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Cannot find command 'dotnet ef'?

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▲ I am using .NET core 2.0 on Arch VScode and trying to get EF tools to work but I keep getting that error 'cannot find command dotnet ef'. I've just about looked everywhere and none of the suggestions worked. So if you can please help that would be much appreciated.

▼ The result of running 'dotnet ef'

★ 4

```
[wasiim@wasiim-PC WebApiServerApp]$ dotnet ef --help
Cannot find command 'dotnet ef', please run the following command to install

dotnet tool install --global dotnet-ef
[wasiim@wasiim-PC WebApiServerApp]$ dotnet tool list -g
Package Id      Version  Commands
-----
dotnet-dev-certs 2.2.0    dotnet-dev-certs
dotnet-ef         2.2.3    dotnet-ef
[wasiim@wasiim-PC WebApiServerApp]$
```

this is the dotnet --info result, if it's of help

```
[wasiim@wasiim-PC WebApiServerApp]$ dotnet --info
.NET Core SDK (reflecting any global.json):
Version: 2.2.105
Commit: 7cec335b92

Runtime Environment:
OS Name: arch
OS Version:
OS Platform: Linux
RID: arch-x64
Base Path: /opt/dotnet/sdk/2.2.105/

Host (useful for support):
Version: 2.2.3
Commit: 6b8ad509b6

.NET Core SDKs installed:
2.2.105 [/opt/dotnet/sdk]

.NET Core runtimes installed:
Microsoft.NETCore.App 2.2.3 [/opt/dotnet/shared/Microsoft.NETCore.App]

To install additional .NET Core runtimes or SDKs:
https://aka.ms/dotnet-download
```

This is my .csproj file

```
<Project Sdk="Microsoft.NET.Sdk.Web">
```

```
<PropertyGroup>
```

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</PropertyGroup>
<TargetFramework>netcoreapp2.2</TargetFramework>
</PropertyGroup>

<ItemGroup>
<Folder Include="wwwroot\" />
</ItemGroup>

<ItemGroup>
<PackageReference Include="Lucene.Net.Analysis.Common" Version="4.8.0-beta00005" />
<PackageReference Include="Lucene.Net.QueryParser" Version="4.8.0-beta00005" />
<PackageReference Include="Microsoft.AspNetCore.App" Version="2.2.5" />
<PackageReference Include="Lucene.Net" Version="4.8.0-beta00005" />
<PackageGroup Include="Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.SqlServer" Version="1.1.0" />
<PackageReference Include="Microsoft.AspNetCore.Razor.Design" Version="2.2.0" PrivateAsset />
<PackageReference Include="Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Design" Version="2.2.4" />
<DotNetCliToolReference Include="Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Tools.DotNet" Version="2.0.

</ItemGroup>

</Project>

c#

entity-framework

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.net-core

csproj

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edited Jul 3 at 2:51

asked Jul 3 at 2:22

Wasiim Ouro-sama

315 • 3 • 12

Is ~/.dotnet/tools in your \$PATH ? – Omair Majid Jul 3 at 3:16

@OmairMajid thaaanks it worked!!!! you're the real MVP man. If you post it as an answer, I'll accept – Wasiim Ouro-sama Jul 3 at 3:50

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3 Answers

activeoldestvotes

▲

11

▼

✓

How to fix this

For **Linux** and **macOS**, add a line to your shell's configuration:

bash / zsh :

export PATH="\$PATH:\$HOME/.dotnet/tools/"

dash / tcsh :

set path = (\$path \$HOME/.dotnet/tools/)

When you start a new shell/terminal (or the next time you log in) dotnet ef should work.

For **Windows**:

See [this question](#) on how to add to the PATH environment variable.

You need to add %USERPROFILE%\dotnet\tools to the PATH.

What's going on?

The .NET Core 3.0 (preview) version of this failure is much more illuminating:

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```
$ dotnet ef
Could not execute because the specified command or file was not found.
Possible reasons for this include:
 * You misspelled a built-in dotnet command.
 * You intended to execute a .NET Core program, but dotnet-ef does not exist.
 * You intended to run a global tool, but a dotnet-prefixed executable with this name could
```

The second and the third one both refer to `dotnet` trying to find a `dotnet-ef` command but can't find it. As the third point says, `dotnet-ef` is not in your path.

Here's [what the docs say](#):

Global Tools can be installed in the default directory or in a specific location. The default directories are:

OS	Path
Linux/macOS	<code>\$HOME/.dotnet/tools</code>
Windows	<code>%USERPROFILE%\dotnet\tools</code>

So, you should add `$HOME/.dotnet/tools/` to your `$PATH`.

But also note this part from docs:

These locations are added to the user's path when the SDK is first run, so Global Tools installed there can be called directly.

So, it sounds like something went wrong. If you installed using a manual tarball, the SDK screwed up and you should report this bug to Microsoft. If you use a distribution package, they screwed up and you should report this as a bug to them.

share improve this answer

edited Oct 25 at 14:08

answered Jul 3 at 18:25



Omais Majid

5,359 • 25 • 38

None of these recommended fixes fixed my situation. In my situation the reported .NET Core program that does not exist looks like nonsense: `dotnet-@C:\Users\myUser\AppData\Local\Temp\mp75c598ec34944633925ed32feffbe40f.rsp` – Jack Fox Oct 20 at 19:19

Added a quick TLDR run through to get along. – Nicholas Oct 25 at 6:26

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▲ In my case, the tools folder didn't exist inside `%USERPROFILE%\dotnet\` so I had to run the command `dotnet tool install --global dotnet-ef` to install dotnet ef. Then I was able to run dotnet ef...

61

▼ This was the result of the above install command:

```
You can invoke the tool using the following command: dotnet-ef
Tool 'dotnet-ef' (version '3.0.0') was successfully installed.
```

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answered Sep 29 at 12:50

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
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▲ Sometimes when you install a new version of `dotnet sdk`, it hits the `PATH`.

4 You have to manually add the folder `.dotnet/tools` from your **home directory** to `PATH`.











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edited Jul 3 at 8:23
 Chandresh Khambhayata
1,260 ● 1 ● 16 ● 44


answered Jul 3 at 3:44
 baruchiro
1,020 ● 10 ● 25


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
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
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
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