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## Main method in asp.net core

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### In this video we will discuss

- The significance of **Main()** method in an **ASP.NET Core** application
- What happens behind the scenes when a .NET core application is executed

In an ASP.NET Core project we have a file with name **Program.cs**. In this file we have a **public static void Main()** method

```
public class Program
{
    public static void Main(string[] args)
    {
        CreateWebHostBuilder(args).Build().Run();
    }

    public static IWebHostBuilder CreateWebHostBuilder(string[] args) =>
        WebHost.CreateDefaultBuilder(args)
            .UseStartup<Startup>();
}
```

If you have any experience with previous versions of .NET, a console application has a **Main()** method and it is the entry point for that console application.

But here, we are creating an **asp.net core web application** and not a console application. So the obvious question that comes to our mind is **why do we have a Main() method**.

Well, the important point to keep in mind is that, an **asp.net core application initially starts as a console application** and the **Main()** method in **Program.cs** file is the entry point.

So, when the runtime executes our application **it looks for this Main() method** and this where the execution starts.

This **Main() method configures asp.net core** and starts it and at that point it becomes an asp.net core web application.

So, if you take a look at the **Main()** method, it calls **CreateWebHostBuilder()** method passing it the command line arguments.

As you can see, **CreateWebHostBuilder()** method returns an object that implements **IWebHostBuilder**.



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On this object, **Build()** method is called which builds a web host that hosts our asp.net core web application.

On the web host **Run()** method is called, which runs the web application and it begins listening for incoming HTTP requests.

**CreateWebHostBuilder()** method calls **CreateDefaultBuilder()** static method of the **WebHost** class.

**CreateDefaultBuilder()** method creates a web host with pre-configured defaults. **CreateDefaultBuilder()** method does several things to create a web host. We will discuss all that the **CreateDefaultBuilder()** method does in detail in our next video. For now, just understand that the **CreateDefaultBuilder()** method **sets up a web host with certain defaults**.

As part of setting up a web host, **Startup** class is also configured using the **UseStartup()** extension method of **IWebHostBuilder** class. If you are new to the concept of extension methods, please check out the following video.

### Extension Methods in C#

By convention, the startup class in ASP.NET Core is named **Startup**. This class has 2 methods.

```
public class Startup
{
    public void ConfigureServices(IServiceCollection services)
    {}

    public void Configure(IApplicationBuilder app, IHostingEnvironment env)
    {
        if (env.IsDevelopment())
        {
            app.UseDeveloperExceptionPage();
        }

        app.Run(async (context) =>
        {
            await context.Response.WriteAsync("Hello World!");
        });
    }
}
```

**Startup** class does the following 2 very important things

- **ConfigureServices()** method configures services required by the application
- **Configure()** method sets up the application's request processing pipeline

It is very important we understand what these 2 methods does. We will be revisiting these 2 methods several times as we progress through this course and discuss them in detail.

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