Share 4   More   Next Blog»

Create Blog   Sign In

ConceptDev (Craig Dunn's blog)

Saturday, 31 January 2009

Monitoring iPhone web traffic (with Fiddler)

For reasons that will become apparent in a future post, I wanted to 'sniff' the web traffic coming from my iPhone. If you are already familiar with Fiddler (web debugging proxy) you probably already know how easy that is to do. For everyone else, here's a brief rundown of the steps involved:

1. Get Fiddler
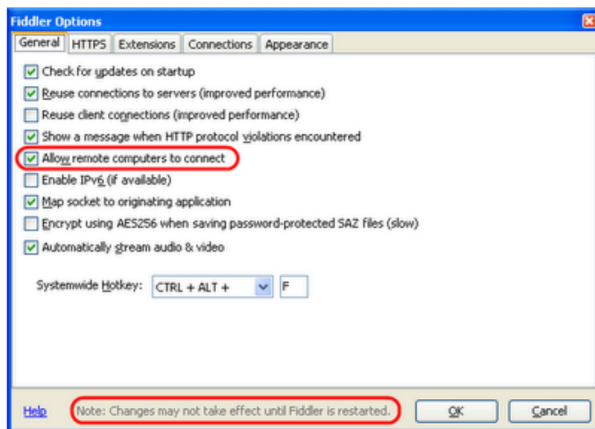Download Fiddler and install it on your PC (with Windows 2000 / XP / 2003 / Vista and Microsoft .NET Framework v2.0 or later)

2. Set-up Fiddler
Start Fiddler then open the `Fiddler Options...` window
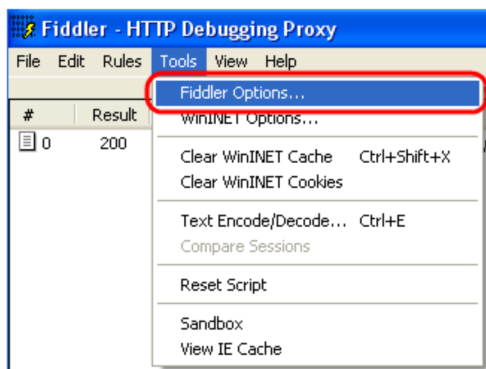
and in the `General` tab, ensure `Allow remote computers to connect` is checked.

In the `Connections` tab, check `Act as system proxy on startup` and verify what port is set (eg. `8888`).

Blog Archive

▶ 2013 (6)
▶ 2012 (10)
▶ 2011 (14)
▶ 2010 (13)
▼ 2009 (78)
  ▶ December (1)
  ▶ November (3)
  ▶ October (10)
  ▶ September (9)
  ▶ August (7)
  ▶ July (3)
  ▶ June (3)
  ▶ May (5)
  ▶ April (9)
  ▶ March (11)
  ▶ February (9)
  ▼ January (8)
    Microsoft Tag: CMYK or bust?
    Microsoft Tag: how does the High Capacity Color Ba...
    Monitoring iPhone web traffic (with Fiddler)
    DeepZoom "Viewer" 1.1
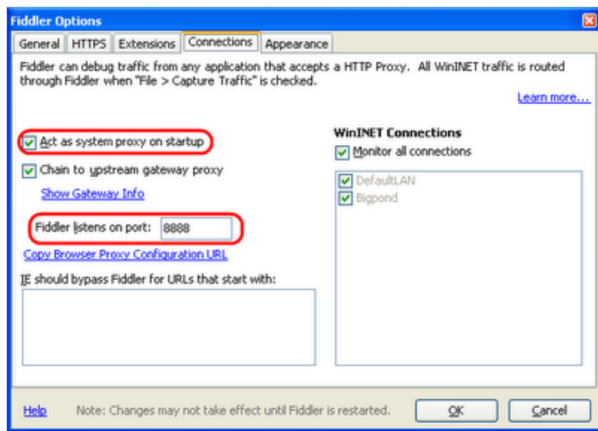   Calculating distance in C# (with SqlServer.Types)
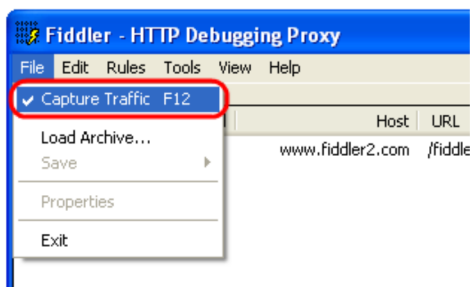   Great Circles!
    DeepZoom "Viewer"
    DeepZoomTools.dll
▶ 2008 (48)
▶ 2007 (57)
▶ 2006 (17)
▶ 2005 (21)

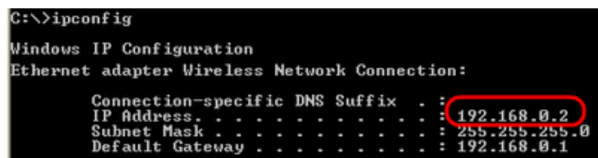Once you've saved those settings you need to **stop** and **re-start** Fiddler.

3. Ensure Fiddler is 'listening'
Once Fiddler has re-started, verify that the `Capture Traffic` menuitem is ticked.

4. Check the 'listening' IP
You need to know your computer's wireless-network IP address to configure the iPhone. This screenshots shows the `Command Prompt > ipconfig` output:

5. Set-up iPhone Settings
With the computer IP address and Fiddler port, go to your iPhone's `Wifi Settings` and scroll down to the `HTTP Proxy`, choose `Manual` and input the Fiddler proxy info:
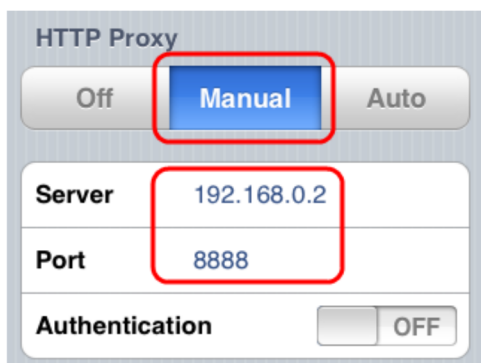
(remember to switch back to **Off** when you're done)

6. 'sniff' away
If everything has been setup right, anything you do in **Safari** or other internet applications (like, say Microsoft Tag Reader) will be logged in the Fiddler window.

Links

Conf App (iOS & WP7)

ConceptDevelopment.net

RaceReplay - Silverlight Marathon animations

Searcharoo ASP.NET Search Engine

DeepZoomPublisher.com

SilverlightEarth - Google Maps and Virtual Earth in Silverlight

RecipeNow for iPhone/iPod Touch

RecipeNow.NET recipe and food shopping database

Sydney Striders Road Running Club

Room to Read: World Change Starts with Educated Children

Sean Williams Endurance Training

About Me

View my complete profile

Blog Roll

ScottGu's Blog

Scott Hanselman

Nikhil Kothari

Tim Heuer

Jonas Follesoe

Jose Fajardo

SharpGIS (Morten Nielsen)

Tin Isles... (Russ Sayers)

Paul Stovell

JohnPapa

Scott Water

Coding Horror

Graham Pearson

stackoverflow
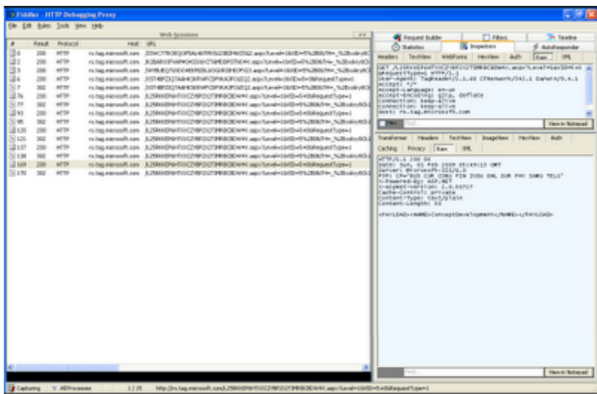
It's extremely useful for testing/debugging - have fun!

Don't forget to **UNDO the iPhone settings** when you're finished!!

Posted by Craig Dunn at 01:00   g+1 +4 Recommend this on Google

Tags: fiddler, iphone, microsofttag

16 comments:

Russ 01/02/2009 03:54

fiddler is awesome - every web developer should have it (or something similar)!

my favourite feature: "decrypting ssl" (http://www.fiddlertool.com/Fiddler/help/httpsdecryption.asp)

Reply

Jarle 25/11/2009 10:14

Very useful blog post! Thnx!

Reply

ChrisNTR 25/11/2009 14:17

Great stuff, I never thought of doing this - will give it a shot later :)

Reply

ChrisNTR 27/11/2009 03:11

Craig,

Did you actually get this to work with a Monotouch app?

Cheers,

ChrisNTR

Reply

Steve Souders 19/08/2010 17:03

I can't get this to work when my iPhone is doing https even after following these instructions (http://www.fiddler2.com/fiddler/help/httpsdecryption.asp). Any tips?

Reply

Russ 19/08/2010 18:42

@Steve - https decryption needs fiddler to insert a certificate into your browser signed by it's own CA. Try fiddler on your desktop and you'll see certs signed by "DO_NOT_TRUST_FiddlerRoot". You should have more luck if you can install this CA on your iphone (not sure if that is even possible?). "How do I configure Firefox to trust the Fiddler root certificate?" on the link you've mentioned explains how to export the CA.

Reply

J. 27/09/2010 08:48

For SSL traffic, you can use the iPhone Configuration Utility to create a config profile to import a cert to your iphone. http://support.apple.com/kb/DL926

That said, my iphone does not seem to like/trust the Fiddler Root CA cert. Maybe others would have better results. I've had better luck using Charles. http://www.charlesproxy.com/

iPhone likes its cert better, even though I like Fiddler better. Charles is not free ($50 US for license), but it works for 30 days with 30 min at a time.

Reply

Ciarán & Elaine 21/01/2011 17:59

I'm trying to use the solution you provide here but when I change my proxy settings and they try go go to a site (not https, just regular http) I get the error:

"There was a problem communicating with teh web proxy server (HTTP)."

Any ideas what I can try? FIddler is working fine for requests from my laptop

Thanks

Reply

Gonzalo 10/08/2011 11:23

Thank you very much. This allowed me to debug my websites on localhost from the iPad.

Reply

Luke 14/02/2012 00:54

Thanks for this. I am currently building a mobile version of an ecommerce site for a client and this has allowed me to test / debug locally with my iPhone :)

Reply

Swati 05/04/2012 22:24

Thats really helpful.
I have worked with this before but i forgot the port number to mention

Reply

Ericlaw 12/10/2012 09:01

If you want Fiddler to work for your iPhone's HTTPS traffic, you need the iOS Certificate Maker plugin. See http://www.fiddler2.com/fiddler/help/httpsdecryption.asp#iOS for more details.

Reply

Leonardo Canessa 16/11/2012 12:52

Everything works. nut why is it that when i play a game, a server game, it doesnt want to connect to it?

Reply

SP Senthil 13/12/2012 02:34

HI, what is the procedure/steps in case of Galaxy Tab/mobile phone, Blackberry?

Reply

Scott Wojan 21/05/2013 06:22

Great post! The UI has changed a bit in fiddler... I posted an updated version of this here: http://geekswithblogs.net/wojan/

Reply

Yesiamtom 09/01/2014 03:28

Thanks for this post, very easy to follow and will be immensely useful.

Reply

Comment as: Google Account

Publish   Preview

Newer Post   Home   Older Post

Subscribe to: Post Comments (Atom)

Awesome Inc. template. Powered by Blogger.