ASP.NET Core Databases

Working with Entity Framework Core



SoftUni Team Technical Trainers







Software University

https://softuni.bg

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Questions?



sli.do

#csharp-web



Code First Approach

Entity Framework Core

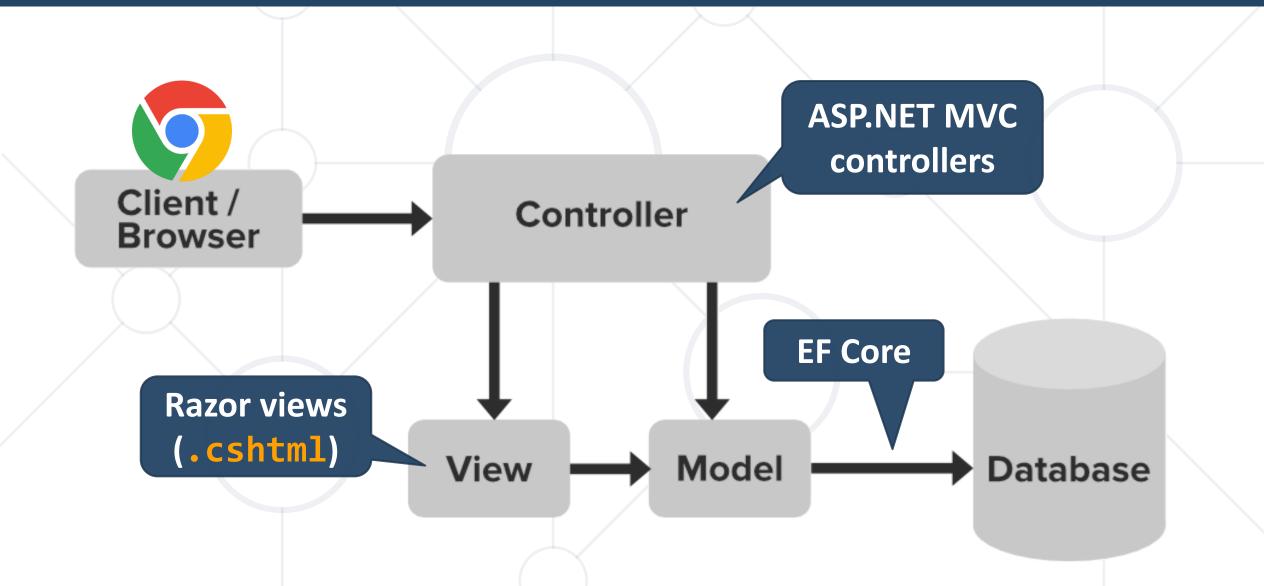
Entity Framework Core: Overview



- The standard ORM framework for .NET
- Provides LINQ-based data queries and CRUD operations
- Automatic change tracking of in-memory objects
- Works with many relational databases (with different providers)
- Open source with independent release cycle

ASP.NET Core MVC + Entity Framework

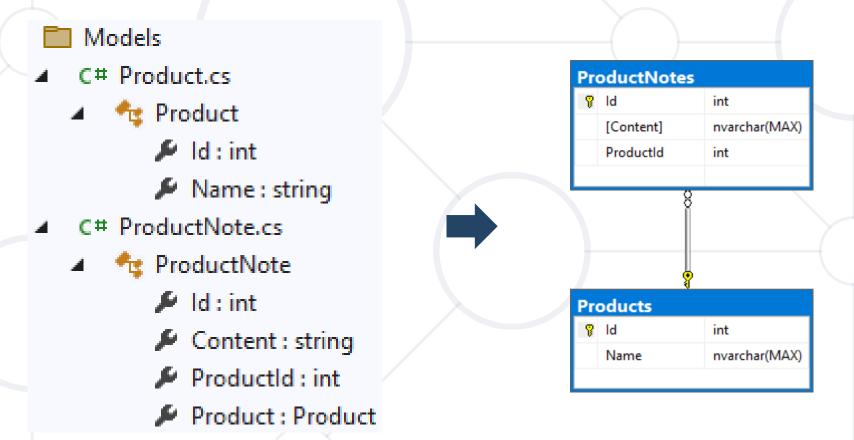




What is the Code First Approach?



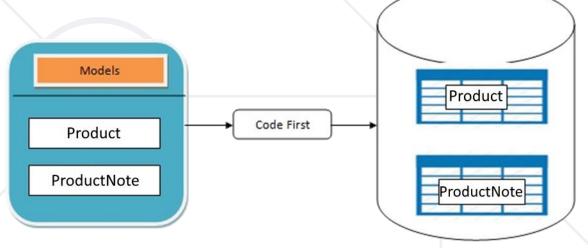
Code First means to write the .NET classes and let
 EF Core create the database from the mappings



Why Use Code First?



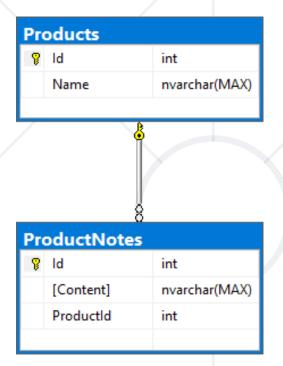
- Write code without having to define mappings in XML or create database tables
- Define objects in C# format
- Enables database persistence with no configuration
- Changes to code can be reflected (migrated) in the schema
- Data Annotations or Fluent API describe properties
 - Key, Required, MinLength, etc.



Code First Basic Workflow (1)



- Define the data model (Code First or Scaffold from DB)
- 2. Write & execute query over IQueryable
- 3. EF generates & executes an SQL query in the DB



```
var products = this.data
    .Products
    .Select(p => new ProductViewModel()
    {
        Id = p.Id,
        Name = p.Name,
    })
    .ToList();
return View(products);
```

```
SELECT [p].[Id], [p].[Name] FROM [Products] as [p]
```

Code First Basic Workflow (2)



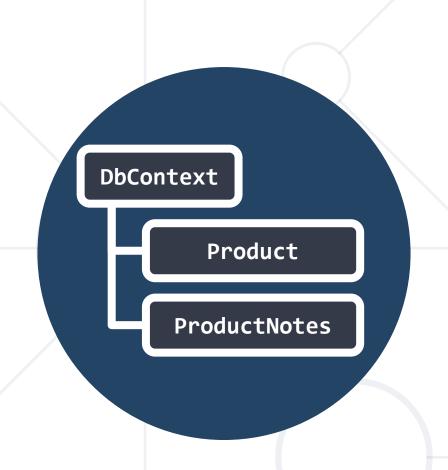
4. EF transforms the query results into .NET objects

5. Modify data with C# code and call "Save Changes ()"

```
var product = _data.Products.Find(id);
product.Name = model.Name;
_data.SaveChanges();
```

6. Entity Framework generates & executes SQL command to modify the DB

```
exec sp_executesql N'SET NOCOUNT ON;
UPDATE [Products] SET [Content] = @p0
WHERE [Id] = @p1;
SELECT @@ROWCOUNT;
', N'@p1 int,@p0 nvarchar(4000)',
     @p1=1, @p0=N'Post 1 Changed'
```



EF Core Components

Overview of System Objects

Domain Classes (Models) (1)



- Bunch of normal C# classes (POCO)
 - May contain navigation properties for table relationships

```
public class ProductNote
{
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public string Content { get; set; }
    public int ProductId { get; set; }
    public Product Product { get; set; }
}
Navigation property
```

Recommended to be in a separate class library

Domain Classes (Models) (2)



Another example of a domain class (model)

One-to-many relationship

The DbContext Class



Usually named after the database, e.g., ShoppingListDbContext

public class ShoppingListDbContext : DbContext

Inherits the DbContext class

- Manages model classes using DbSet<T> type
- Easily navigate through table relations
- Managing database creation/deletion/migration
- Executing LINQ queries as native SQL queries
- DbContext properties
 - Database EnsureCreated/Deleted methods, DB Connection
 - ChangeTracker holds info about the automatic change tracker

Defining DbContext Class



```
EF Reference
using Microsoft. EntityFrameworkCore;
public class ShoppingListDbContext : DbContext
                                                      Accepts options through
                                                          the constructor
  public ShoppingListDbContext
      (DbContextOptions<ShoppingListDbContext> options)
           : base(options)
                                                    Collections of entities
           => Database.EnsureCreated();
  public DbSet<Product> Products { get; set; }
  public DbSet<ProductNote> ProductNotes { get; set; }
  protected override void OnModelCreating(ModelBuilder builder)
                                         Use the Fluent API to describe
     builder.Entity<Product>()
      .HasMany(p => p.ProductNotes)
                                         our table relations to EF Core
      .WithOne(r => r.Product);
```



EF Core Configuration

NuGet Packages, Configuration

EF Core Setup



- To add EF Core support to a project in Visual Studio
 - Install it from Package Manager Console

Install-Package Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore

- Or using .NET Core CLIdotnet add package Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore
- EF Core is modular any data providers must be installed too Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.SqlServer
- To use the Entity Framework Core CLI tools, install also

Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Design

How to Connect to SQL Server? (1)



 In ASP.NET Core connection string is in the appsettings.json file and has the following properties

```
"ConnectionStrings": {
    "DefaultConnection": "Server=(localdb)\\mssqllocaldb;
    Database=ShoppingList;Trusted_Connection=True;
    MultipleActiveResultSets=true"}
```

How to Connect to SQL Server? (2)

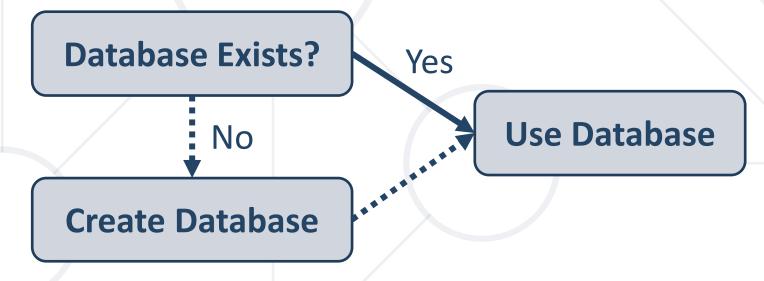


 Use the DbContext and tell it to use SQL with the connection string in in the Program class

Database.EnsureCreated()



- When you create the DB context, you can call Database. EnsureCreated()
- This will create the DB + schema, when the DB is missing



■ EnsureCreated() does not use migrations → you should drop the enrite DB when you change the DB schema

Database.EnsureCreated() – Example



```
public class ShoppingListDbContext : DbContext
  public ShoppingListDbContext(
    DbContextOptions<ShoppingListDbContext> options)
    : base(options)
        => Database.EnsureCreated();
     // This will create the DB schema if the DB does not exist
     // Any change in the data entities will not change the DB
     // You should update the DB by hand
     // or drop and re-create the DB after each entity change!
```



CRUD in ASP.NET Core MVC with EF

The "ShoppingList" App

The "ShoppingList" App

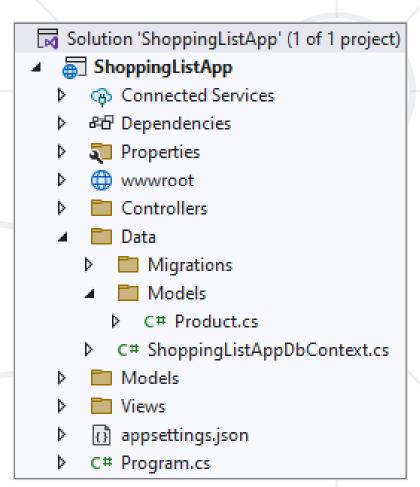


Create an MVC app with the models and db context

from the previous slides

 Perform CRUD operations on the database to create the following functionalities

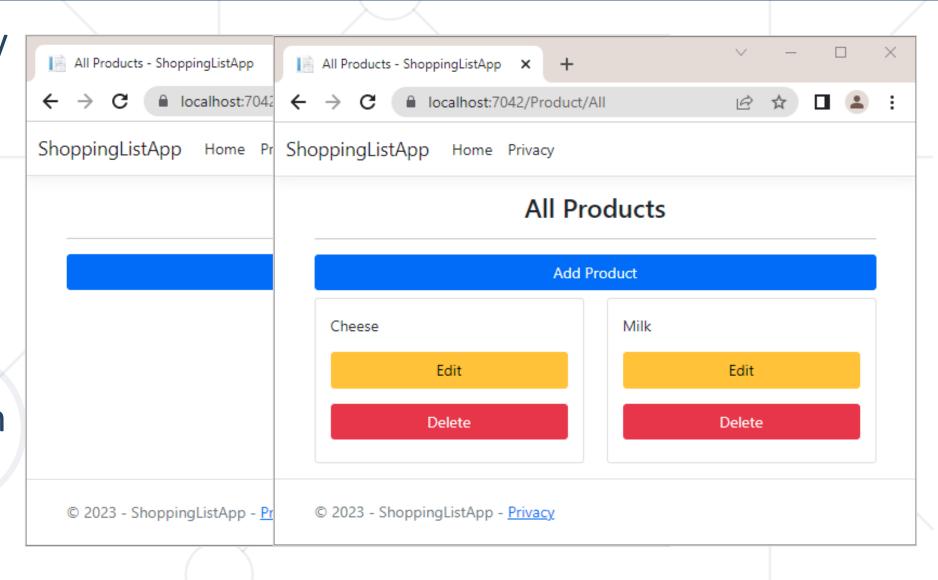
- Display all products
- Add a product
- Edit a product
- Delete a product



The "All Products" Page (Reading Data)



It should display all added products with their content + [Edit] and [Delete] buttons + [Add Product] button



ProductController Class



- Create a new ProductController in the "Controllers" folder
- Inject the ShoppingListAppDbContext through the constructor
 - And assign it to a variable to use it

```
Solution 'ShoppingListApp' (1 of 1 project)
  ShoppingListApp
  Connected Services
  ₽₽ Dependencies
  Properties
  www.root
   Controllers
     C# HomeController.cs
     C# ProductController.cs
  Data
  Models
  Views
  (i) appsettings.json
  C# Program.cs
```

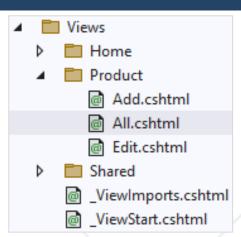
Reading Data (Controller + Model)

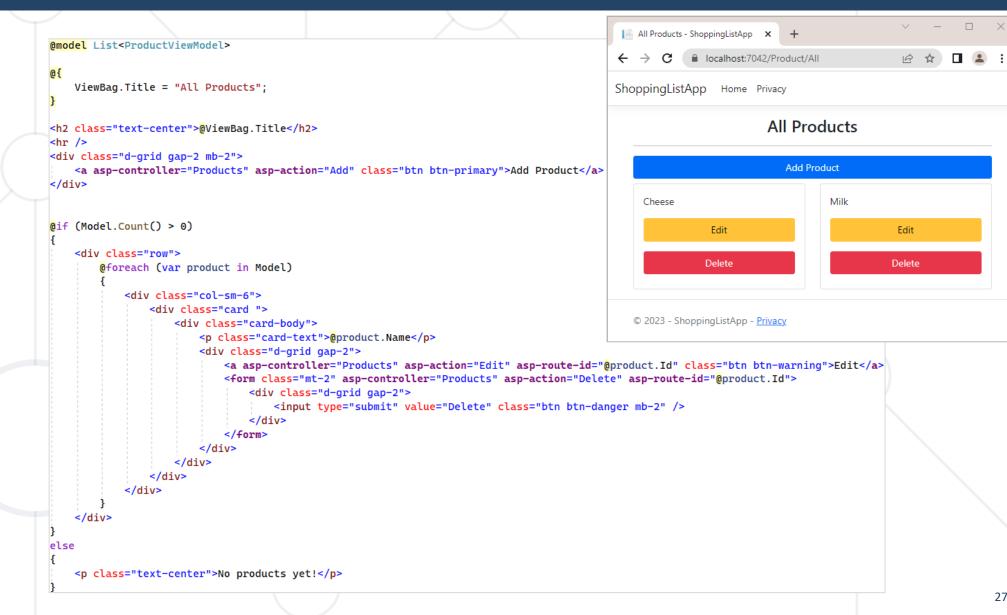


```
Solution 'ShoppingListApp' (1 of 1 project)
                                                                                      ShoppingListApp
                                                                                        Connected Services
              public class ProductController : Controller
                                                                                        ₽₽ Dependencies
                                                                                        Properties
                                                                                        m www.root
                   references
                                                               Extract the
                                                                                        Controllers
                   public IActionResult All()
                                                                                        Data
                                                             products from
                                                                                        Models
                                                                                       var products = _data
                                                              the database
                                                                                           C# ProductFormModel.cs
                              .Products
                                                                                           C# ProductViewModel.cs
                              .Select(p => new ProductViewModel()
                                                                                         C# ErrorViewModel.cs
                                                                                        ■ Views
 Project products
                                                                                        (i) appsettings.json
                                   Id = p.Id,
     to a model
                                                                                        C# Program.cs
                                   Name = p.Name
     collection
                                                                 public class ProductViewModel
                              .ToList();
                                                                     3 references
                        return View(products);
                                                                     public int Id { get; set; }
                                                                     2 references
                                                                     public string Name { get; set; } = null!;
 Passes the model
collection to a view
```

Reading Data (View)



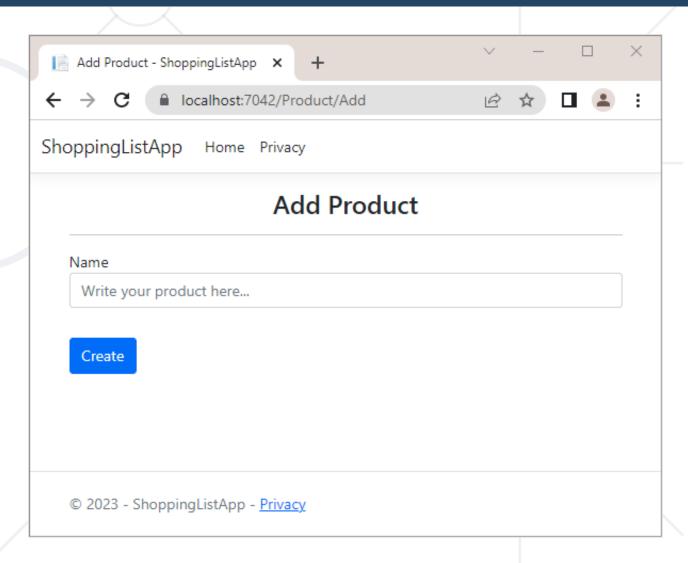




The "Add Product" Page (Creating New Data) (Software University)



It should display a form for adding a product



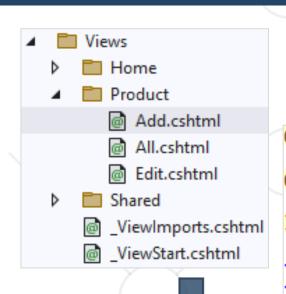
Creating New Data (Controller + Model)



```
public class ProductViewModel
public class ProductController : Controller
                                                            3 references
                                                            public int Id { get; set; }
   0 references
                                                            2 references
    public IActionResult Add()
                                                            public string Name { get; set; } = null!;
        => View():
    [HttpPost]
    0 references
    public IActionResult Add(ProductFormModel model)
                                             Create a new Product object
        var product = new Product()
            Name = model.Name
                                      Add the object to the DbSet
        _data.Products.Add(product);
        _data.SaveChanges();
                                        Execute SQL statements
        return RedirectToAction("All");
```

Creating New Data (View)



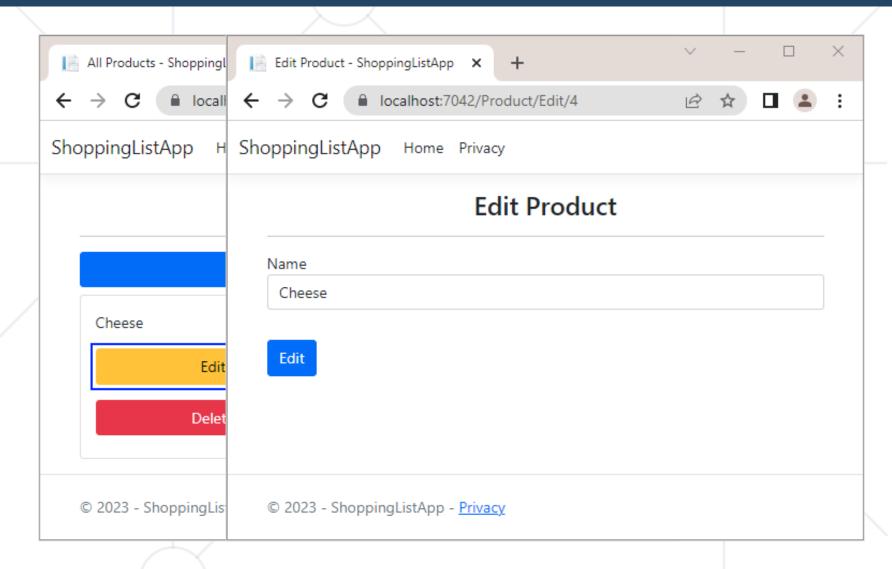


```
Add Product - ShoppingListApp X
                                                                ShoppingListApp Home Privacy
@model ProductFormModel
                                                                          Add Product
@{
    ViewBag.Title = "Add Product";
                                                         Name
                                                          Write your product here...
<h2 class="text-center">@ViewBag.Title</h2>
                                                          Create
<hr />
<div class="row">
    <form method="post">
        <div class="form-group">
                                                         © 2023 - ShoppingListApp - Privacy
            <div class="mb-3">
                 <label asp-for="Name"></label>
                 <input asp-for="Name" class="form-control" placeholder="Write your product here...">
                 <span asp-validation-for="Name" class="small text-danger"></span>
            </div>
        </div>
        <input class="btn btn-primary mt-3" type="submit" value="Create" />
    </form>
</div>
```

The "Edit Product" Page (Updating Existing Data)



- To edit a product, click on its [Edit] button
- It should display a form for editing a product with the product data in the fields



Updating Existing Data (Controller)



SELECT the

product for

update

public IActionResult Edit(int id, Product
{
 var product = _data.Products.Find(id);
 product.Name = model.Name;

_data.SaveChanges();

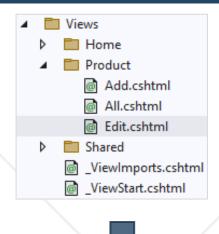
Pass a product model to a view

__data.SaveChanges();
SQL UPDATE
return RedirectToAction("All");

Updating Existing Data (View)

@model ProductFormModel







<div class="form-group"> <div class="mb-3">

<label asp-for="Name"></label>

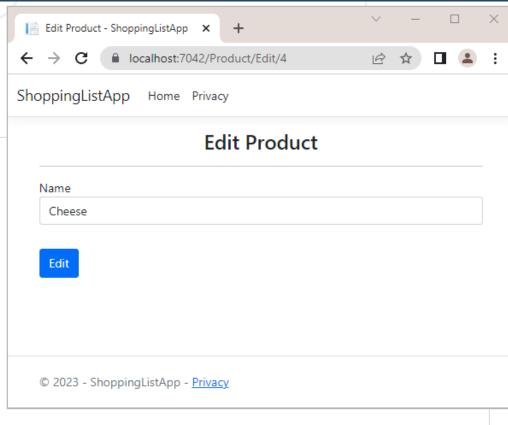
<form method="post">

</div>

</div>

</form>

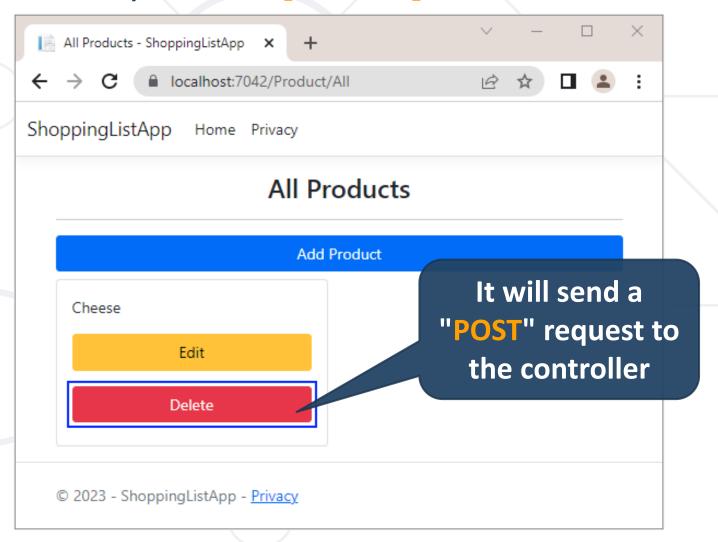
</div>



Deleting Existing Data



To delete a product, press its [Delete] button



Deleting Existing Data (Controller)



```
[HttpPost]
0 references
public IActionResult Delete(int id)
    var product = _data.Products.Find(id);
    _data.Products.Remove(product);
    _data.SaveChanges();
                                          Mark the entity for
                                       deleting at the next save
    return RedirectToAction("All");
```

DELETE command



Database Migrations

Scripts for Modifying Table Structure in the DB

What Are Database Migrations?



- Updating database schema without losing data
 - Adding/dropping tables, columns, etc.
- Migrations in EF Core keep their history
 - Entity Classes, DB Context versions are all preserved
- Automatically generated by certain EF tools
 - Migrations
 - C# 20230426142205_Initial.cs
 - C# ShoppingListAppDbContextModelSnapshot.cs

Migrations in EF Core



- To add a migration in EF Core
 - Use the EF CLI Tools dotnet ef migrations add {MigrationName}
 - Use the Package Manager Console Add-Migration {MigrationName}
- To undo a migration, use one of the two ways

dotnet ef migrations remove {MigrationName}

Remove-Migration

Commit changes to the database

Removes the last migration

dotnet ef database update

Update-Database

db.Database.Migrate(); // Auto migrate at start

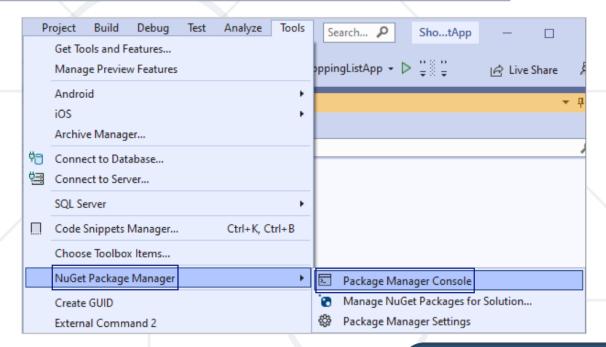
Migrates any DB changes on startup

Migrate the "ShoppingListDemo" App (1)

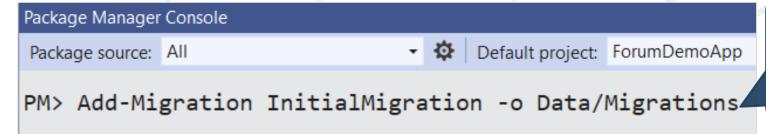


Install the Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Tools package

Open the PackageManager Console



Create a migration



Migration will be created in the "Data/Migrations" folder

Migrate the "ShoppingListDemo" App (2)



```
Solution 'ShoppingListApp' (1 of 1 project)
ShoppingListApp
   Connected Services
  ₽☐ Dependencies
  Properties
      wwwroot
      Controllers
      Data
     Migrations
     C# 20220924155738_InitialMigration.cs
     C# ShoppingListDbContextModelSnapshot.cs
     C# Product.cs
     C# ProductNote.cs
     C# ShoppingListDbContext.cs
      Models
   ■ Views
      appsettings.json
  C# Program.cs
```

```
using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Migrations;
#nullable disable
namespace ShoppingListApp.Data.Migrations
    1 reference
    public partial class Initial Migration : Migration
        protected override void Up(MigrationBuilder migrationBuilder)
            migrationBuilder.CreateTable(
                name: "Products",
                columns: table => new
                    Id = table.Column<int>(type: "int", nullable: false)
                        .Annotation("SqlServer:Identity", "1, 1"),
                    Name = table.Column<string>(type: "nvarchar(max)", nullable: false),
                    TestColumn = table.Column<string>(type: "nvarchar(max)", nullable: false)
                constraints: table =>
                    table.PrimaryKey("PK_Products", x => x.Id);
                });
            migrationBuilder.CreateTable(
                name: "ProductNotes",
                columns: table => new
```

Auto Run Migration Scripts at Startup



```
public class ShoppingListDbContext : DbContext
{
   public ShoppingListDbContext(
       DbContextOptions<ShoppingListDbContext> options) :
            base(options)
            => Database.Migrate();
}
```

- This will apply the migration scripts (if not yet applied)
- Simple, but can cause problems → not recommended in production
- Recommended approach: migrate the database by hand

dotnet ef database update

Summary



- EF Core maps database objects to database schema
- Code First approach creates a database, based on C# classes that we create
- LINQ can be used to query the DB through the DB context
- Database migrating updates the database schema to match app data models





Questions?

















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