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#Introduction

The Eloquent ORM included with Laravel provides a beautiful, simple ActiveRecord implementation for working with your database. Each database table has a corresponding "Model" which is used to interact with that table. Models allow you to query for data in your tables, as well as insert new records into the table.

Before getting started, be sure to configure a database connection in config/database.php. For more information on configuring your database, check out the documentation.

Defining Models

To get started, let's create an Eloquent model. Models typically live in the app directory, but you are free to place them anywhere that can be auto-loaded according to your composer.json file. All Eloquent models extend Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model class.

The easiest way to create a model instance is using the make:model Artisan command:

```
php artisan make:model Flight
```

If you would like to generate a $\underline{\text{database migration}}$ when you generate the model, you may use the --migration or -m option:

```
php artisan make:model Flight --migration
php artisan make:model Flight -m
```

Eloquent Model Conventions

Now, let's look at an example Flight model, which we will use to retrieve and store information from our flights database table:

```
<?php
use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model:
class Flight extends Model
```

Table Names

Note that we did not tell Eloquent which table to use for our Flight model. By convention, the "snake case", plural name of the class will be used as the table name unless another name is explicitly specified. So, in this case, Eloquent will assume the Flight model stores records in the flights table. You may specify a custom table by defining a table property on your model:

```
cass Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The table associated with the model.
    *
    * @var string
    */
    protected $table = 'my_flights';
}
```

Primary Keys

Eloquent will also assume that each table has a primary key column named id. You may define a protected <code>\$primaryKey</code> property to override this convention:

```
class Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The primary key associated with the table.
    *
    * @var string
    */
    protected $primaryKey = 'flight_id';
}
```

In addition, Eloquent assumes that the primary key is an incrementing integer value, which means that by default the primary key will automatically be cast to an <code>int.lf</code> you wish to use a non-incrementing or a non-numeric primary key you must set the public <code>\$incrementing</code> property on your model to <code>false</code>:

```
<?php

class Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * Indicates if the IDs are auto-incrementing.
    *
    * @var bool
    */
    public $incrementing = false;
}</pre>
```

If your primary key is not an integer, you should set the protected <code>\$keyType</code> property on your model to <code>string</code>:

```
class Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The "type" of the auto-incrementing ID.
    *
    * @var string
    */
    protected $keyType = 'string';
}
```

Timestamps

By default, Eloquent expects created_at and updated_at columns to exist on your tables. If you do not wish to have these columns automatically managed by Eloquent, set the \$timestamps property on your model to false:

```
class Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * Indicates if the model should be timestamped.
    *
    * @var bool
    */
    public $timestamps = false;
}
```

If you need to customize the format of your timestamps, set the \$dateFormat property on your model. This property determines how date attributes are stored in the database, as well as their format when the model is serialized to an array or JSON:

```
class Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The storage format of the model's date columns.
    *
    * @var string
    */
    protected $dateFormat = 'U';
}
```

If you need to customize the names of the columns used to store the timestamps, you may set the CREATED_AT and UPDATED_AT constants in your model:

```
<?php

class Flight extends Model
{
    const CREATED_AT = 'creation_date';
    const UPDATED_AT = 'last_update';
}</pre>
```

Database Connection

By default, all Eloquent models will use the default database connection configured for your application. If you would like to specify a different connection for the model, use the \$connection property:

```
cass Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The connection name for the model.
    *
    * @var string
    */
    protected $connection = 'connection-name';
}
```

Default Attribute Values

If you would like to define the default values for some of your model's attributes, you may define an \$attributes property on your model:

```
class Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The model's default values for attributes.
```

```
*
 * @var array
 */
protected $attributes = [
   'delayed' => false,
];
}
```

Retrieving Models

Once you have created a model and <u>its associated database table</u>, you are ready to start retrieving data from your database. Think of each Eloquent model as a powerful <u>query builder</u> allowing you to fluently query the database table associated with the model. For example:

```
<?php

$flights = App\Flight::all();

foreach ($flights as $flight) {
    echo $flight->name;
}
```

Adding Additional Constraints

The Eloquent all method will return all of the results in the model's table. Since each Eloquent model serves as a <u>query builder</u>, you may also add constraints to queries, and then use the <u>get</u> method to retrieve the results:



Since Eloquent models are query builders, you should review all of the methods available on the query builder. You may use any of these methods in your Eloquent queries.

Refreshing Models

You can refresh models using the <u>fresh</u> and <u>refresh</u> methods. The <u>fresh</u> method will re-retrieve the model from the database. The existing model instance will not be affected:

```
$flight = App\Flight::where('number', 'FR 900')->first();

$freshFlight = $flight->fresh();
```

The refresh method will re-hydrate the existing model using fresh data from the database. In addition, all of its loaded relationships will be refreshed as well:

```
$flight = App\Flight::where('number', 'FR 900')->first();

$flight->number = 'FR 456';

$flight->refresh();

$flight->number; // "FR 900"
```

Collections

For Eloquent methods like all and get which retrieve multiple results, an instance of Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Collection will be returned. The Collection class provides a variety of helpful methods for working with your Eloquent results:

```
$flights = $flights->reject(function ($flight) {
    return $flight->cancelled;
});
```

You may also loop over the collection like an array:

```
foreach ($flights as $flight) {
  echo $flight->name;
}
```

Chunking Results

If you need to process thousands of Eloquent records, use the chunk command. The chunk method will retrieve a "chunk" of Eloquent models, feeding them to a given Closure for processing. Using the chunk method will conserve memory when working with large result sets:

The first argument passed to the method is the number of records you wish to receive per "chunk". The Closure passed as the second argument will be called for each chunk that is retrieved from the database. A database query will be executed to retrieve each chunk of records passed to the Closure.

Using Cursors

The cursor method allows you to iterate through your database records using a cursor, which will only execute a single query. When processing large amounts of data, the cursor method may be used to greatly reduce your memory usage:

```
foreach (Flight::where('foo', 'bar')->cursor() as $flight) {
    //
}
```

The cursor returns an Illuminate\Support\LazyCollection instance. Lazy collections allow you to use many of collection methods available on typical Laravel collections while only loading a single model into memory at a time:

```
$users = App\User::cursor()->filter(function ($user) {
    return $user->id > 500;
});

foreach ($users as $user) {
    echo $user->id;
}
```

Advanced Subqueries

Subquery Selects

Eloquent also offers advanced subquery support, which allows you to pull information from related tables in a single query. For example, let's imagine that we have a table of flight destinations and a table of flights to destinations. The flights table contains an arrived_at column which indicates when the flight arrived at the destination.

Using the subquery functionality available to the <code>select</code> and <code>addSelect</code> methods, we can select all of the <code>destinations</code> and the name of the flight that most recently arrived at that destination using a single query:

Subquery Ordering

In addition, the query builder's orderBy function supports subqueries. We may use this functionality to sort all destinations based on when the last flight arrived at that destination. Again, this may be done while executing a single query against the database:

```
return Destination::orderByDesc(
   Flight::select('arrived_at')
        ->whereColumn('destination_id', 'destinations.id')
        ->orderBy('arrived_at', 'desc')
        ->limit(1)
)->get();
```

Retrieving Single Models / Aggregates

In addition to retrieving all of the records for a given table, you may also retrieve single records using <u>find</u> or <u>first</u>. Instead of returning a collection of models, these methods return a single model instance:

```
// Retrieve a model by its primary key...
$flight = App\Flight::find(1);

// Retrieve the first model matching the query constraints...
$flight = App\Flight::where('active', 1)->first();
```

You may also call the find method with an array of primary keys, which will return a collection of the matching records:

```
$flights = App\Flight::find([1, 2, 3]);
```

Not Found Exceptions

Sometimes you may wish to throw an exception if a model is not found. This is particularly useful in routes or controllers. The findOrFail and firstOrFail methods will retrieve the first result of the query; however, if no result is found, a

Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\ModelNotFoundException will be thrown:

```
$model = App\Flight::findOrFail(1);
$model = App\Flight::where('legs', '>', 100)->firstOrFail();
```

If the exception is not caught, a 404 HTTP response is automatically sent back to the user. It is not necessary to write explicit checks to return 404 responses when using these methods:

```
Route::get('/api/flights/{id}', function ($id) {
    return App\Flight::findOrFail($id);
});
```

Retrieving Aggregates

You may also use the <code>count</code>, <code>sum</code>, <code>max</code>, and other <u>aggregate methods</u> provided by the <u>query builder</u>. These methods return the appropriate scalar value instead of a full model instance:

```
$count = App\Flight::where('active', 1)->count();
$max = App\Flight::where('active', 1)->max('price');
```

Inserting & Updating Models

Inserts

To create a new record in the database, create a new model instance, set attributes on the model, then call the <code>save</code> method:

```
capph
namespace App\Http\Controllers;
use App\Http\Controllers\Controller;
use App\Flight;
use Illuminate\Http\Request;

class FlightController extends Controller
{
    /**
    * Create a new flight instance.
    *
    * @param Request $request
    * @return Response
    */
    public function store(Request $request)
    {
        // Validate the request...
        $flight = new Flight;
        $flight->name = $request->name;
        $flight->save();
    }
}
```

In this example, we assign the <code>name</code> parameter from the incoming HTTP request to the <code>name</code> attribute of the <code>App\Flight</code> model instance. When we call the <code>save</code> method, a record will be inserted into the database. The <code>created_at</code> and <code>updated_at</code> timestamps will automatically be set when the <code>save</code> method is called, so there is no need to set them manually.

Updates

The save method may also be used to update models that already exist in the database. To update a model, you should retrieve it, set any attributes you wish to update, and then call the save method. Again, the updated_at timestamp will automatically be updated, so there is no need to manually set its value:

```
$flight = App\Flight::find(1);

$flight->name = 'New Flight Name';

$flight->save();
```

Mass Updates

Updates can also be performed against any number of models that match a given query. In this example, all flights that are active and have a destination of San Diego will be marked as delayed:

The <u>update</u> method expects an array of column and value pairs representing the columns that should be updated.



When issuing a mass update via Eloquent, the saving, saved, updating, and updated model events will not be fired for the updated models. This is because the models are never actually retrieved when issuing a mass update.

Mass Assignment

You may also use the create method to save a new model in a single line. The inserted model instance will be returned to you from the method. However, before doing so, you will need to specify either a fillable or guarded attribute on the model, as all Eloquent models protect against mass-assignment by default.

A mass-assignment vulnerability occurs when a user passes an unexpected HTTP parameter through a request, and that parameter changes a column in your database you did not expect. For example, a malicious user might send an <code>is_admin</code> parameter through an HTTP request, which is then passed into your model's <code>create</code> method, allowing the user to escalate themselves to an administrator.

So, to get started, you should define which model attributes you want to make mass assignable. You may do this using the <code>\$fillable</code> property on the model. For example, let's make the <code>name</code> attribute of our <code>Flight</code> model mass assignable:

```
<?php

namespace App;

use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model;

class Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The attributes that are mass assignable.
    *
    * @var array
    */
    protected $fillable = ['name'];
}
</pre>
```

Once we have made the attributes mass assignable, we can use the create method to insert a new record in the database. The create method returns the saved model instance:

```
$flight = App\Flight::create(['name' => 'Flight 10']);
```

If you already have a model instance, you may use the fill method to populate it

with an array of attributes:

```
$flight->fill(['name' => 'Flight 22']);
```

Guardina Attributes

While <code>\$fillable</code> serves as a "white list" of attributes that should be mass assignable, you may also choose to use <code>\$guarded</code>. The <code>\$guarded</code> property should contain an array of attributes that you do not want to be mass assignable. All other attributes not in the array will be mass assignable. So, <code>\$guarded</code> functions like a "black list". Importantly, you should use either <code>\$fillable</code> or <code>\$guarded</code> - not both. In the example below, all attributes <code>except for price</code> will be mass assignable:

```
cass Flight extends Model
{
    /**
    * The attributes that aren't mass assignable.
    *
    * @var array
    */
    protected $guarded = ['price'];
}
```

If you would like to make all attributes mass assignable, you may define the \$guarded property as an empty array:

```
/**

* The attributes that aren't mass assignable.

*

* @var array

*/

protected $guarded = [];
```

Other Creation Methods

firstOrCreate/ firstOrNew

There are two other methods you may use to create models by mass assigning attributes: firstOrCreate and firstOrNew. The firstOrCreate method will attempt to locate a database record using the given column / value pairs. If the model can not be found in the database, a record will be inserted with the attributes from the first parameter, along with those in the optional second parameter.

The firstorNew method, like firstorCreate will attempt to locate a record in the database matching the given attributes. However, if a model is not found, a new model instance will be returned. Note that the model returned by firstorNew has not yet been persisted to the database. You will need to call save manually to persist it:

```
// Retrieve flight by name, or create it if it doesn't exist...
$flight = App\Flight::firstOrCreate(['name' => 'Flight 10']);

// Retrieve flight by name, or create it with the name, delayed, and arrival_time
$flight = App\Flight::firstOrCreate(
        ['name' => 'Flight 10'],
        ['delayed' => 1, 'arrival_time' => '11:30']
);

// Retrieve by name, or instantiate...
$flight = App\Flight::firstOrNew(['name' => 'Flight 10']);

// Retrieve by name, or instantiate with the name, delayed, and arrival_time attri
$flight = App\Flight::firstOrNew(
        ['name' => 'Flight 10'],
        ['delayed' => 1, 'arrival_time' => '11:30']
);

(
```

updateOrCreate

You may also come across situations where you want to update an existing model or create a new model if none exists. Laravel provides an updateOrCreate method to do this in one step. Like the firstOrCreate method, updateOrCreate persists the model, so there's no need to call save() ;

```
// If there's a flight from Oakland to San Diego, set the price to $99.
// If no matching model exists, create one.
```

```
$flight = App\Flight::updateOrCreate(
   ['departure' => 'Oakland', 'destination' => 'San Diego'],
   ['price' => 99, 'discounted' => 1]
);
```

Deleting Models

To delete a model, call the delete method on a model instance:

```
$flight = App\Flight::find(1);
$flight->delete();
```

Deleting An Existing Model By Key

In the example above, we are retrieving the model from the database before calling the delete method. However, if you know the primary key of the model, you may delete the model without retrieving it by calling the destroy method. In addition to a single primary key as its argument, the destroy method will accept multiple primary keys, an array of primary keys, or a collection of primary keys:

```
App\Flight::destroy(1);
App\Flight::destroy(1, 2, 3);
App\Flight::destroy([1, 2, 3]);
App\Flight::destroy(collect([1, 2, 3]));
```

Deleting Models By Query

You can also run a delete statement on a set of models. In this example, we will delete all flights that are marked as inactive. Like mass updates, mass deletes will not fire any model events for the models that are deleted:

```
$deletedRows = App\Flight::where('active', 0)->delete();
```



When executing a mass delete statement via Eloquent, the deleting and deleted model events will not be fired for the deleted models. This is because the models are never actually retrieved when executing the delete statement.

Soft Deleting

In addition to actually removing records from your database, Eloquent can also "soft delete" models. When models are soft deleted, they are not actually removed from your database. Instead, a deleted_at attribute is set on the model and inserted into the database. If a model has a non-null deleted_at value, the model has been soft deleted. To enable soft deletes for a model, use the

Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\SoftDeletes trait on the model:

```
c?php

namespace App;

use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model;
use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\SoftDeletes;

class Flight extends Model
{
    use SoftDeletes;
}
```



The SoftDeletes trait will automatically cast the deleted_at attribute to a DateTime / Carbon instance for you.

You should also add the deleted_at column to your database table. The Laravel schema builder contains a helper method to create this column:

```
Schema::table('flights', function (Blueprint $table) {
   $table->softDeletes();
});
```

Now, when you call the delete method on the model, the deleted_st column will be set to the current date and time. And, when querying a model that uses soft deletes, the soft deleted models will automatically be excluded from all query results.

To determine if a given model instance has been soft deleted, use the trashed method:

```
if ($flight->trashed()) {
    //
}
```

Querying Soft Deleted Models

Including Soft Deleted Models

As noted above, soft deleted models will automatically be excluded from query results. However, you may force soft deleted models to appear in a result set using the withTrashed method on the query:

The withTrashed method may also be used on a relationship query:

```
$flight->history()->withTrashed()->get();
```

Retrieving Only Soft Deleted Models

The onlyTrashed method will retrieve only soft deleted models:

Restoring Soft Deleted Models

Sometimes you may wish to "un-delete" a soft deleted model. To restore a soft deleted model into an active state, use the restore method on a model instance:

```
$flight->restore();
```

You may also use the restore method in a query to quickly restore multiple models. Again, like other "mass" operations, this will not fire any model events for the models that are restored:

```
App\Flight::withTrashed()
    ->where('airline_id', 1)
    ->restore();
```

Like the $\mbox{withTrashed}$ method, the $\mbox{restore}$ method may also be used on $\mbox{relationships}$:

```
$flight->history()->restore();
```

Permanently Deleting Models

Sometimes you may need to truly remove a model from your database. To permanently remove a soft deleted model from the database, use the forceDelete
method:

```
// Force deleting a single model instance...
$flight->forceDelete();

// Force deleting all related models...
$flight->history()->forceDelete();
```

Query Scopes

Global Scopes

Global scopes allow you to add constraints to all queries for a given model. Laravel's own <u>soft delete</u> functionality utilizes global scopes to only pull "non-deleted" models from the database. Writing your own global scopes can provide a convenient, easy way to make sure every query for a given model receives certain constraints.

Writing Global Scopes

Writing a global scope is simple. Define a class that implements the Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Scope interface. This interface requires you to implement one method: apply. The apply method may add where constraints to the query as needed:

```
caphp

namespace App\Scopes;

use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder;
use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model;
use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Scope;

class AgeScope implements Scope
{
    /**
    * Apply the scope to a given Eloquent query builder.
    *
    * @param \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder $builder
    * @param \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model $model
    * @return void
    */
    public function apply(Builder $builder, Model $model)
    {
        $builder->where('age', '>', 200);
    }
}
```



If your global scope is adding columns to the select clause of the query, you should use the addSelect method instead of select. This will prevent the unintentional replacement of the query's existing select clause.

Applying Global Scopes

To assign a global scope to a model, you should override a given model's boot method and use the add6lobalScope method:

```
namespace App;
use App\Scopes\AgeScope;
use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model;

class User extends Model
{
    /**
    * The "booting" method of the model.
    *
    * @return void
    */
    protected static function boot()
    {
        parent::boot();
        static::addGlobalScope(new AgeScope);
    }
}
```

After adding the scope, a query to User::all() will produce the following SQL:

```
select * from `users` where `age` > 200
```

Anonymous Global Scopes

Eloquent also allows you to define global scopes using Closures, which is particularly useful for simple scopes that do not warrant a separate class:

```
<?php

namespace App;

use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder;
use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model;

class User extends Model
{
    /**</pre>
```

```
* The "booting" method of the model.

*
    * @return void
    */
protected static function boot()
{
    parent::boot();

    static::addGlobalScope('age', function (Builder $builder) {
        $builder->where('age', '>', 200);
    });
}
}
```

Removing Global Scopes

If you would like to remove a global scope for a given query, you may use the without6lobalScope method. The method accepts the class name of the global scope as its only argument:

```
User::withoutGlobalScope(AgeScope::class)->get();
```

Or, if you defined the global scope using a Closure:

```
User::withoutGlobalScope('age')->get();
```

If you would like to remove several or even all of the global scopes, you may use the withoutGlobalScopes method:

```
// Remove all of the global scopes...
User::withoutGlobalScopes()->get();

// Remove some of the global scopes...
User::withoutGlobalScopes([
    FirstScope::class, SecondScope::class
])->get();
```

Local Scopes

Local scopes allow you to define common sets of constraints that you may easily reuse throughout your application. For example, you may need to frequently retrieve all users that are considered "popular". To define a scope, prefix an Eloquent model method with scope.

Scopes should always return a query builder instance:

```
cass User extends Model
{
    /**
     * Scope a query to only include popular users.
     *
     * @param \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder $query
     * @return \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder
     */
    public function scopePopular($query)
     {
        return $query->where('votes', '>', 100);
      }

     /**
     * Scope a query to only include active users.
     *
     * @param \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder $query
     * gerturn \quad \qu
```

Utilizing A Local Scope

Once the scope has been defined, you may call the scope methods when querying the model. However, you should not include the scope prefix when calling the method. You can even chain calls to various scopes, for example:

```
$users = App\User::popular()->active()->orderBy('created_at')->get();
```

Combining multiple Eloquent model scopes via an $\,$ or $\,$ query operator may require the use of Closure callbacks:

```
$users = App\User::popular()->orWhere(function (Builder $query) {
   $query->active();
})->get();
```

However, since this can be cumbersome, Laravel provides a "higher order" orwhere method that allows you to fluently chain these scopes together without the use of Closures:

```
$users = App\User::popular()->orWhere->active()->get();
```

Dynamic Scopes

Sometimes you may wish to define a scope that accepts parameters. To get started, just add your additional parameters to your scope. Scope parameters should be defined after the 'squery' parameter:

```
ramespace App;
use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model;

class User extends Model
{
    /**
    * Scope a query to only include users of a given type.
    *
    * @param \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder $query
    * @param mixed $type
    * @return \Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Builder
    */
    public function scopeOfType($query, $type)
    {
        return $query->where('type', $type);
    }
}
```

Now, you may pass the parameters when calling the scope:

```
$users = App\User::ofType('admin')->get();
```

Comparing Models

Sometimes you may need to determine if two models are the "same". The is method may be used to quickly verify two models have same primary key, table, and database connection:

```
if ($post->is($anotherPost)) {
    //
}
```

Events

Eloquent models fire several events, allowing you to hook into the following points in a model's lifecycle: retrieved, creating, created, updating, updated, saving, saved, deleting, deleted, restoring, restored. Events allow you to easily execute code each time a specific model class is saved or updated in the database. Each event receives the instance of the model through its constructor.

The retrieved event will fire when an existing model is retrieved from the database. When a new model is saved for the first time, the creating and created events will fire. If a model already existed in the database and the save method is called, the updating / updated events will fire. However, in both cases, the saving / saved events will fire.



When issuing a mass update via Eloquent, the saved and updated model events will not be fired for the updated models. This is because the models are never actually retrieved when issuing a mass update.

To get started, define a \$dispatchesEvents property on your Eloquent model that maps various points of the Eloquent model's lifecycle to your own event classes:

```
capp\
capp\Events\UserDeleted;
use App\Events\UserSaved;
use Illuminate\Foundation\Auth\User as Authenticatable;

class User extends Authenticatable
{
    use Notifiable;

    /**
     * The event map for the model.
     *
     * @var array
     */
    protected $dispatchesEvents = [
          'saved' => UserDeleted::class,
          'deleted' => UserDeleted::class,
     ];
}
```

After defining and mapping your Eloquent events, you may use <u>event listeners</u> to handle the events.

Observers

Defining Observers

If you are listening for many events on a given model, you may use observers to group all of your listeners into a single class. Observers classes have method names which reflect the Eloquent events you wish to listen for. Each of these methods receives the model as their only argument. The make:observer Artisan command is the easiest way to create a new observer class:

```
php artisan make:observer UserObserver --model=User
```

This command will place the new observer in your App/Observers directory. If this directory does not exist, Artisan will create it for you. Your fresh observer will look like the following:

```
<?php
namespace App\Observers;
use App\User;
{
    * Handle the User "created" event.
    * @param \App\User $user
    * @return void
   public function created(User $user)
    * Handle the User "updated" event.
    * @param \App\User $user
    * @return void
   public function updated(User Suser)
    * Handle the User "deleted" event.
    * @param \App\User $user
    * @return void
   public function deleted(User Suser)
```

To register an observer, use the <code>observe</code> method on the model you wish to observe. You may register observers in the <code>boot</code> method of one of your service providers. In this example, we'll register the observer in the <code>AppServiceProvider</code>:

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