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ASP.NET MVC - Models

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To learn ASP.NET MVC, we are Building an Internet Application.

Part VII: Adding a Data Model.

MVC Models

The MVC **Model** contains all application logic (business logic, validation logic, and data access logic), except pure view and controller logic.

With MVC, models both hold and manipulate application data.

The Models Folder

The **Models Folder** contains the classes that represent the application model.

Visual Web Developer automatically creates an **AccountModels.cs** file that contains the models for application security.

AccountModels contains a **LogOnModel**, a **ChangePasswordModel**, and a **RegisterModel**.

Adding a Database Model

The database model needed for this tutorial can be created with these simple steps:

- In the **Solution Explorer**, right-click the **Models** folder, and select **Add** and **Class**.
- Name the class **MovieDB.cs**, and click **Add**.
- Edit the class:

```
using System;
using System.Collections.Generic;
using System.Linq;
using System.Web;
using System.Data.Entity;

namespace MvcDemo.Models
{
    public class MovieDB
    {
        public int ID { get; set; }
        public string Title { get; set; }
        public string Director { get; set; }
        public DateTime Date { get; set; }
    }

    public class MovieDBContext : DbContext
    {
        public DbSet<MovieDB> Movies { get; set; }
    }
}
```

Note:

We have deliberately named the model class "MovieDB". In the previous chapter, you saw the name "MovieDBs" (ending with s) used for the database table. It looks strange, but this is the naming convention you have to use to make the model connect to the database table.

Adding a Database Controller

The database controller needed for this tutorial can be created with these simple steps:

- Re-Build your project: Select **Debug**, and then **Build MvcDemo** from the menu.
- In the Solution Explorer, right-click the **Controllers** folder, and select **Add** and **Controller**
- Set controller name to **MoviesController**
- Select template: **Controller with read/write actions and views, using Entity Framework**
- Select model class: **MovieDB (MvcDemo.Models)**
- Select data context class: **MovieDbContext (MvcDemo.Models)**
- Select views **Razor (CSHTML)**
- Click **Add**

Visual Web Developer will create the following files:

- A **MoviesController.cs** file in the **Controllers** folder
- A **Movies** folder in the **Views** folder

Adding Database Views

The following files are automatically created in the Movies folder:

- Create.cshtml
- Delete.cshtml
- Details.cshtml
- Edit.cshtml
- Index.cshtml

Adding a Connection String

Add the following element to the **<connectionStrings>** element in your **Web.config** file:

```
<add name="MovieDbContext"
connectionString="Data Source=|DataDirectory|\Movies.sdf"
providerName="System.Data.SqlClient" />
```

Congratulations

Congratulations. You have added your first MVC data model to your application.

Now you can click on the "Movies" tab :-)

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