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Apache Web Server Prevent Directory / Folder Listing

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Q. If there is no index.html or index.php, Apache displays all other files in a Directory. How do I force Apache web server not to display my directory / folder list? [1]

A.This controlled by a module called mod_autoindex or mod_dir.

You can completely remove (or replace) automatic index generation as per your requirements. The IndexIgnore directive adds to the list of files to hide when listing a directory. File is a shell-style wildcard expression or full filename. Multiple IndexIgnore directives add to the list, rather than the replacing the list of ignored files. By default, the list contains . (the current directory). Open your httpd.conf or .htaccess file and append following directive to block auto indexing for all pdf and mp3 files:

```
IndexIgnore *.pdf *.mp3
```

To enforce or deny complete folder listing, use *:

```
IndexIgnore *
```

Save and close the file. Restart httpd if httpd.conf was updated:

```
# service httpd restart
```

Further readings:

=> Apache mod_autoindex [2] help pages.

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URLs in this post:

[1] Image: **http://www.cyberciti.biz/faq/faq/category/apache/**
[2] Apache mod_autoindex: **http://httpd.apache.org/docs/2.2/mod/mod_autoindex.html**