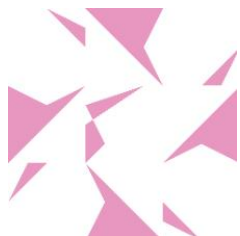


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DateTime Default Value

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Question

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Hello,

I have a class with a property of type DateTime.

What is the default value for the DateTime type?

Can I check if a value was assigned to it without making it nullable?

Thanks,

Miguel

Monday, August 30, 2010 8:43 PM

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the default value of the DateTime is **DateTime.MinValue** (01/01/0001)

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```
DateTime date;
```

```
//validate if the parameter has an assigned value or not
```

```
if (date != DateTime.MinValue)
```

```
{
```

```
}
```

Monday, August 30, 2010 8:52 PM

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To add to Suha's answer, you cannot know if a DateTime field has been assigned DateTime.MinValue or simply holds the default value. Programmatically you can assume the field is not assigned. Usually DateTime.MinValue is not a valid date to enter in a user interface, in which case you can assume if the value is MinValue the user has not yet assigned a value. MinValue is often used to indicate unassigned dates. However, a nullable DateTime might be a better option.

Happy Coding!

Morten Wennevik [C# MVP]

Marked as answer by [Bin-ze Zhao](#) Thursday, September 2, 2010 7:39 AM

Tuesday, August 31, 2010 5:52 AM

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[Morten Wennevik](#)

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