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How to create ESTful Service in 60 seconds

By **StevenHollidge**, 10 Mar

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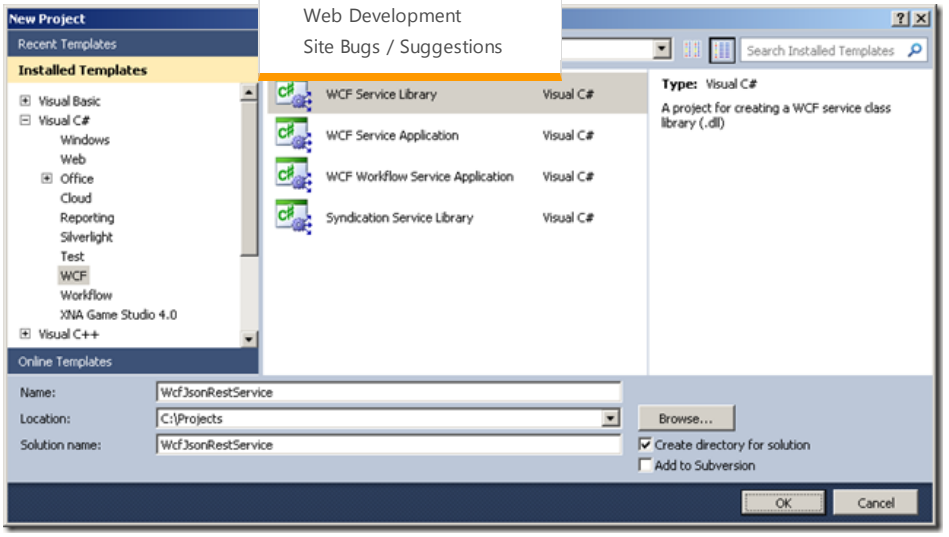
WCF makes it very easy to e terface, as long as you are aware of a couple of "gotchas" in advance.

This article will explain those usiness logic rather than configuration of your WCF services.

We start this example by cre t:



Next we need to add a reference to the System.ServiceModel.Web framework. Right click on your project file and select Add Reference...

About Article

A **Technical Blog**, originally posted at http://stevenhollidge.blogspot.com/2011/03/how-to-create-json-wcf-restful-service.html

How to expose JSON data over a RESTful interface.

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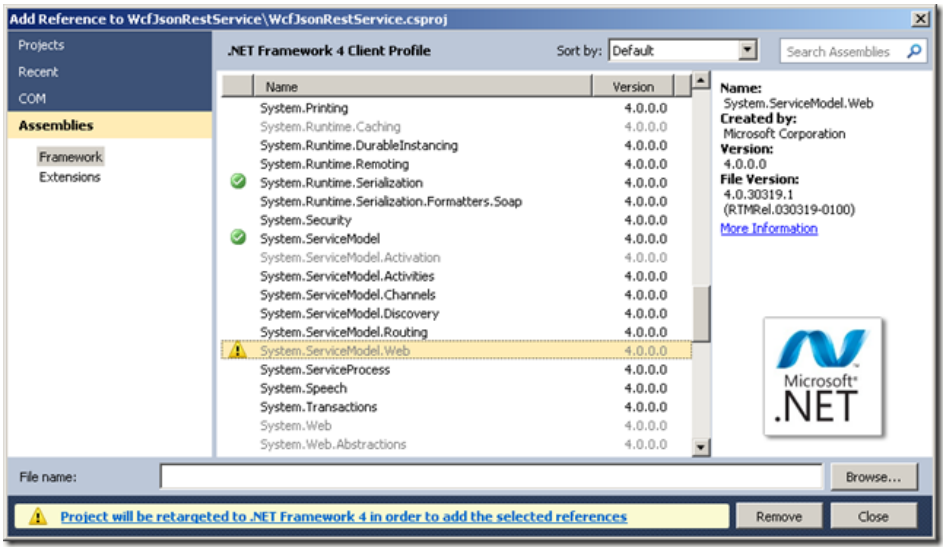
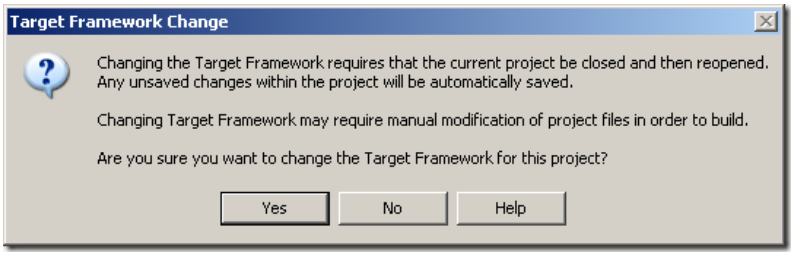


As this framework is not part of the .Net Framework 4 Client Profile, Visual Studio kindly informs us that it will update our target Framework to the full version of .Net Framework 4. Click Yes to accept this change:



We are now ready to update our code.

Copy and paste the following code into the App.Config file:

Collapse | Copy Code

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<configuration>
  <system.serviceModel>
        <services>
          <service name="WcfJsonRestService.Service1">
                <endpoint address="http://localhost:8732/service1"
                                  binding="webHttpBinding"
                                  contract="WcfJsonRestService.IService1"/>
          </service>
        </services>
        <behaviors>
          <endpointBehaviors>
                <behavior>
                  <webHttp />
                </behavior>
          </endpointBehaviors>
        </behaviors>
  </system.serviceModel>
  <startup>
        <supportedRuntime version="v4.0" sku=".NETFramework,Version=v4.0"/>
  </startup>
</configuration>
```

Notice the binding is set to webHttpBinding as opposed to the normal project template default of wsHttpBinding.

The other important change is the addition of an endpointBehavior for WebHttp.

These two changes are required to enable JSON over REST for WCF.

Copy and paste the following code into the IService1 file:

Collapse | Copy Code

```
using System.ServiceModel;

namespace WcfJsonRestService
{
    [ServiceContract]
    public interface IService1
    {
        [OperationContract]
        Person GetData(string id);
    }
}
```

Notice we are accepting an "In" parameter for id of datatype string. For this example we are returning a custom type of Person.

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Copy and paste the following code into the Service1.cs file:

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```
using System;
using System.ServiceModel.Web;

namespace WcfJsonRestService
{
    public class Service1 : IService1
    {
        [WebInvoke(Method = "GET",
                   ResponseFormat = WebMessageFormat.Json,
                   UriTemplate = "data/{id}")]
        public Person GetData(string id)
        {
            // lookup person with the requested id
            return new Person()
                       {
                           Id = Convert.ToInt32(id),
                           Name = "Leo Messi"
                       };
        }
    }

    public class Person
    {
        public int Id { get; set; }
        public string Name { get; set; }
    }
}
```

The key elements here are the attributes applied to the method. We are enabling the method to be called over HTTP GET, returning the data in Json format and setting the Uri template to ensure we are using a RESTful interface.

To test your brand new service we will pass in the id value of 10 simply by opening your favourite browser and pasting in the following URL:

http://localhost:8732/Service1/data/10

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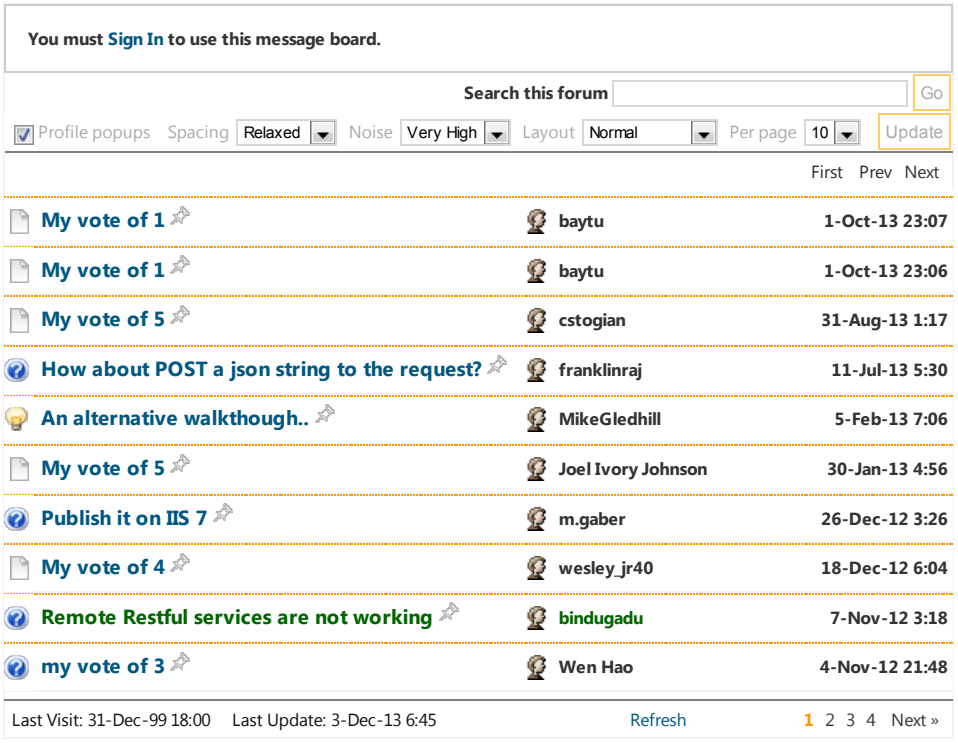

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