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Getting Started with ASP.NET Web Matrix

By Balaji

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ASP.NET Web Matrix is a development tool by Microsoft to create sophisticated web applications. Visual Studio.Net, another development tool, has lots of features such as creating windows applications, web services, and mobile application. But these very features of Visual Studio.Net make it bigger in size. Moreover, installing Visual Studio.Net needs 512MB of RAM. This, in contrast, ASP.NET Web Matrix is meant only to create ASP.NET web applications. Moreover, ASP.NET Web Matrix is "lightweight" and can be easily downloadable. The download size of ASP.NET Web Matrix is only 1.1 MB.

In ASP.NET Web Matrix you do not need to install Internet Information Server (IIS). It comes with built-in web server. ASP.NET Web Matrix can be divided into three components such as Class Browser, Web Matrix Editor, and Web Server. The Class Browser displays all the classes in the Base Class Library with their methods, properties and events. The Web Matrix Editor is the visual interface where you can drag and drop controls to build web applications. The Web Server is used to test and run your web applications.

ASP.NET Web Matrix allows you to add online components to your web applications. The biggest disadvantage of ASP.NET Web Matrix is the absence of IntelliSense, which makes writing the code a little tough. ASP.NET Web Matrix, like Visual Studio.Net, supports multiple languages such as VB, C#, and J#. ASP.NET Web Matrix also supports both FTP-based and file-based workspaces. Workspaces are saved across sessions for allowing you to quickly work on your application. This allows developers to easily organize and edit their ASP.NET applications. They just have to double-click the file within the

workspace tree to open it for editing.

ASP.NET Web Matrix provides a built-in access to the ASP.NET community right from within its IDE. This allows you to browse through community web sites and search the ASP.NET Forums and Newsgroups, in case you need help. ASP.NET Web Matrix Project allows you to easily develop ASP.NET database applications because it has built-in support for Microsoft SQL Server and MSDE.

To access online version of the above article, please go to <http://www.dotnet-guide.com/webmatrix.html>

Visit <http://www.dotnet-guide.com> for a complete introduction to .NET framework. Learn about ASP.NET, VB.NET, C# and other related technologies.

Understanding Code Behind in .Net Framework

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Understanding Code Behind in .Net Framework

The ASP.NET Code Behind feature in .Net Framework allows developers to separate the server-side code from the presentation layer. This concept makes the server-side code to store in one file and the presentation code, that is, HTML code in another file. When you compile the ASP.NET page both these files get compiled as a single entity. In the traditional ASP model, this could not be achieved which often leads to intermingling of the code and the design.

The biggest advantage, in ASP.NET, is that the presentation code will be in .aspx file and the server-side code will be in any .Net compatible language such as Visual Basic.Net, C#, or J#. You can also do away with the presentation layer because you can give this role to the web designers. This saves time and you can concentrate only on the coding part of the application. In addition, you can create a class for your code and inherit this class from the ASP.NET Page object. By this way the class can access the page intrinsic and also interact with the postback architecture. After this you can create the ASP.NET page and apply a page directive to inherit from this new class.

But before you create an ASP.NET Code Behind class, you have to reference it to a namespace. The namespace could be System.Web.UI or System.Web.UI.WebControls. Next you have to inherit the class from the Page object. You must declare some public instances of server controls using the name for the variables that are similar to the web controls. This procedure will create a link between the ASP.NET Code Behind class and the server controls.

You can use the ASP.NET Code Behind feature in various web applications development tools such as Visual Studio.Net and ASP.NET Web Matrix. They provide very easy ways to use the ASP.NET Code Behind. After dragging and dropping the server control from the Toolbox to the web page you can just right click on it to view the ASP.NET Code Behind page.

To access online version of the above article, go to <http://www.dotnet-guide.com/codebehind.html>

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