Maintenance mode

Sometimes, there is a need to fine tune some application settings or restore a database from a backup.  
When working on tasks such as these, it is not desirable to allow everyone to use the application because it  
can lead to losing the recent user messages or showing the application implementation details.

In this recipe, we will see how to show everyone except the developer a maintenance message.

Getting ready

Create a new yii2 -app-basic application by using the Composer package manager, as described in the  
official guide at <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guidestart-installation.html>.

How to do it...

Carry out the following steps:

1. First, we need to create protected/controllers/MaintenanceController . php. We do this as  
   follows:

class MaintenanceController extends Controller  
{

public function actionIndex()

{

$this->renderPartial("index");

}

}

1. Then we create a view named views/maintenance/index. php, as follows:

<?php

use yii\helpers\Html;

?>

<!doctype html>

<head>

<meta charset="utf-8" />

<title><?php echo

Html::encode(Yii::$app->name)?>is under maintenance</title>

</head>

<body>

<h1><?php echo CHtml::encode(Yii::$app->name)?>is under maintenance</h1>  
<p>We'll be back soon. If we aren't back for too long,please drop a message to  
<?php echo Yii::$app->params['adminEmail']?>.</p>

<p>Meanwhile, it's a good time to get a cup of coffee,to read a book or to  
check email.</p>

</body>

1. Now we need to add a single line of code to config/web. php, as follows:

$config = [

'catchAll' => file\_exists(dirname( DIR ) .'/.maintenance')

&& !(isset($\_COOKIE['secret']) && $\_COOKIE['secret']=="password") ?  
['maintenance/index'] : null,

// ...

]

4. Now in order to go into the maintenance mode, you need to create a file named . maintenance in  
your site directory. After you do this, you should see this page.

In order to get it back to normal, you just need to delete it. To view the website in the maintenance mode,  
you can create a cookie named secret with its value equal to password.

How it works...

A Yii web application offers a way to intercept all the possible requests and route these to a single  
controller action. You can do this by setting yii\web\Application: : catchAll to an array containing the  
application route as follows:

'catchAll' => ['maintenance/index'],

The maintenance controller itself is nothing special; it just renders a view with some text.

We need an easy way to turn the maintenance mode on and off. As the application config is a regular  
PHP file, we can achieve it with a simple check to confirm the file exists, as follows:

file\_exists(dirname( DIR ) . '/.maintenance')

In addition, we check for the cookie value to be able to override the maintenance mode. We do this as  
follows:

(isset($\_COOKIE['secret']) && $\_COOKIE['secret']=="password")

See also

In order to learn more about how to catch all the requests in a Yii application and check the production  
[ready solution for maintenance, refer to http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/yii-web-](http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/yii-web-application.html%23%24catchAll-detail)  
application.html#$catchAll-detail.