

# PLINQO for Entity Framework

Archive of the CodeSmith Tools documentation for PLINQO for Entity Framework, as published on the CodeSmith Confluence site. It is kept for reference and is no longer updated. Current documentation is at [www.codesmithtools.com/docs](http://www.codesmithtools.com/docs).

8 pages.

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# Home

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Looking for [PLINQO for LINQ to SQL](#), or [PLINQO for NHibernate](#)?

*It's still Entity Framework, but better!*



PLINQO EF is a **replace and enhance alternative to Entity Framework**.

PLINQO EF is available in C#, and supports SQL Server and more!

## PLINQO for Entity Framework

### Documentation

All of our documentation is provided in a friendly wiki format.

Please use the navigation tree on the left to locate the subject that you are interested in.

If you can not find what you are looking for, please feel free to [contact us](#).

### Additional Resources

[Official Website](#)

[Issue Tracker](#)

# Downloads

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## Latest Releases

The latest version of PLINQO for Entity Framework is always available on our Google code site.

[Download Latest Version of PLINQO for Entity Framework](#)

*NOTE: PLINQO requires the latest version of [CodeSmith Generator Professional](#)*

## Source Code

If you like to get into the code and see how things work, the PLINQO for Entity Framework source is available to view online or checkout using git from [here](#)

# Getting Started

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Getting started with PLINQO for Entity Framework is an easy three step process.

## Step 1: Download CodeSmith Generator

**Download** and install the latest version of CodeSmith Generator Professional.

*NOTE: PLINQO requires the latest version of **CodeSmith Generator Professional***

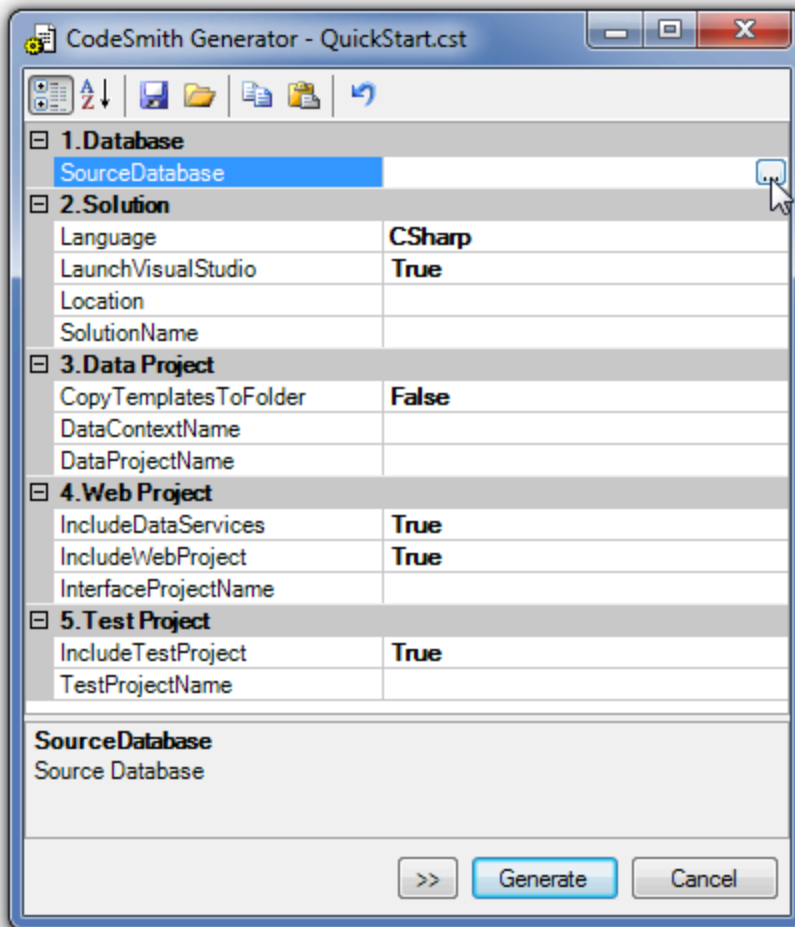
(If you have not previously registered with CodeSmith Tools or do not currently own a license of CodeSmith Generator, you will be required to register on the CodeSmith Tools website to get a trial key before using CodeSmith Generator.)

## Step 2: Download the PLINQO for Entity Framework Templates

Download the Entity Framework templates from Google Code [here](#).

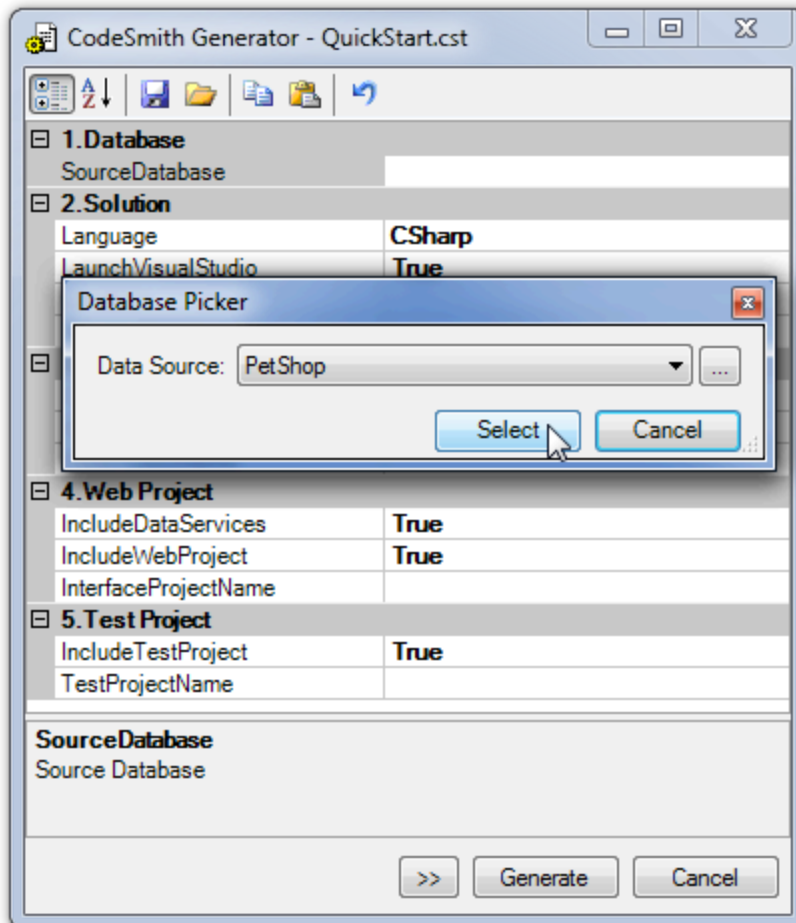
## Step 3: Run the QuickStart

1. **Extract the downloaded templates using Windows Explorer** or your favorite file utility like **7-Zip**.
2. Double click the quickstart.cst template.
3. Select a database by clicking on the SourceDatabase property and click the ellipse to choose your database.

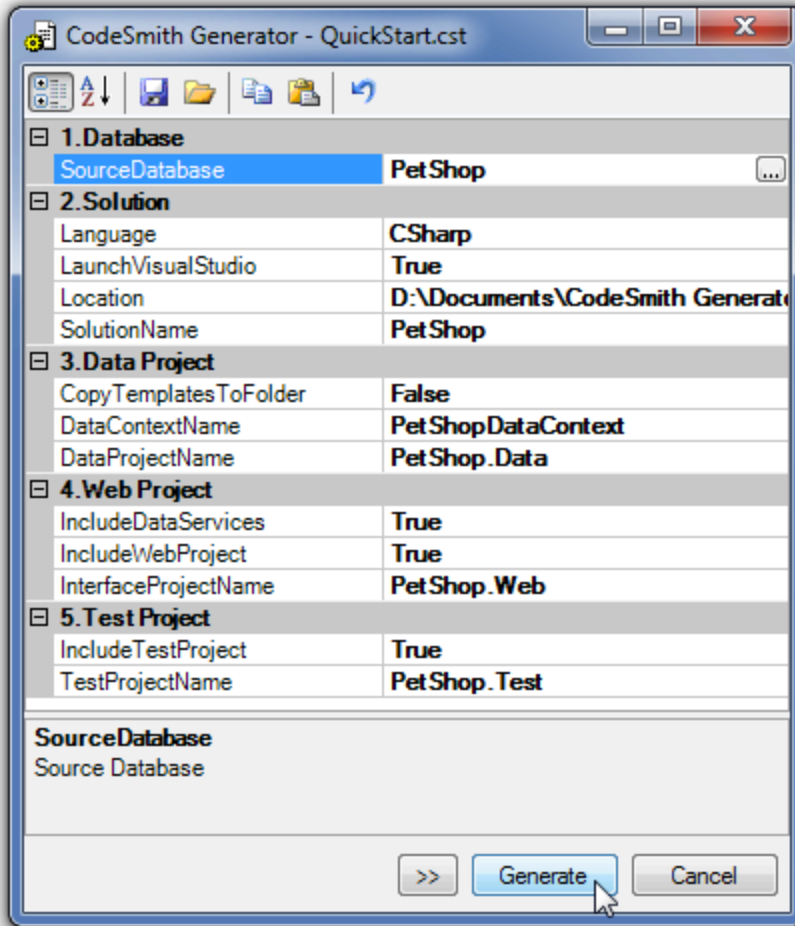


Next click on the select database once your database is shown in the drop down. If no database

appears, click on the ellipse button again to add your database to the list.



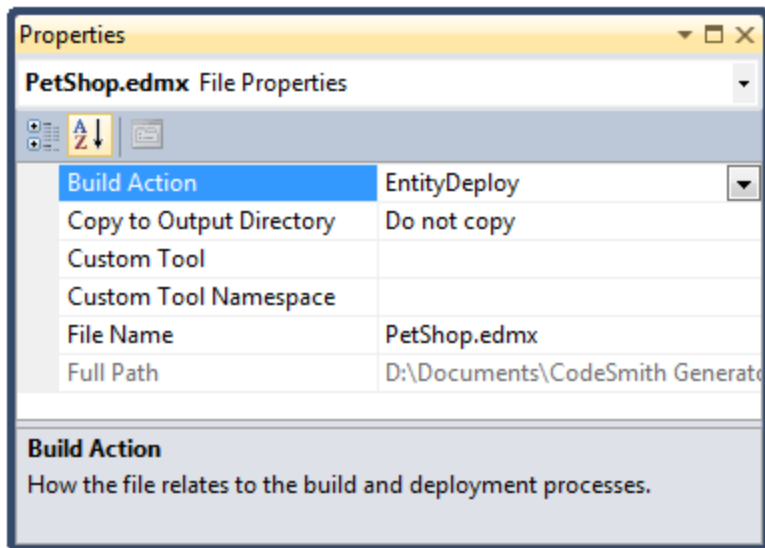
4. Click on the Generate button.



Clicking generate will automatically open Visual Studio so that you can quickly get started using PLINQO EF!

## Additional Step

After initial generation, please check to make sure that the generated EDMX file's build action is set to EntityDeploy.



An **"Unable to load the specified metadata resource."** error message will appear in your web browser if the generated EDMX file's BuildAction is not set to EntityDeploy. This issue will be fixed in a future version of CodeSmith Generator.

# Key Features

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The complete PLINQO feature set is coming for Entity Framework. In the current version PLINQO offers these primary features over standard EF:

- **EDMX**
  - Quickly and safely regenerate your database while keeping it in sync with your database model.
  - Ability to filter what gets updated from the database.
  - Ability to safely rename your entities with ease using a Clean Expression.
  - Preserves custom changes and meta-data to your EDMX file (E.G. Custom View keys are preserved against regeneration).
  - Better support for Views!
- **Entities**
  - Each class is generated to a separate editable file.
  - Complex types are placed into a separate folder.
  - Ability to edit the generated code via the partial class.
  - Editable templates are easy to understand and modify.
- **Query Extensions**
  - Bring back filtered data easily using chainable query extension methods.
  - Support for Comparison Operators (E.G., Equals, GreaterThan, GreaterThanOrEquals, LessThan, LessThanOrEquals and NotEquals)
  - Ability to create your own reusable query extensions.
- **QuickStart**
  - Get up and running within a few seconds.
  - Ability to create a Dynamic Data for Entity Framework project with ease.

# Roadmap

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## The Complete PLINQO Feature Set

- Additional Query Extensions
- Additional Entity Enhancements
- Support for Bulk Operations (Update, Insert, Delete)
- Enumeration Generation
- Batch and Future Queries
- Rules Engine
- Caching
- Auditing
- Official support for EF 4.1 Code First and DbContext API

## LINQ to SQL Migration

We intend to offer a simple migration path from one PLINQO framework to another, ideally allowing users to do as little as regenerate an updated CodeSmith Generator Project File (CSP), and then be able to compile their projects with minimal code changes.

# New Page Goes Here

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# test

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test

# Known Issues

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Here is a list of known issues or issues that are needing to be verified in the Beta version of the templates and will be fixed before the final version. These will be crossed out when they are available in the latest nightly build of the templates.

- Support for multiple provider types (E.G., Oracle).
- The Test Project is created with an incorrect connection string.