Change Object Display Name using __str__ function – Django Models | Python

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How to Change Display Name of an Object in Django admin interface? Whenever an instance of model is created in Django, it displays the object as **ModelName Object(1)**. This article will explore how to make changes to your Django model using `def __str__(self)` to change the display name in the model.

Object Display Name in Django Models

Consider a project named `geeksforgeeks` having an app named `geeks`.

> *Refer to the following articles to check how to create a project and an app in Django.*

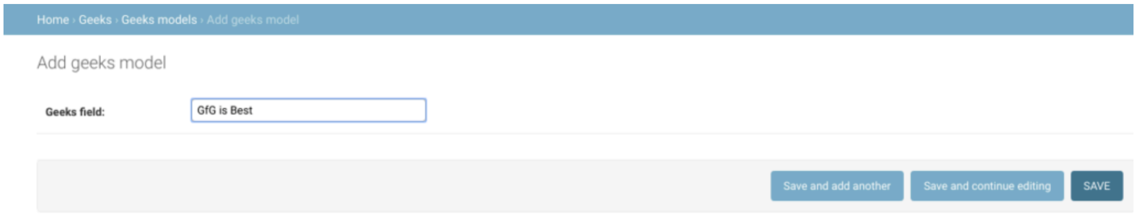
- *How to Create a Basic Project using MVT in Django?*
- *How to Create an App in Django ?*

Enter the following code into `models.py` file of **geeks** app.

```
from django.db import models
from django.db.models import Model
# Create your models here.

class GeeksModel(Model):
    geeks_field = models.CharField(max_length = 200)
```

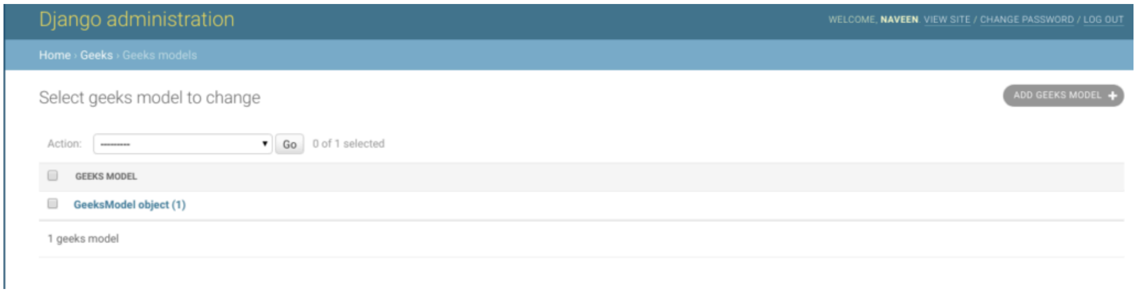
After running makemigrations and migrate on Django and rendering above model, let us try to create an instance using string "**GfG is Best**".


Home › Geeks › Geeks models › Add geeks model
Save and add another
Save and continue editing
SAVE

Add geeks model

Geeks field: GfG is Best

Now it will display the same object created as **GeeksModel object(1)** in the admin interface.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Home › Geeks › Geeks models
ADD GEEKS MODEL +
Go

Select geeks model to change

Action: --------- 0 of 1 selected

GEEKS MODEL

GeeksModel object (1)

1 geeks model

How to change display name of Model Instances in Django admin interface?

To change the display name we will use `def __str__()` function in a model. **str** function in a django model returns a string that is exactly rendered as the display name of instances for that model.

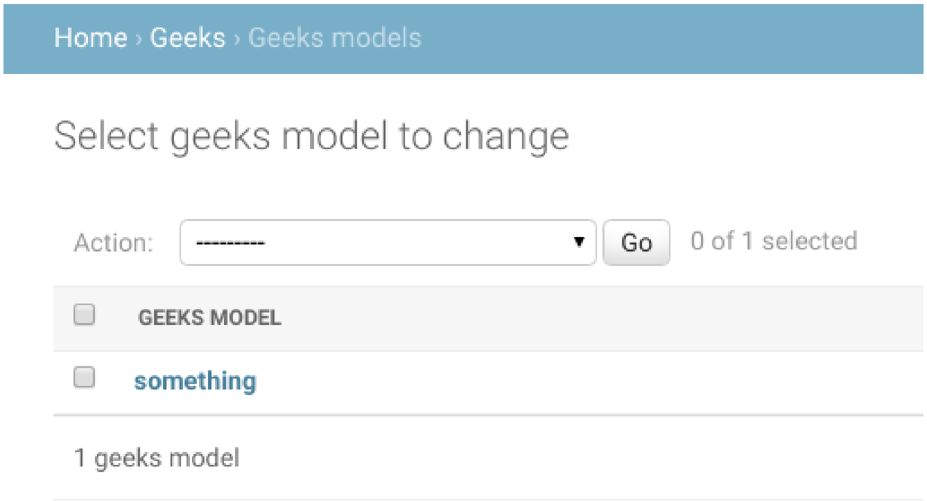
For example, if we change above models.py to

```
from django.db import models
from django.db.models import Model
# Create your models here.

class GeeksModel(Model):
    geeks_field = models.CharField(max_length = 200)

    def __str__(self):
         return "something"
```

This will display the objects as **something** always in the admin interface.



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Select geeks model to change

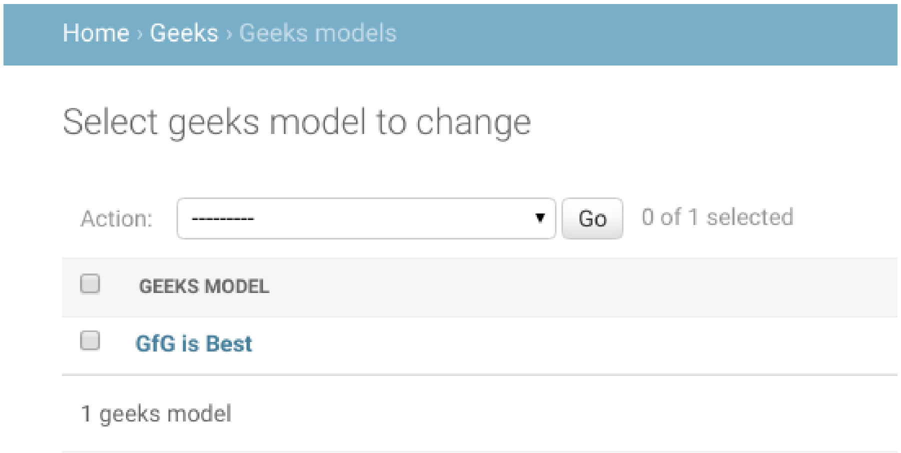
Action: --------- ▾ Go 0 of 1 selected

□ GEEKS MODEL

□ something

1 geeks model

Most of the time we name the display name which one could understand using `self` object. For example `return self.geeks_field` in above function will return the string stored in geeks_field of that object and it will be displayed in admin interface.



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Select geeks model to change

Action: --------- ▾ Go 0 of 1 selected

□ GEEKS MODEL

□ GfG is Best

1 geeks model

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Note that **str** function always returns a string and one can modify that according to one’s convenience.

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