

Re: Annoy "Object reference not set to an instance of an object." Help.

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.adonet/2004-11/1426.html>

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Date: 11/20/04

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Deep breath. Let it go...

"Scott M." <s-mar@nospam.nospam> wrote in message
news:O6rT3lozEHA.3452@TK2MSFTNGP14.phx.gbl...

> > *Wow, evidently I pushed a few buttons did I? I suspect you've spent at*

> > *least 10 minutes of your time wasted on me, and not with the OP.*

>

> *I helped the OP with 2 minutes of my time.*

>

>>

>> *Believe me, I'm not worth it*

>

> *You are right there.*

>

>>

>> *Yes, I tend to vent, then get on with business. I've read everything you*

>> *said, and I agree.*

>

>> *Different styles.*

>

> *If you call impatient bullying a style, ok.*

>

>> *Not a problem.*

>

> *Not for you evidently.*

>

>>

>> *:--)*

>>

>> *Jeff*

>>

>> *"Scott M." <s-mar@nospam.nospam> wrote in message*

>> *news:u65uQCozEHA.2788@TK2MSFTNGP15.phx.gbl...*

>>> *>I recommended in my first post to simplify the code. Get simpler code*

>>> *> working. Judicious use of commenting out code, and/or copy-n-paste,*

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or

> >> > *real*

> >> > *time debugging. Useful skills that work for me always.*

> >>

> >> *That's fine for you, but if someone isn't sure of what the code is that*

> > *they*

> >> *are commenting out, then it's nothing more than a spin of the roulette*

> >> *wheel. It's not very educationally sound advice.*

> >>

> >>> >

> >>> > *Create a connection in separate code, and get that working. Then add*

> >>> > *the*

> >>> > *existing code till it breaks, and pinpoint the problem. 20 minutes,*

> > *tops.*

> >>> >

> >>> > *He didn't follow my advice.*

> >>>

> >>> *Maybe he didn't know how to get a working connection? Maybe that is*

the

> >> *problem? Again, not very educational.*

> >>>

> >>> >

> >>> > *He didn't learn anything from you, other than "when a problem arises,*

> > *give*

> >> > *up, and post to the newsgroups"*

> >>>

> >>> *Really? Have you no understanding of how to read:*

> >>>

> >>> *"If you aren't using a password, then you should remove the Password=*

> >> *part*

> >>> *of*

> >>> *the connection string.*

> >>> *If you do need a password, then you have forgotten to add it here*

> >>> *If your INSERT command is incorrect, you will get an error as well*

> >>> *You should ALWAYS put your connection.Open inside of a try...end try*

> >>> *Why are you renaming the exception that is caught in the Catch to err?*

> > *This*

> >> *is a reserved word that represents the VB 6.0 error object. It is a*

good

> >> *idea to leave the name at ex.*

> >> *Why not use the Catch for the purpose it was intended? Right now, you*

> >> *are*

> >> *taking any exceptions you get and just throwing them again. I know*

that

> > *for*

> >> *production purposes that may be what you want to do, but in*

development,

> > *you*

> >> *can use the catch to find out what is going wrong."*

> >>>

> >>> *These are all solid points that have an explanation attached to them.*

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> > > *Please Jeff, now you are just slinging mud so you won't have to admit*
> > > *that*
> > > *you weren't really helping at all.*
> > >
> > > >
> > > > *He'll be back. Yes, I take concern on that. Others don't. Not a*
> > > > *problem.*
> > > > *Just my thing.*
> > >
> > > *Listen to yourself. Are you on some sort of crusade? You really don't*
> > > *have*
> > > *any understanding of how learning takes place do you?*
> > >
> > > *You made 9 posts and in not one of them did you discuss the actual*
> > > *problem*
> > > *or possible problems. You repeatedly told the OP to do things he*
> > > *obviously*
> > > *didn't know how to do and were not very nice about it in the process.*
> > > *You*
> > > *want someone to blame for the OP having to come back 8 extra times? Go*
> > > *look*
> > > *in the mirror.*
> > >
> > > *Yes, he may be back, but probably with a different problem. And, when*
> > > *that*
> > > *happens, helpful people like me and most others here will supply the*
> > > *information that the OP's need. That's kinda how this whole NG thing*
> > > *works.*
> > > *If you don't like that, then you really are in for some disappointment*
> > > *and*
> > > *stress.*
> > >
> > > >
> > > > *And I'm a professional trainer too, 10 years at Microsoft, 2 years*
> > > > *teaching*
> > > > *MCP classes at a large university in Seattle, and authored a book on*
> > > > *IIS.*
> > > >
> > > >
> > > > *No wonder I've never heard of you though, you aren't a very good one.*
> > > > *You've clearly shown here that you don't have any understanding of how*
> > > > *the*
> > > > *learning process works. You've shown that, while you may have good*
> > > > *technical skills, you don't possess the necessary patience and*
> > > > *imagination*
> > > > *to*
> > > > *teach adults new concepts. It's one thing to know something, it's very*
> > > > *different to teach it.*
> > > >
> > > > *I'm not an MCT, and for a good reason....The MCT program is very*
> > > > *restrictive*

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> >> *about the courseware that must be used and the labs that must be taught.*

> >> *I've repeatedly found that to teach adults effectively, you can't work*

> > *with*

> >> *just one canned solution. You need flexibility and the ability to change*

> >> *your approach based on the situation. The MCT program doesn't allow for*

> >> *that.*

> >>

> >> > *So you don't encourage your students to learn for themselves? Or learn*

> >> > *proper troubleshooting techniques?*

> >> >

> >> > *I don't want to argue, I agree that your approach is simply different*

> > *than*

> >> > *mine.*

> >>

> >> *Jeff, you are VERY GOOD at arguing -- you should do it as a profession.*

> > *It*

> >> *is very clear that I gave the OP many suggestions for where to be*

> > *looking*

> >> *for problems. In fact, after my one post (as opposed to your 9), the OP*

> >> *said:*

> >>

> >> *"I guess Scott M is right, sounds like the connection cause the problem.*

> >> *Testing..."*

> >>

> >> *which tells me that I gave the OP some information to go back and work*

> > *with.*

> >> *Randomly, commenting out lines of code (which is what you'll be doing if*

> > *you*

> >> *don't understand the lines in the first place) is NOT, nor has it EVER*

> > *been*

> >> *a PROPER troubleshooting technique. It is a crap shoot. Understanding*

> >> *the*

> >> *premis behind the code you work with, understanding how to read a*

> > *StackTrace*

> >> *(provided by the OP), understanding how the debug process works,*

> >> *understanding how structured exception handling can not only handle*

> >> *exceptions but be used as a debugging tool and understanding what*

> >> *"Object*

> >> *reference not set to an instance of an object." means are all PROPER*

> >> *troubleshooting techniques. It's a good think you didn't write a book*

> >> *on*

> >> *diagnosing execptions.*

> >>

> >> >

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> > > *Both work.*
> > >
> > > *The reason I give my real email is so we can take inappropriate*
> > > *discussions*
> > > *like this offline. I would have sent you this in email, but I don't*
> > > *have*
> > > *your address. This post of mine offers nothing to the OP or to the*
> > *group.*
> > >
> > > *Neither have any of your posts. If you kept your posts relevant in the*
> > > *first place, you wouldn't need to argue with people off line. I'm*
happy
> > *to*
> > > *have this discussion publicly... Because, I believe I am still teaching*
> > > *others the PROPER way to test code with my remarks to you and while you*
> > *may*
> > > *not be able to absorb what I'm saying, I'm sure others will.*
> > >
> > > >
> > > > *Jeff*
> > > >
> > > >
> > > >
> > > > *"Scott M." <s-mar@nospam.nospam> wrote in message*
> > > > *news:e4cw6XnzEHA.3396@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl...*
> > > > > *Sorry, was I talking to you? My hope that people can learn to*
solve
> > > > *their*
> > > > > *problems themselves.*
> > > > >
> > > > > *Then there really is no reason for you to post anything in the first*
> > > > > *place.*
> > > > > *Badgering the OP, when he clearly didn't understand you isn't going*
to
> > > > *help*
> > > > > *anyone.*
> > > > >
> > > > > >
> > > > > > *And feeling? My suggestion would have pinpointed the problem*
> > *straight*
> > > > > > *away.*
> > > > > >
> > > > > >
> > > > > > *If you consider "straight away" 9 messages from you without getting*
> > > > > *anywhere*
> > > > > > *close to the problem vs. one from me, then yes, you are correct.*
> > > > > >
> > > > > > > *Granted, I see 2 schools of thought on newsgroups. One, blindly*
> > *answer*
> > > > > > > *posted questions. The other, educate.*
> > > > > > >

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> > > *Too bad you did neither. If you read what I wrote, you'd see that I*
> > > *explained what is most likely the problem and several possibilities*
as
> > *to*
> > > *why it might be happening. I left it to the OP to go check them*
out.
> > *I*
> > > *happen to be a professional trainer, so I know a thing or 2 about*
how
> > *to*
> > > *educate myself. What you did was not helpful to anyone. You were*
> > > *clearly*
> > > *adversarial and offered nothing that would help the OP to find the*
> > > *problem*
> > > *much less understand it, so let's just climb down of your soap box*
for
> > *a*
> > > *moment and be honest here.*
> > >
> > > > *Mine is to educate. "Give a man a fish, and he'll be hungry by the*
> > *end*
> > > *of*
> > > > *the day. Teach them to fish, and they will never be hungry again."*
> > >
> > > > *Get real, Jeff. It's quite a stretch to call your continued*
badgering
> > *of*
> > > > *the OP education in any way.*
> > >
> > > >
> > > > > *Both work. I agree with both. But I choose one style.*
> > >
> > > > *Then perhaps you could do some learning on how to use that style*
> > *because*
> > > *you*
> > > > *certainly haven't done so here.*
> > >
> > > >
> > > > > *Simpler code is always easier to debug and diagnose.*
> > >
> > > > *You told the OP to give us simple code that works. The OP couldn't*
> > > > *get*
> > > > *the*
> > > > > *code to work! That was the problem. Perhaps the OP doesn't know*
what
> > > > *simpler code there is? Perhaps, that's why we need to help people*
> > *around*
> > > > *here? No one said you had to write the correct code for the OP, but*
> > *you*
> > > > *could have been a little kinder and certainly could have been more*
> > > > *helpful.*

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> >> >> >
> >> >> > *And I give my email in posts, and invite private discourse. Do you?*
> >> >>
> >> >> *Why would I need to. Why not let everyone benefit from the problem*
> >> >> *and*
> >> > *the*
> >> >> *solution? If you are truly helping someone, then they shouldn't need*
> > *to*
> >> >> *contact you privately to solve their problem.*
> >> >>
> >> >> > *Granted, I put up with major spam.*
> >> >>
> >> >> *And, perhaps the rest of us know that we can avoid spam and help the*
> > *OP's*
> >> > *at*
> >> >> *the same time?*
> >> >>
> >> >> >
> >> >> > *Jeff*
> >> >> >
> >> >> >
> >> >> > *"Scott M." <s-mar@nospam.nospam> wrote in message*
> >> >> > *news:e0oSEYmzEHA.3236@TK2MSFTNGP15.phx.gbl...*
> >> >> >> *Interesting Jeff, since I was able to look at the OP and get a*
> > *feeling*
> >> >> >> *for*
> >> >> >> *where the problem was right away.*
> >> >> >>
> >> >> >> *"Jeff Dillon" <jeff@removeemergencyreporting.com> wrote in*
message
> >> >> >> *news:u3kCnrlzEHA.1192@tk2msftngp13.phx.gbl...*
> >> >> >> > *Wow. If you used simpler code, as I suggested, you would have*
> > *found*
> >> >> >> > *the*
> >> >> >> > *problem hours if not days ago*
> >> >> >> >
> >> >> >> > *Jeff*
> >> >> >> > *"nick" <nbdy9.removethis@hotmail.com> wrote in message*
> >> >> >> > *news:OBeRJ\$azEHA.1392@TK2MSFTNGP14.phx.gbl...*
> >> >> >> >> *I didn't add code. The same code (dll file, when called by*
> > *asp.net*
> >> > *it*
> >> >> > *has*
> >> >> >> >> *the problem). I guess Scott M is right, sounds like the*
> > *connection*
> >> >> > *cause*
> >> >> >> > *the*
> >> >> >> >> *problem. Testing...*
> >> >> >> >>

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