## **Static File Serving**

Next.js can serve static files, like images, under a folder called <code>public</code> in the root directory. Files inside <code>public</code> can then be referenced by your code starting from the base URL ( / ).

For example, if you add an image to <code>public/me.png</code> , the following code will access the image:

```
import Image from 'next/image'

function Avatar() {
  return <Image src="/me.png" alt="me" width="64" height="64" />
}

export default Avatar
```

Note: next/image requires Next.js 10 or later.

This folder is also useful for <code>robots.txt</code> , <code>favicon.ico</code> , Google Site Verification, and any other static files (including <code>.html</code> )!

**Note**: Don't name the <code>public</code> directory anything else. The name cannot be changed and is the only directory used to serve static assets.

**Note**: Be sure to not have a static file with the same name as a file in the pages/ directory, as this will result in an error.

Read more: <a href="https://nextjs.org/docs/messages/conflicting-public-file-page">https://nextjs.org/docs/messages/conflicting-public-file-page</a>

**Note**: Only assets that are in the <code>public</code> directory at <u>build time</u> will be served by Next.js. Files added at runtime won't be available. We recommend using a third party service like <u>AWS S3</u> for persistent file storage.