

Action Selectors

Action selector is the attribute that can be applied to the action methods. It helps the routing engine to select the correct action method to handle a particular request. MVC 5 includes the following action selector attributes:

1. ActionName
2. NonAction
3. ActionVerbs

ActionName

The `ActionName` attribute allows us to specify a different action name than the method name, as shown below.

Example: Specify a different action name

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```
public class StudentController : Controller
{
    public StudentController()
    {
    }

    [ActionName("Find")]
    public ActionResult GetById(int id)
    {
        // get student from the database
        return View();
    }
}
```

In the above example, we have applied `ActionName("find")` attribute to the `GetById()` action method. So now, the action method name is `Find` instead of the `GetById`. So now, it will be invoked on `http://localhost/student/find/1` request instead of `http://localhost/student/getbyid/1` request.

NonAction

Use the `NonAction` attribute when you want public method in a controller but do not want to treat it as an action method.

In the following example, the `Index()` method is an action method, but the `GetStudent()` is not an action method.

Example: NonAction

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```
public class StudentController : Controller
{
    public string Index()
    {
        return "This is Index action method of StudentController";
    }

    [NonAction]
    public Student GetStudent(int id)
    {
        return studentList.Where(s => s.StudentId == id).FirstOrDefault();
    }
}
```