

Podcast Episode #126: We chat GitHub Actions, fake boyfriends apps, and the dangers of legacy code.  
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## formidable can only process one file?

Asked 5 years, 7 months ago   Active 1 year, 11 months ago   Viewed 1k times



1

I am trying to use formidable to parse a form with multiple files upload, but somehow the result only shows one file. Here is the parsing code I copied directly from example here:

<https://github.com/felixge/node-formidable>



```
var form = new formidable.IncomingForm();
form.multiples = true; // per their documents
form.parse(req, function(err, fields, files) {
  res.writeHead(200, {'content-type': 'text/plain'});
  res.write('received upload:\n\n');
  res.end(util.inspect({fields: fields, files: files})); // files only contain one file,
  // and files.length is undefined. It is not an array.
});
```

Here is my HTML:

```
<FORM action="/file"
  enctype="multipart/form-data"
  method="post">
  <br>
  What is your name?
  <INPUT type="text" name="kk1_submit-name"><BR>

  What files are you sending?
  <INPUT type="file" multiple="multiple" name="uploads"><BR>
  <INPUT type="submit" value="Upload">

</FORM>
```

The output json object only has one file object, and files.length is undefined, even I select 5 files to upload. This middleware is well tested, I think I must've made a mistake somewhere.

What did I do wrong? Thanks!

node.js

formidable

asked Mar 29 '14 at 11:06



Nicolas S. Xu

4,418 16 52 93

## 3 Answers



2

The `formidable` module began to support for uploading multiple files a month ago. But the `formidable` module in `npmjs.org` was updated 11 months ago. So you need to install the latest `formidable` manually.



```
git clone git://github.com/felixge/node-formidable.git node_modules/formidable
```

Now run the application again and you should get the right output:

```
received upload:
```

```
{ fields: { title: '' },
  files: { upload: [ [Object], [Object] ] } }
```

edited Mar 29 '14 at 23:45

answered Mar 29 '14 at 12:35



[bnuhero](#)

2,424 1 15 13



I see. That's the problem. How often does NPM update its repository? – [Nicolas S.Xu](#) Mar 29 '14 at 15:03



The maintainers of `formidable` decide when to publish the new version of this module. – [bnuhero](#) Mar 29 '14 at 15:17



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Since time of writing, the `Formidable` library has undergone changes. You must now explicitly set some parameters of the `IncomingForm` object, most notably:

- `multipart:true`



If you want to bypass file size:

- `maxFileSize:(about in bytes (not maxFieldsSize) )`

This enables you to use the latest version of `formidable` properly

answered Nov 18 '17 at 23:02



[Patrick Sturm](#)

296 1 11



0

I switched to `node-multipart`, a form parser forked from `formidable`. The number of files uploaded is correct. So maybe it is a bug for `formidable`. Use `node-multipart` can save you some time.



```
← → ↺ 🏠 📄 127.0.0.1:3000/file
```

```
received upload:
```

```
{ fields: { 'kkl_submit-name': [ 'qqqq' ] },
  files: { uploads: [ [Object], [Object], [Object], [Object], [Object] ] } }
```

answered Mar 29 '14 at 11:27



[Nicolas S.Xu](#)

4,418 16 52 93

