In this video, we will discuss, **accessing model metadata from with in customized display and edit templated helpers**. We will be using the same example, that we worked with in [Part 45](http://csharp-video-tutorials.blogspot.com/2013/06/part-45-customize-display-and-edit.html).

In [Part 45](http://csharp-video-tutorials.blogspot.com/2013/06/part-45-customize-display-and-edit.html), we have customized DateTime editor template to use jQuery calendar. The problem with this template is that, we have hard-coded the date format string to **dd/MM/yyyy**. So, from this point, any DateTime property that uses this template will format the date using the hard-coded date format string.  
  
We want our DateTime template to be generic. We don't want any hard-coded logic, with-in the DateTime editor template. The DisplayFormat attribute on the HireDate property of the Employee class must be used to determine the display format of the date.

Let's remove the hard-coded date format string (**dd/MM/yyyy**) from DateTime.cshtml.   
@Html.TextBox("", Model.HasValue ? Model.Value.ToString("dd/MM/yyyy") : "", new { @class = "date" })  
  
Decorate **HireDate**property in Employee class, with **DisplayFormat** attribute as shown below. Also, make sure **ApplyFormatInEditMode** parameter is set to true, otherwise the formatting will not be applied in Edit mode.  
[DisplayFormat(DataFormatString = "{0:dd/MM/yyyy}", ApplyFormatInEditMode=true)]  
public DateTime? HireDate { get; set; }  
  
Now, change the code in DateTime.cshtml to use the formatted datetime value as show below. Notice that, we are using ViewData.TemplateInfo.FormattedModelValue.  
@Html.TextBox("", Model.HasValue ? ViewData.TemplateInfo.FormattedModelValue : "", new { @class = "date" })  
  
To access model metadata in templates, use @ViewData.ModelMetadata. For, example to access the DisplayFormatString, use @ViewData.ModelMetadata.DisplayFormatString. Along the same lines, if you want to know, the name of the containing class(i.e the class that contains the HireDate property) then use @ViewData.ModelMetadata.ContainerType.ToString().