d{1,2}" }
);
```

 All the constraints are regular expression compatible with the Regex class

```
class BlogController : Controller {
  public IActionResult ByDate(
    string year, string month, string day)
    { ... }
}
```

Attribute Routing (1)



- It uses a set of attributes to map actions directly to route template
- It can also directly define the request method
- Http{Action}attributes are quite often used in REST APIs

```
public class HomeController : Controller
{
    [Route("/")]
    public IActionResult Index() => View();
}
```

```
public class HomeController : Controller
{
    [HttpGet("/")]
    public IActionResult Index() => View();
}
```

```
public class UsersController : Controller
{
    [HttpPost("Login")]
    public IActionResult Login() => View();
}
```

Attribute Routing (2)



Attribute routing allows you to create multiple routes for a single action

It also allows you to combine a route for a controller and an action

route

```
public class HomeController :
Controller
    [Route("/")]
    [Route("Index")]
    public IActionResult Index()
        return View();
```

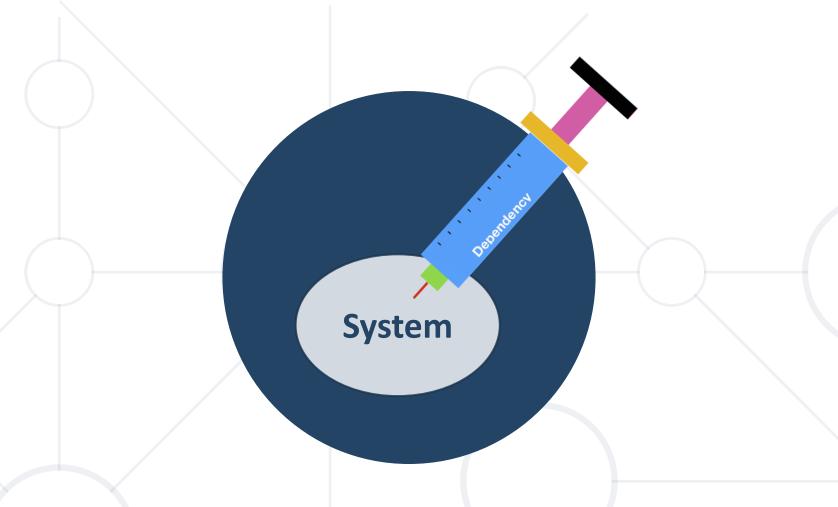
```
[Route("Home")]
public class HomeController : Controller
   // ...
    [Route("/")] // Does not combine, Route - /
    [Route("Index")] // Route - /Home/Index
    [Route("")] // Route - /Home
    public IActionResult Index()
        return View();
```

Static Files Routing



Can be modified to serve other folders

```
app.UseStaticFiles(
new StaticFileOptions()
      FileProvider = new PhysicalFileProvider(
            Path.Combine(Directory.GetCurrentDirectory(), "OtherFiles")),
      RequestPath = new PathString("/files")
});
                                                This will serve "style.css" file
                                                         upon request
                                                 "http://{app}/files/styl
                                                  e.css" from "OtherFiles"
                                                     instead of "wwwroot"
```



Dependency Injection

Design Pattern for IoC Implementation

What is a Dependency?



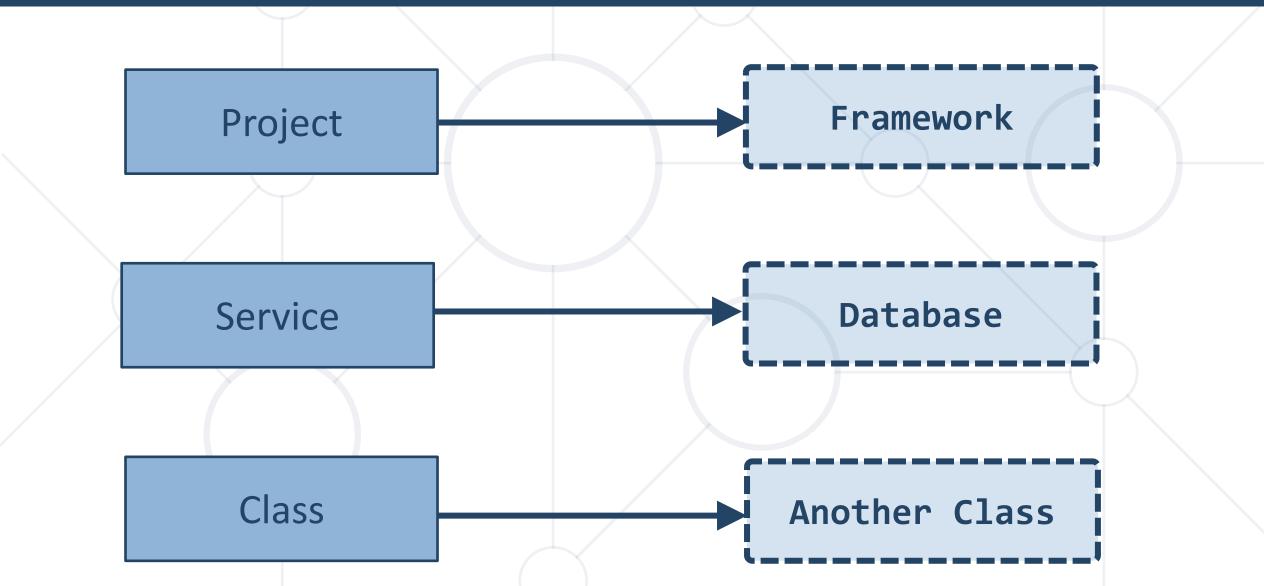
- Another object that your class needs
 - Other examples (Framework, Database, File System, Providers)
- Classes dependent on each other are called coupled
- Dependencies are bad because they decrease reuse

```
public class Customer
{
   var customerService =
        new CustomerService('Service');
}

Customer class is dependent
   on concrete service
   new CustomerService('Service');
}
```

Dependency Examples

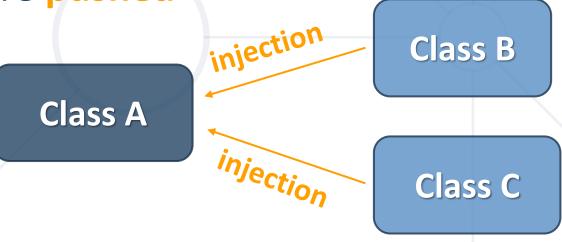




What is Dependency Injection?

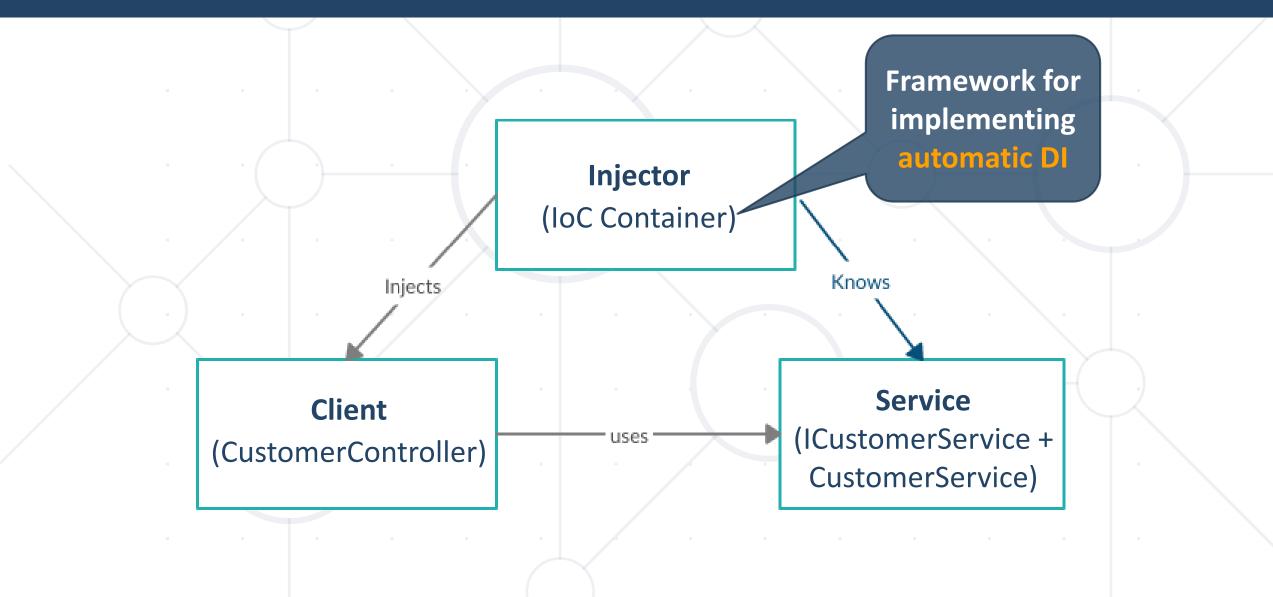


- Dependency Injection (DI) is a popular design pattern
- It is a technique for achieving Inversion of Control (IoC)
 - Classes should declare what they need
 - Constructors should inject dependencies (constructor injection)
 - Dependencies (abstractions) are pushed in the class from the outside
 - Classes do not instantiate their dependencies



Dependency Injection Scheme





Constructor Injection

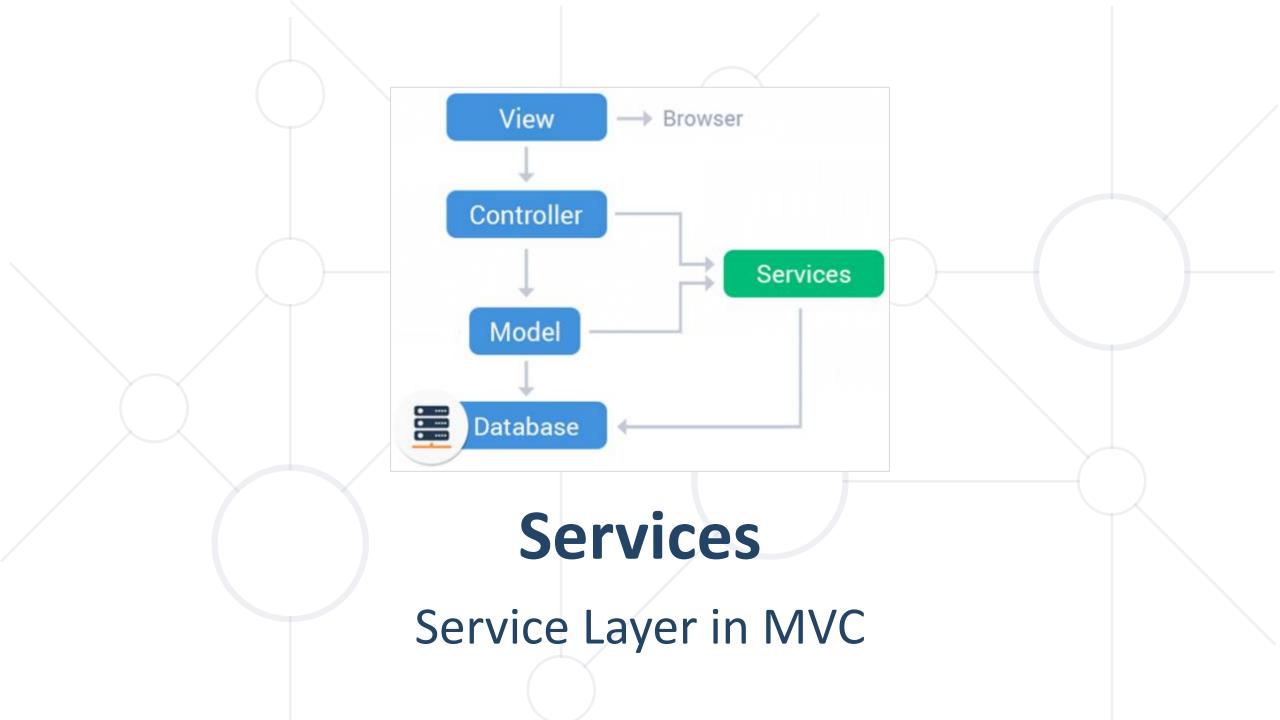


- Decouples dependencies
- Pros
 - Classes self document requirements
 - Works well without container
 - Always valid state

- Cons
 - Many parameters
 - Some methods may not need everything

```
public class Customer
{
    private ICustomerService _customerService;
    public Customer(ICustomerService service)
    {
        _customerService = service;
    }
}
```

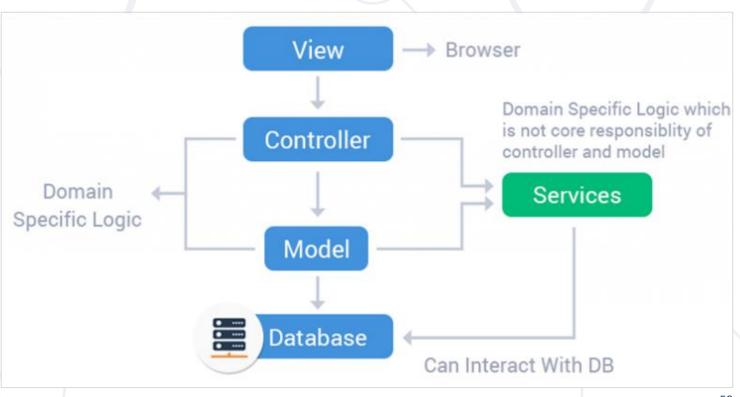
The service comes from outside



Service Layer

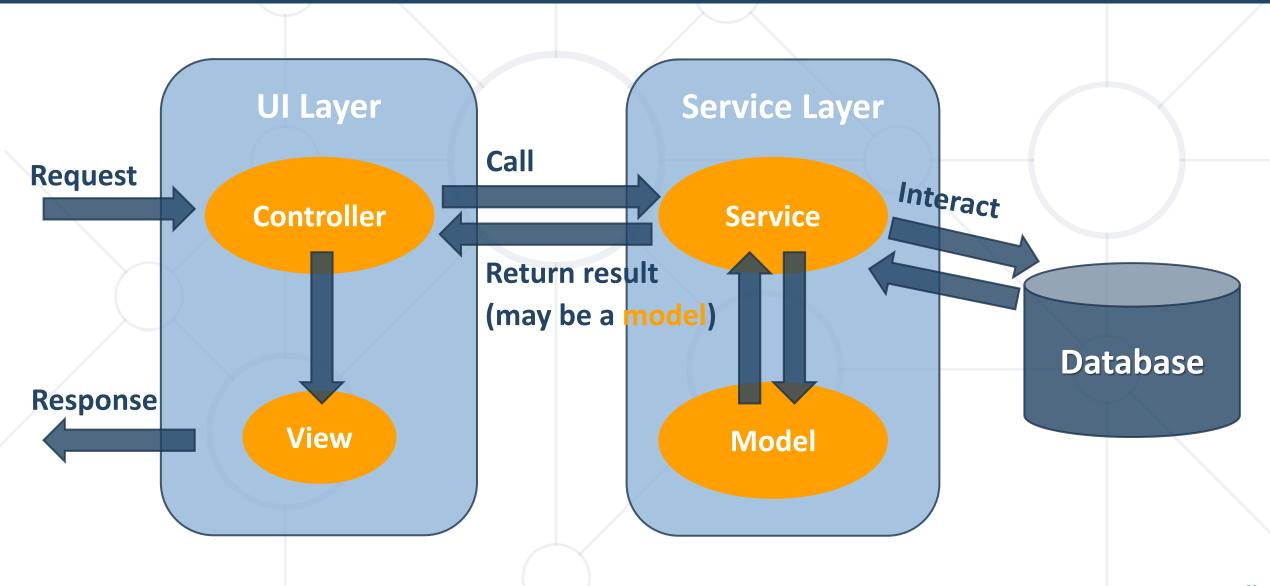


- Service layer is an additional layer in an ASP.NET MVC app between controllers and database layer
- Resolves the problem with duplicating code in controller actions
- It contains business logic
 - Controller actions should not contain database logic
 - Controllers may get a model from the service layer and pass it to a view



MVC with Services





Application Services Configuration



- Configuration options, by convention, are set in Program.cs
- Services can be configured for Dependency Injection differently

builder.Services.AddTransient<DataService>();

builder.Services.AddScoped(typeof(DataService));

builder.Services.AddSingleton<DataService>();

Transient objects are always different. A new instance is provided to every controller and service

Singleton objects are the same for every object and request

Scoped objects are the same within a request. They are different across different requests

Service Interface + Configuration



- Services are typically defined using interfaces
 - Interfaces define service methods

```
public interface IProductService
{
   List<ProductServiceModel> All();
   void CreateProduct(string name, string description);
}
```

Allows you to inject services into controller classes constructors via DI

Configure the service in the Program.cs class

```
builder
    .Services
    .AddTransient<IProductService, ProductService>();
```

Service



- Should contain the business logic
- May interact with the database context

```
public class ProductService : IProductService
                                                      Accept the db context
                                                      through the constructor
   private readonly ApplicationDbContext _data;
   public ProductService(ApplicationDbContext data)
      => _data = data;
   public void CreateProduct(string name, string description)
      var product = new Product()
            { Name = name, Description = description};
                                                           Method contains
      data.Products.Add(product);
                                                           business logic for
      _data.SaveChanges();
                                                           creating a product
```

Controller



Controllers should be responsible only for the request and response

```
public class ProductsController: Controller
                                                              Inject the service
   private IProductService _productService;
                                                           through the constructor
   public ProductsController(IProductService service)
       => _productService = service;
   public IActionResult Create() => View();
   [HttpPost]
   public IActionResult Create(ProductFormModel model)
       if (!ModelState.IsValid)
          return View(model);
       _productService.CreateProduct(model.Name, model.Description);
                                                         Invoke service methods
       return RedirectToAction("All");
                                                          for the business logic
```

Service with Service Model



```
public class ProductServiceModel
                                          Special
                                         model for
    0 references
    public int Id { get; set; }
                                        the service
    0 references
    public string Name { get; set; }
public class ProductController : Controller
    private IProductService _productService;
    0 references
    public ProductController(IProductService service)
     => _productService = service;
    0 references
    public IActionResult All()
        var model = _productService.All();
        return View(model);
```

```
public class ProductService : IProductService
    private readonly ApplicationDbContext _data;
    references
    public ProductService(ApplicationDbContext data)
    => _data = data;
   0 references
    public List<ProductServiceModel> All()
        var products = _data.Products
            .Select (p => new ProductServiceModel
                Id = p.Id,
                Name = p.Name
            .ToList();
        return products;
```

Summary



- Model Binding
- Model Validation
- Working with Files
- Razor syntax
- Layout and Special View Files
- Partial Views and View Components
- HTML Helpers and Tag Helpers
- Routing
- Dependency Injection and Services





Questions?

















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