

# ApplicationDomains

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  - *Date:* Wed, 29 Jun 2005 22:58:54 -0700
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Can someone assist me in this quest? I've been trying in vein for some time now to figure out how to use AppDomains as a way of making a plugin architecture. Basically, here's my plan:

- 1) Load main assembly
- 2) Create new appdomain to "discover" all plugins and report them back to the main assembly
- 3) Destroy discovery domain (To free assemblies/resources)
- 4) Create new appdomain and load advertised plugins into it

Now, the reason for this is so that if I have a new plugin, I can destroy the plugin appdomain, start with step 2, and reload the new plugins without having to reload the main assembly. So, I need to learn how to do a couple of things:

- A) Pass objects between appdomains
- B) Call methods in my plugins from my main assembly

I plan to use this in a service project, basically all the functionality of the service is in the plugins, with the main assembly basically being a loader. This has been requested because one of the DLL's the service uses has to be modified every 30 days, so the boss wants to do this without having to shut down the service. he can live with a few seconds interruption.

I plan on leaning heavily on a method I made that resembles CallByName, plus some static methods. I also plan on using this in one of my WinForm apps, making a custom MenuItem object that will also contain the method to execute.

Here's the kicker, the boss is an old unix programmer, and this whole thing started because he "heard" somewhere that one can simulate unix/linux's functionality of CopyMemory to detach a running binary from the file, update the file, then reattach the binary, effectively updating a binary without shutting it down.

So, any pointers?

Thanks,  
Jody W

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- *Follow-Ups:*
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    - ◇ *From:* Herfried K. Wagner [MVP]
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    - ◇ *From:* Carlos J. Quintero [.NET MVP]
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