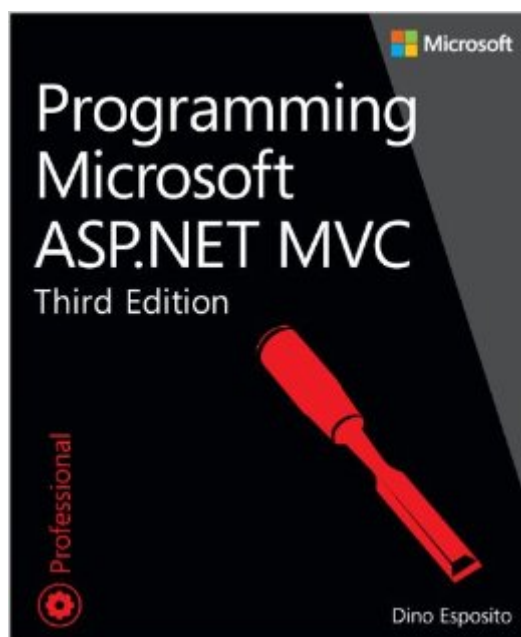


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Programming Microsoft ASP.NET MVC (3rd Edition) (Developer Reference)



Synopsis

Develop next-generation web applications with ASP.NET MVC. Go deep into the architecture and features of ASP.NET MVC 5, and learn how to build web applications that work well on both the desktop and mobile devices. Web development expert Dino Esposito takes you through the web framework's Model-View-Controller (MVC) design model, and covers the tools you need to cleanly separate business logic from the user interface. If you're an experienced web developer new to ASP.NET MVC, this practical guide will get you going. Discover how to: Build web applications that are easy to test and maintain Dive into the functions of controllers—the heart of an MVC site Explore the structure and behavior of a view engine Process a variety of input data using a custom model binder Automate the writing of input forms, and streamline validation Design websites for mobile devices, localization, and error handling Provide security by implementing a membership system Inject script code into your site using JavaScript and jQuery Use Responsive Web Design to make sites mobile-friendly

Book Information

Series: Developer Reference

Paperback: 528 pages

Publisher: Microsoft Press; 3 edition (February 25, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0735680949

ISBN-13: 978-0735680944

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 1.2 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars See all reviews (23 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

First, let me say that generally I love Esposito's books and articles. His book on AJAX in Microsoft was the best on the topic. So, I expected a lot and ended up quite disappointed. I am technical manager, and my developers have experience with MVC 1. We are all "fan-boys" MVC and for me it is the first time I actually enjoy development in Microsoft technologies. Now, about the book. Who is

this book for? The new MVC developers? It doesn't have any examples that one can build upon and learn the skills. For experienced developers? It doesn't go into the advanced implementation solutions; and the philosophy behind MVC only takes you so far. It goes to great (I would say, excruciating) details into what is the foundation of MVC design - but misses what *is* actually the MVC design. For example, the chapter on the controllers lists the role of controllers, motivation behind them, and anatomy of them. It also lists the interfaces that controllers implement. The bottom line - it convinced me what a great thing a controller is, but gave very little guidance how to use it! It may be helpful for the instructors that can use some information in the classes. Or, it is very useful if you plan to join Scott Guthrie's team and develop MVC 3. But for real-world developers, architects, or technical managers - the value is questionable.

I rarely write negative reviews, but I have to say, this book is not good. I'm a relatively seasoned Web Forms developer, having spent the last eight years or so, off and on, developing apps in ASP.NET, and I was looking to this book to introduce me to ASP.NET MVC. As it stands, I'm 100 pages into the book, and I've yet to be presented with a single practical example; the author's spent all this time (seriously, no exaggeration -- the first 100 pages) trying to explain to me that yes, ASP.NET MVC is different from Web Forms -- not better, just different -- and that it extends the existing ASP.NET runtime in ways I couldn't care less about at this point. Thus far, we haven't created a single project, no File > New, no examples, nothing. I'm extremely frustrated and disappointed at this purchase, which sucks, because I generally give programming books the benefit of the doubt. I actually can't think of a single brand of developer this book would be good for. If you're a seasoned Web Forms dev, as I am, you're going to find this stuff extremely tedious, as I have. If you're new to ASP.NET, there's so much jargon and page-filling fluff baked into the first hundred pages that you'll almost surely find yourself completely baffled as to what you're supposed to do with all this information relating to the mechanics of the IIS runtime and HttpHandlers and Modules and Contexts when all you want to do is build a flippin' HelloWorld and then dig deeper into how it works later. I don't want to be harsh, because I realize writers have to make a living, but seriously, do yourself a favor, save your money and skip this book. I don't have an alternative to recommend, yet, but I know one thing -- I'll be returning this one first thing in the morning.

This book must have been aimed at my skill level. My background is Servlets, JSPs, Struts, JSF and SpringMVC, i.e. Java. This book let me make the transition really fast and stand up a medium size web site in a couple of weeks. If you know MVC, but not ASP.NET, it is ideal. Because I coded and

elaborated the design / code as I read, I feel that the architecture of my ASP.NET site is better than anything I have done in Java. This is because the book instils best practices by example. Although it focused a bit too much on WebForms for me, it really let me realize how much MVC is modelled after SpringMVC. I did need a more advanced book for Razor tags, but it got me up to speed really fast. I used Pro ASP.Net MVC 5 by Freeman for Razor, but that I hardly opened.

There's a lot of text here about how to switch from traditional asp.net to asp.net mvc and why you should switch. A *lot*. If you're not trying to decide whether or not to switch, that will not be too helpful. I tend to read books once through, then use them as a reference guide. With this book, despite having read through once, I still don't understand a lot of the basic concepts involved and how to actually connect them to make an app. While reading it I thought I was getting that information, but as I go to apply it I'm finding that there are gaps in my knowledge that the book isn't filling in. You also won't be able to use it as a reference guide - having had this book for a while and tried to use it as a reference, the information about any particular topic that I've tried to look up is either spread out in too many locations to be useful, or just not able to be found. If you don't already understand how asp.net works independent of MVC, this book doesn't provide enough details about how asp.net works to help you out, so I wouldn't recommend it if you don't have that knowledge. (and it should be noted that this book explicitly states that it doesn't, so I'm not holding that against it.) Having had this book around the office for about 2.5 months, I've given up on trying to use it and I'm going to look for another book.

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