XSS types

There are two main types of XSS injections, which are as follows:

* Non-persistent
* Persistent

The first type is the one we have used in the recipe and is the most common XSS type; it can be found in most insecure web applications. Data passed by the user or through a URL is not stored anywhere, so the injected script will be executed only once and only for the user who entered it. Still, it is not as secure as it looks. Malicious users can include XSS in a link to another website and their core will be executed when another user follows the link.

The second type is much more serious, as the data entered by a malicious user is stored in the database and is shown to many, if not all, website users. Using this type of XSS, malicious users can literally destroy your website by commanding all users to delete all data to which they have access.

See also

In order to learn more about XSS and how to deal with it, refer to the following resources:

* [http://htmlpurifier. org/docs](http://htmlpurifier.org/docs)
* <http://ha.ckers.org/xss.html>
* [http://shiflett.org/blog/2nn7/may/character-encoding-and-xss](http://shiflett.org/blog/2007/may/character-encoding-and-xss)