

.NET App Dev Hands-On Lab

EF Lab 3 – DbContext, EF Core Migrations

This lab takes you through creating the DbContext and the DbContextFactory as well as running your first migration. Before starting this lab, you must have completed EF Lab 2. The lab works on the AutoLot.Dal project.

Begin by renaming the generated Class1.cs file to GlobalUsings.cs, and replace the scaffolded code with the following:

```
global using AutoLot.Models.Entities;
global using AutoLot.Models.Entities.Base;
global using AutoLot.Models.Entities.Configuration;
global using AutoLot.Models.ViewModels;
global using AutoLot.Models.ViewModels.Configuration;

global using Microsoft.Data.SqlClient;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.ChangeTracking;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Design;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Diagnostics;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Metadata;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Migrations;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Query;
global using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Storage;
global using Microsoft.Extensions.DependencyInjection;

global using System.Data;
global using System.Linq.Expressions;
```

Part 1: Create the derived DbContext Class

The derived DbContext class is the hub of using EF Core with C#. This part builds the ApplicationDbContext.

Step 1: Create the ApplicationDbContext.cs file and its constructor

- Create a new folder named EfStructures in the AutoLot.Dal project. Add a new class to the folder named ApplicationDbContext.cs. Make the class public, add the default constructor, and the DbSet<T> properties:

```
namespace AutoLot.Dal.EfStructures;

public sealed class ApplicationDbContext(DbContextOptions<ApplicationDbContext> options)
    : DbContext(options)
{
    public DbSet<Car> Cars { get; set; }
    public DbSet<Driver> Drivers { get; set; }
    public DbSet<CarDriver> CarsToDrivers { get; set; }
    public DbSet<Make> Makes { get; set; }
    public DbSet<Radio> Radios { get; set; }
    public DbSet<SerilogEntry> SerilogEntries { get; set; }
}
```

Step 2: Add the OnModelCreating method and Register the Configuration Classes

- Add the override for OnModelCreating. This method is where the Fluent API code provides additional model information and where the configuration classes are registered. Add the method and register the configuration classes:

```
protected override void OnModelCreating(ModelBuilder modelBuilder)
{
    new CarConfiguration().Configure(modelBuilder.Entity<Car>());
    new DriverConfiguration().Configure(modelBuilder.Entity<Driver>());
    new CarDriverConfiguration().Configure(modelBuilder.Entity<CarDriver>());
    new RadioConfiguration().Configure(modelBuilder.Entity<Radio>());
    new MakeConfiguration().Configure(modelBuilder.Entity<Make>());
    new SerilogEntryConfiguration().Configure(modelBuilder.Entity<SerilogEntry>());
    new CarViewModelConfiguration().Configure(modelBuilder.Entity<CarViewModel>());
}
```

Step 3: Update the GlobalUsings.cs file

- Add the following to the GlobalUsings.cs file:

```
global using AutoLot.Dal.EfStructures;
```

Part 2: Create the ApplicationDbContextFactory Class

The `IDesignTimeDbContextFactory` is used by the design time tools to instantiate a new instance of the `ApplicationDbContext`.

- Add a new class named `ApplicationDbContextFactory.cs` to the `EfStructures` folder. Make the class public and inherit from `ApplicationDbContextFactory<T>` where `T` is the `ApplicationDbContext` class and implement the interface (the `CreateDbContext()` method). The `CreateDbContext()` method creates a new instance of `ApplicationDbContext` using a hard-coded, development connection string (**NOTE:** Update your connection string to fit your environment):
`LocalDb: @"server=(localdb)\MsSqlLocalDb; "`
`ProjectModels: @"Server=(localdb)\ProjectModels;"`
`Docker: @"server=.,5433;Database=AutoLot_Hol_SV; "`

```
namespace AutoLot.Dal.EfStructures;
```

```
public class ApplicationDbContextFactory : IDesignTimeDbContextFactory<ApplicationDbContext>
{
    public ApplicationDbContext CreateDbContext(string[] args)
    {
        var optionsBuilder = new DbContextOptionsBuilder<ApplicationDbContext>();
        var cs = @"server=(localdb)\MsSqlLocalDb;Database=AutoLot_Hol_SV;Integrated Security=true";
        optionsBuilder.UseSqlServer(cs);
        optionsBuilder.ConfigureWarnings(cw => cw.Ignore(RelationalEventId.BoolWithDefaultWarning));
        Console.WriteLine(cs);
        return new ApplicationDbContext(optionsBuilder.Options);
    }
}
```

- If using anything other than `LocalDb`, you must disable encryption by adding this to the connection string:

```
Encrypt=false
```

Part 3: Update the Database Using EF Core Migrations

Migrations are created and executed using the .NET Core EF Command Line Interface. The commands must be executed from the same directory as the `AutoLot.Dal.csproj` file.

The NuGet style commands can be used in the Package Manager Console in Visual Studio if the `Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Tools` package was installed.

Step 1: Install/Update the EF Core CLI Global Tool

- Run the following command if you currently have a previous version of the EF Core Global Tool installed. This will uninstall the version on your machine:

```
dotnet tool uninstall --global dotnet-ef
```

- Run the following command to install the EF Core Global Tooling version 8.0:

```
dotnet tool install --global dotnet-ef --version 8.0.0
```

- Alternately, you can update the tooling to the latest version (including prelease versions) with the following command:

```
dotnet tool update --global dotnet-ef --prerelease
```

Step 2: Create and Execute the Initial Migration

- Open a command prompt in the same directory as the AutoLot.Dal project
OR
[Visual Studio] Open Package Manager Console (Ctrl Q -> Package Manager Console) and navigate to the correct directory using:

```
[Windows]cd .\AutoLot.Dal
```

```
[Non-Windows]cd ./AutoLot.Dal
```

- Create the initial migration with the following command (-o = output directory, -c = Context File):

```
[Windows]
```

NOTE: The following lines must be entered as one line - copying and pasting from this document doesn't work without removing the line break

```
dotnet ef migrations add Initial -o EfStructures\Migrations -c  
AutoLot.Dal.EfStructures.ApplicationDbContext
```

NOTE: The above lines must be entered as one line - copying and pasting from this document doesn't work without removing the line break

```
[Non-Windows]
```

NOTE: The following lines must be entered as one line - copying and pasting from this document doesn't work without removing the line break

```
dotnet ef migrations add Initial -o EfStructures\Migrations -c  
AutoLot.Dal.EfStructures.ApplicationDbContext
```

NOTE: The above lines must be entered as one line - copying and pasting from this document doesn't work without removing the line break

- This creates three files in the EfStructures\Migrations (EfStructures/Migrations) Directory:

A file named YYYYMMDDHHmmSS_Initial.cs (where date time is UTC)

A file named YYYYMMDDHHmmSS _Initial.Designer.cs (same numbers)

ApplicationDbContextModelSnapshot.cs

- Open the YYYYMMDDHHmmSS _Initial.cs file. Check the Up and Down methods to make sure the database and table/column creation code is there
- Update the database with the following command:

```
dotnet ef database update
```

- Examine your database in SQL Server Management Studio\Azure Data Studio\Visual Studio to make sure the tables were created.

Summary

In this lab, you created the ApplicationDbContext and the ApplicationDbContextFactory. The final step was creating the initial migration and updating the database.

Next steps

In the next part of this tutorial series, you will create the SQL Server objects, including a stored procedure, two views, and a user defined function.