

Janos Pasztor

# Getting help in the IT community

#### Follow me!

https://pasztor.at

@janoszen

Why doesn't it work!?!?!?!?!?

First: Google

Warning: Cannot modify header information - headers already sent by (output started at /some/file.php:12) in /some/file.php on line 23

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Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

Google offered in: Deutsch



Warning: Cannot modify header information - headers already sent by (o





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About 1.050.000 results (0,60 seconds)

However, if you get an error "Headers already sent" as the first error and it tells you the error is near the end of a file (check which file "output started at" points to), that probably means that there are extra spaces or lines after a closing ?> php tag. Mar 26, 2011

Warning: "Headers already sent" or "Cannot modify header - Drupal https://www.drupal.org/node/1424



Google results are often not helpful



#### No output before sending headers!

2457

Functions that send/modify HTTP headers must be invoked *before any output is made*.



summary ₩ Otherwise the call fails:



Warning: Cannot modify header information - headers already sent (output started at script:line)

+100

Some functions modifying the HTTP header are:

- header / header\_remove
- session\_start / session\_regenerate\_id
- setcookie / setrawcookie

#### Output can be:

- Unintentional:
  - Whitespace before <?php or after ?>
  - The UTF-8 Byte Order Mark specifically
  - Previous error messages or notices
- Intentional:
  - · print, echo and other functions producing output
  - Raw <html> sections prior <?php code.

Google inception!

Functions that send/modify HTTP headers must be invoked before any output is made.

Functions that send/modify HTTP headers must be invoked before any output is made.



**HTTP** headers



Google Search

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#### List of HTTP header fields - Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\_of\_HTTP\_header\_fields ▼

Tells downstream proxies how to match future request headers to decide whether the **cached** response can be used rather than requesting a fresh one from the **origin server**. Example 1: Vary: \* Example 2:

Vary: Accept-Language.

Media type · Content negotiation · Header injection · Compression

#### HTTP headers - HTTP | MDN

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/HTTP/Headers ▼

Sep 25, 2017 - **HTTP headers**. **HTTP headers** allow the client and the server to pass additional information with the request or the response. A request **header** consists of its case-insensitive name followed by a colon ':', then by its value (without line breaks).

Connection · Content-Type · Response header · Authorization

HTTP headers allow the client and the server to pass additional information with the request or the response. A request header consists of its case-insensitive name followed by a colon ':', then by its value (without line breaks). Leading white space before the value is ignored.

Custom proprietary headers can be added using the 'X-' prefix, but this convention was deprecated in June 2012, because of the inconveniences it caused when non-standard fields became standard in @RFC 6648; others are listed in an @IANA registry, whose original content was defined in @RFC 4229. IANA also maintains a @registry of proposed new HTTP message headers.

Lesson: Google twice!

What if Google doesn't help?



#### John Doe

Why doesn't my website work?

Like · Comment · 9 minutes ago · 🚱

Your goals when asking a question

1. Explain your end goal.

- 1. Explain your end goal.
- 2. Explain all details you have.

- 1. Explain your end goal.
- 2. Explain all details you have.
- 3. Convince the reader you are worth answering.

Be on-topic!

1. Don't post HTML questions in a PHP forum.

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- 2. Don't post a JavaScript questions in a Java forum.

- 1. Don't post HTML questions in a PHP forum.
- 2. Don't post a JavaScript questions in a Java forum.
- 3. ...

State your end goal!



#### John Doe

Yesterday at 2:55am ·

How do I access a private variable of a different class?

Like Comment Share

Give details!

1. Post your source code / blueprints.

- 1. Post your source code / blueprints.
- 2. Post logs / measurements.

Watch your grammar!



#### John Doe

Yesterday at 2:55am · 🔞

My program not function mysql connection not work.

Like Comment Share

Structure your question!

V



#### John Doe

Yesterday at 2:55am ·

I'm writing an application in PHP and MySQL and I have a problem. I'm getting Warning: Cannot modify header information - headers already sent by (output started at /some/file.php:0) in /some/file.php on line 23 and no matter what I do I can't fix it. The line mentioned only contains the start of my PHP file and I don't know what to do.

Like · Comment · Share

~



I'm running into an error in my PHP/MySQL application.

Error message: Warning: Cannot modify header information - headers already sent by (output started at /some/file.php:0) in /some/file.php on line 23

The line in question:

<?php

I'm completely stuck and I have no idea what to do. How do I debug this issue?

Like · Comment · Share

Don't ask for a private response.



#### John Doe

Yesterday at 2:55am · 🚱

. . .

Please answer me at johndoe@gmail.com

Like · Comment · Share

Actually ask a question. :)

More tips:

How To Ask Questions The Smart Way

Eric Steven Raymond

# Finding errors

Step by step debugging

```
private void runBackup(Path path) throws BackupFailedException { path: "/test.txt"
    try {
        if (Files.isRegularFile(path)) { path: "/test.txt"
            s3Client.put( s3Client: MockS3Client@1421
                path.toString(),
                Files. readAllBytes (path)
            );
        } else {
            for (Path subPath : Files.list(path).collect(Collectors.toList())) {
                runBackup(subPath);
                                                                     Variables
                                                                             this = {CreateBackupRunner@1414}
     catch (IOException e) {
        throw new BackupFailedException(e);
                                                                             path = {JimfsPath@1420} "/test.txt"
                                                                             f root = {Name@1441} "/"
                                                                                f display = "/"
                                                                                f canonical = "/"
                                                                             names = {SingletonImmutableList@1442} size = 1
                                                                             pathService = {PathService@1443}
                                                                          s3Client = {MockS3Client@1421}
                                                                             footDirectory = {MockS3Client$Directory@1439}
                                                                                timeAccessor = {MockS3Client$lambda@1440}
```



Read the logs

Linux/OSX:

/var/log/syslog

Windows:

**Event Viewer** 

Format your code

```
private void runBackup(Path path) throws BackupFailedException {
try {
if (Files.isRegularFile(path)) {
s3Client.put(
path.toString(),
Files.readAllBytes(path)
} else {
for (Path subPath : Files.list(path).collect(Collectors.toList())) {
runBackup(subPath);
} catch (IOException e) {
throw new BackupFailedException(e);
```

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private void runBackup(Path path) throws BackupFailedException {
 try {
    if (Files.isRegularFile(path)) {
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 } catch (IOException e) {
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```

# Rubber Duck Debugging



Let's sum it up!

1. Do your homework first

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  - 3. Write good questions

- 1. Do your homework first
  - 2. Pick the right forum
  - 3. Write good questions
  - 4. Get your hands dirty

Questions?