

USER'S ACTIVITY LOGGING IN ASP.NET CORE MVC APPLICATION | C#

NOVEMBER 21, 2018

In this Article, I'm going to Implement **User's Activity Logging** in Asp.net Core MVC Application. If an application is managed by more than one users then you must be aware that who is performing which activity.



WHY ACTIVITY LOGGING

Before start Implementation, you must have a clear idea for what kind of

Privacy - Terms



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Let say you have an Admin Panel for managing your App or Website backend & you have more than one Administrator to manage your Admin Panel. If an Admin Create, Delete or Update records then you must be aware of his the activities in your Application.

Here's the Admin Panel Tutorial you might be interested => Creating Admin Panel in Asp.net Core MVC - Step by Step Tutorial

EXAMPLE ACTIVITIES TO LOG

- 1. Login, Logout
- 2. Create, Delete or Update a Record
- 3. Create or remove a User
- 4. Update Profile Info
- 5. Change Password
- 6. etc

Now, I'll explain the several ways to Log the **Users Activities**.

NUGET LIBRARIES WITH ACTION FILTERS

There are many Libraries available to Log Users Activities as well as Error. Some Libraries also facilitates us to generate Log files automatically. Here are some of the most commonly used libraries Log4Net, Elmah. Usually, these libraries used with



CUSTOM IMPLEMENTATION

When the first time I looked at some of the most common logging libraries, and they seemed like more work to set up than to write on my own. So I decided to write my own code to log the Users Activities in my Application.

WHAT TO SAVE AS LOG

- 1. User Email/Username/Id
- 2. Full Name
- 3. Ip Address of Client System
- 4. Current Time
- 5. JavaScript Navigator userAgent Property
- 6. Log Type(e.g Login, Logout, Edit Profile Info, Change Password)

IMPLEMENTATION

At the time of successful login store User Id, Email, Full name, IP Address & the JavaScript Navigator userAgent Property using Session or any other temporary Data store Technique.

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^{*} Never save User Password in Logs



нррисацииз.

With a single Statement, like this [navigator.userAgent]

We'll get something like this

User-agent header sent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_14_0)
AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/70.0.3538.102 Safari/537.36

How to Get Client IP Address using C#

Here's the Code to Get Client's IP Address

```
public static string GetLocalIPAddress()
1.
 2.
          var host = Dns.GetHostEntry(Dns.GetHostName());
          foreach (var ip in host.AddressList)
 4.
              if (ip.AddressFamily == AddressFamily.InterNetwork)
 7.
                  return ip.ToString();
 8.
 9.
10.
          throw new Exception("No network adapters with an IPv4 address in the system!");
11.
12.
      }
```

You may also Get & store the Mac Address of the user.

& Don't forget to store Current Time with each Log Record.

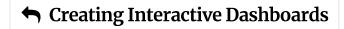
CONCLUSION

Applications like Admin Panel must log each Activity of the user because we usually



logs in a huge number that may affect your Database performance. For the Critical Actions, e.g. an admin is deleting another user, you must send an Email to the super admin Immediately.

Thank you for reading, share with the community If you find this helpful or comment below If you have any Question.















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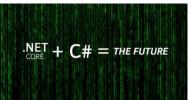
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SHEHRYAR KHAN

I'm passionate about learning new technologies as well as mentoring and helping others get started with their programming career. This blog is my way of giving back to the Community.



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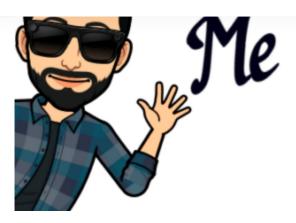


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