

Re: Persist a database connection across postbacks

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2006-03/msg02393.html>

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 - *Date:* 15 Mar 2006 00:31:02 -0800
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Godwin Burby wrote:

Hi All,

I'm a new comer to web development as well as asp.net. So when i fired up my first database driven page, i knew i had a problem of not having a persistent database connection across postbacks. I tried to piggyback the connection object to application object and it didn't work. Well i do know that you ASP.net experts have a default way of handling this scenario. Please enlighten me.

Just my two-penneth, and may not be the answer you're looking for:

Create a function that creates/sets up your connection. Whenever you need to interact with the database, call this function, do your data work, and close the connection. Let the .NET framework worry about connections and connection pooling.

This may at first sound counterintuitive, and up until a few months ago, I was going along the route of "create one connection, share it around, and keep it open". I had a stubborn application that was taking four hours to perform some processing (admittedly, I was abusing ASP.NET quite considerably to get this working). I switched around to opening connections when I needed them, doing the db work, and closing the connection. The same process then started taking less than ten minutes.

The Open/Use/Close approach should definitely scale better than either a) one connection for the whole application, or b) one connection per session. (a) has problems because you have to do a lot of locking around every db interaction to make sure no-one else is using it. (b) can fail if the user opens a second browser window and fires off two db related tasks simultaneously.

Damien

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