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# Entity Framework: Join Tables Example C#

November 2, 2017 (http://debuxing.com/entity-framewok-join-tables-example-c/) / Emanuele Buccelli (http://debuxing.com/author/koldand/) / Entity-Framework (http://debuxing.com/category/programming/entity-framework/)

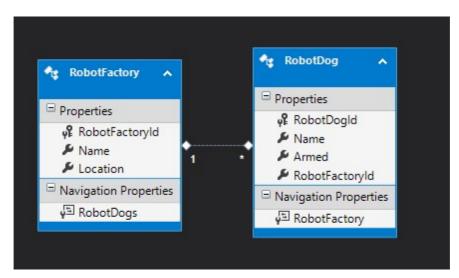
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First things first: you should make good use of the navigation properties whenever possible.

The **Join Query** tool could be your friend if you don't have any navigation properties but you still need to join two tables (or more).

# Starting Point

In this tutorial we will use the simple database created in the Entity Framework Database First Approach (http://debuxing.com/net-mvc-entity-framework-database-first-approach-example/), but without using the navigation properties.



# **Syntax**

The first thing you have to know is the syntax:

SELECT [column/columns]
FROM [table1-name]
JOIN [table2-name]
ON [table1-column] = [table2-column]

# Join Query

Suppose we want to join the *RobotDog* and *RobotFactory* tables, to find the robot dogs produced in the Texan military base.

The **Equals** keyword is our ally in this mission.

We join the two tables on the RobotFactoryld, taking only the beasts whom factory is in Texas.

using (RobotIndustryEntities context = new (http://www.google.com/search?q=nev

We use cookies to ensure that we give you the best experience on our website. If you continue to use this site we var robot Dogs = (from a in context.Robot Dogs join f in context.Robot Factories on our website. If you continue to use this site we join f in context.Robot Factories

```
on d.RobotFactoryld equals f.RobotFactoryld
    where f.Location == "Texas"
    select d).ToList();
}

Or we can use the Join method

var robotDogs = context.RobotDogs
    .Join(
        context.RobotFactories.Where(x => x.Location == "Texas"),
        d => d.RobotFactoryld,
        f => f.RobotFactoryld,
        (d, f) => d)
    .ToList();
```

## Select columns to show

You can also choose which column to show after the join. Consider the previous code:

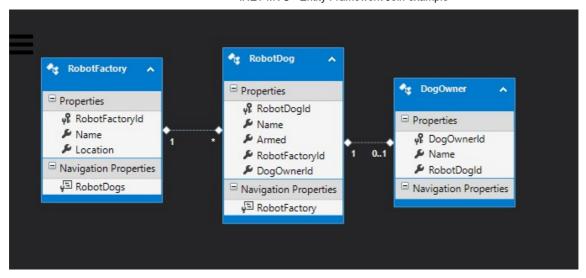
```
var robotDogs = (from d in context.RobotDogs
  join f in context.RobotFactories
  on d.RobotFactoryId equals f.RobotFactoryId
  where f.Location == "Texas"
  select d).ToList();
You can change that select d in:
select new (http://www.google.com/search?q=new+msdn.microsoft.com) {
  Location = f.Location,
  RobotName = d.Name,
  IsArmed = d.Armed
}
```

# Multiple Tables

Not much changes if we want to join multiple tables.

Consider a database with three tables:

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We want to find all the people that has dogs from the Texan factory:

var robotOwners = (from o in context.RobotOwners
 join d in context.RobotDogs
 on d.DogOwnerId equals o.DogOwnerId
 join f in context.RobotFactories
 on f.RobotFactoryId equals d.RobotFactoryId
 where f.Location == "Texas"
 select o).ToList();

I found this Course on Database Management (http://bit.ly/2CIEbSk) to be a really nice and no-frills course to expand your knowledge about relational databases. It's from Coursera, a well known site with trusted content. Definitely worth to check out.

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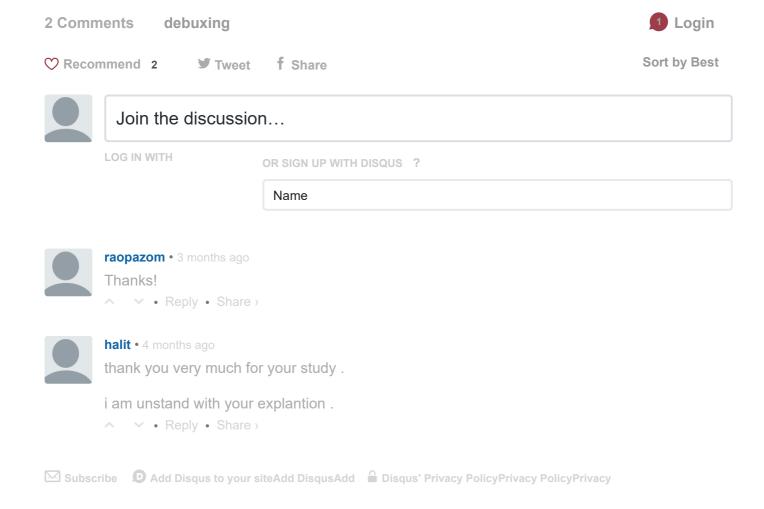
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