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DbContext in entity framework core

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In this video we will discuss the **significance of the DbContext class in Entity Framework Core**

One of the very important classes in Entity Framework Core is the *DbContext* class. This is the class that we use in our application code to interact with the underlying database. It is this class that manages the database connection and is used to retrieve and save data in the database.

To use the DbContext class in our application

- We create a class that derives from the DbContext class.
- DbContext class is in Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore namespace.

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```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{ }
```

DbContextOptions in Entity Framework Core

- For the *DbContext* class to be able to do any useful work, it needs an instance of the *DbContextOptions* class.
- The *DbContextOptions* instance carries configuration information such as the connection string, database provider to use etc.
- To pass the *DbContextOptions* instance we use the constructor as shown in the example below.
- We will discuss more about the *DbContextOptions* class in our next video when we discuss database connection string in ASP.NET Core.

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{
    public AppDbContext(DbContextOptions<AppDbContext> options)
        : base(options)
    {
    }
}
```

Entity Framework Core DbSet

- The *DbContext* class includes a *DbSet*<*TEntity*> property for each entity in the model.
- At the moment in our application we have, only one entity class - Employee.
- So in our *AppDbContext* class we only have one *DbSet*<*Employee*> property.
- We will use this *DbSet* property Employees to query and save instances of the Employee class.
- The LINQ queries against the *DbSet*<*TEntity*> will be translated into queries against the underlying database.
- We will see this in action in our upcoming videos.

```
public class AppDbContext : DbContext
{
    public AppDbContext(DbContextOptions<AppDbContext> options)
```

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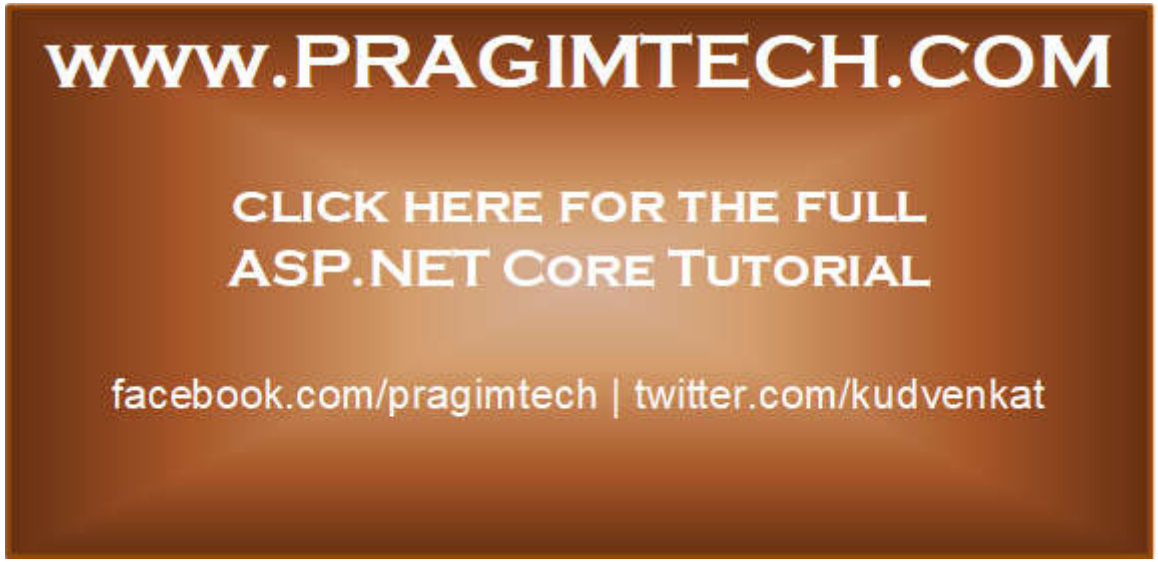
Entity Framework

```
        : base(options)
    {
    }

    public DbSet<Employee> Employees { get; set; }
}
```

To be able to connect to a database we need the database connection string. In our next video, we will discuss, where to define the connection string and using it in Entity Framework Core.



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