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## How to Build a Static Website on IIS using Windows Server 2012



March 26, 2015 by Jose Velazquez (<https://www.atlantic.net/author/jvelazquez/>)

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## Verified and Tested 03/27/2015

## Introduction

In this How-To, we will walk you through Building a Static Website on IIS Windows Server 2012.

Static content is considered to be HTML files. These types of files have no movement and hardly change such as pictures or text documents.

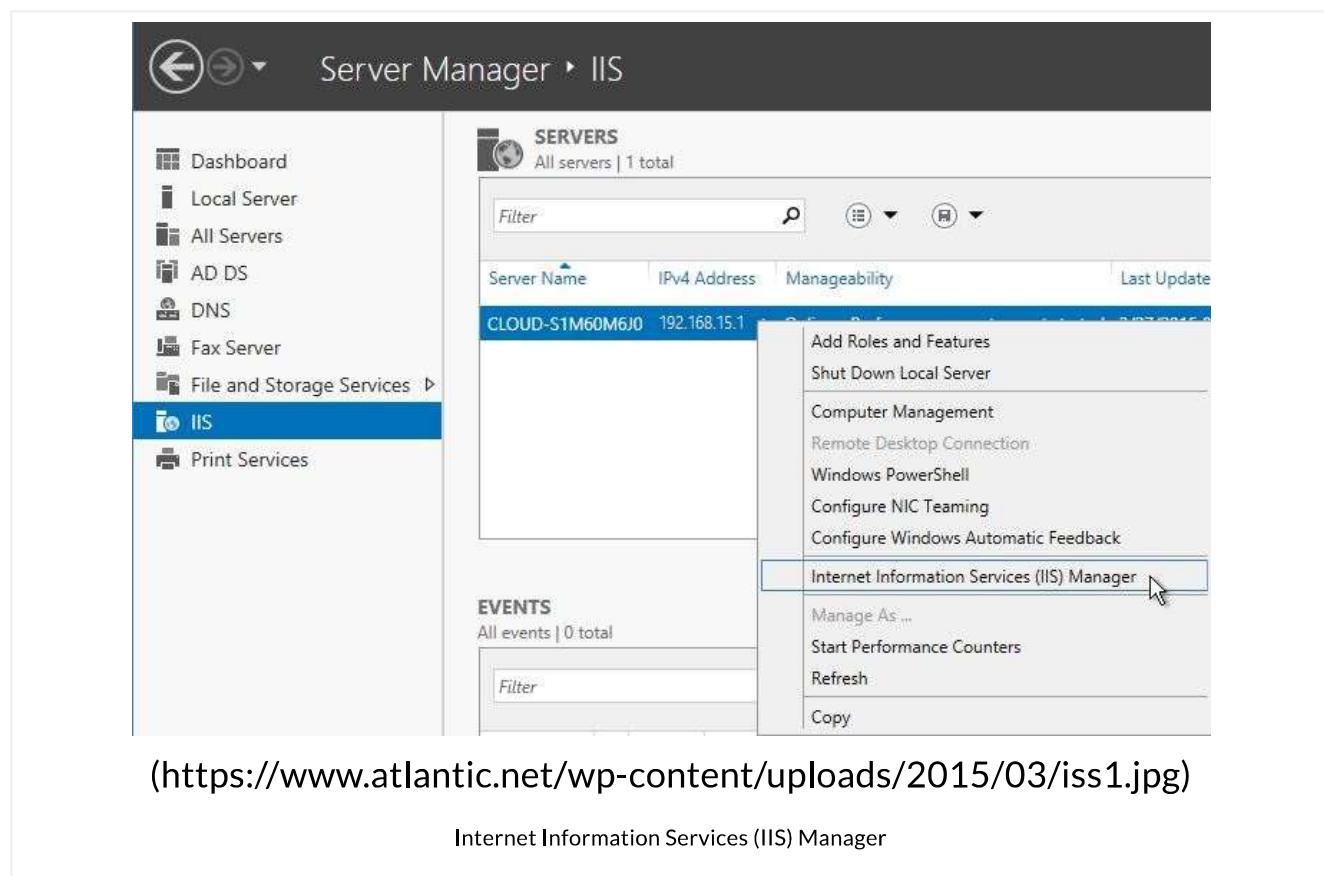
## Prerequisites

- A Server with Windows Server 2012.

- Internet Information Services(IIS) installed on your server. If you need to install IIS, follow our guide [Install IIS On Windows Server 2012 R2](https://www.atlantic.net/dedicated-hosting/how-to-install-iis-windows-server-2012-r2/) (<https://www.atlantic.net/dedicated-hosting/how-to-install-iis-windows-server-2012-r2/>).

## Build a Static Website on IIS using Windows Server 2012

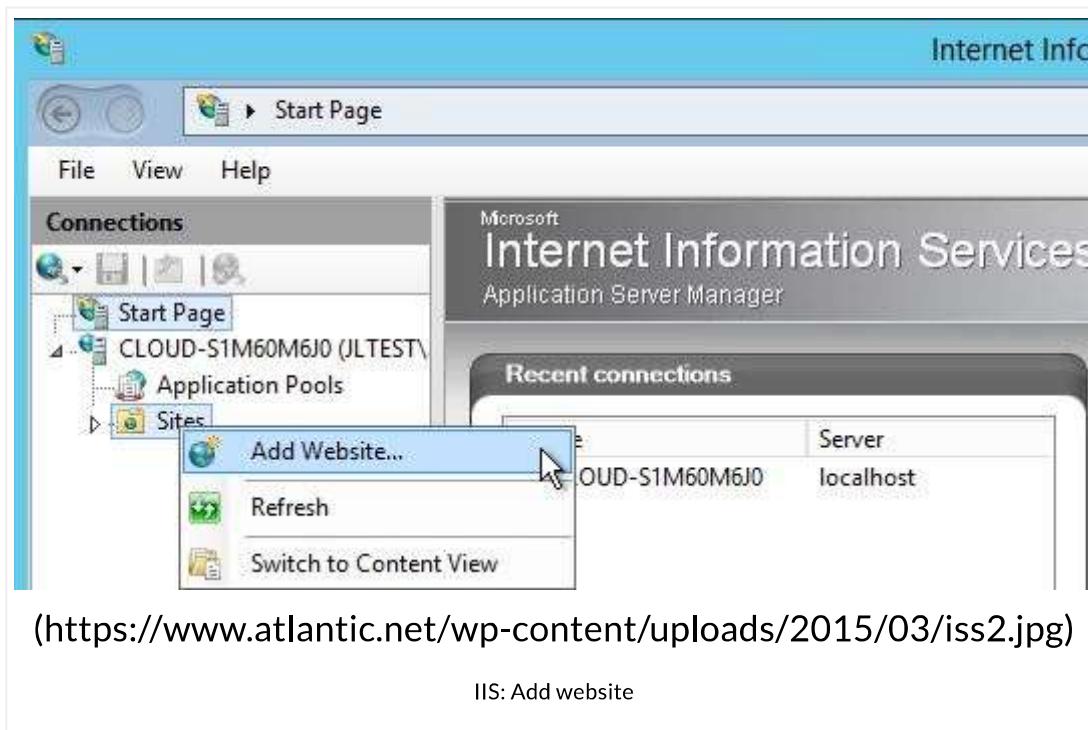
Open **Server Manager**, and select **IIS**, right click your server and select **Internet Information Services (IIS) Manager**.



(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss1.jpg>)

Internet Information Services (IIS) Manager

In the **Connections** pane, right-click the **Sites** node in the tree, and then click **Add Website**.



(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss2.jpg>)

IIS: Add website

In the **Add Website** dialog box, enter a friendly name for your website in the **Site name** box.

If you want to select a different application pool than the one listed in the **Application Pool** box, click **Select**. In the **Select Application Pool** dialog box, select an application pool from the **Application Pool** list and then click **OK**.

In the **Physical path** box, enter the physical path of the website's folder, or click the browse button (...) to navigate the file system to find the folder. (Note: It is best to make a folder in your C: specifically for your websites. I have named mine www)

If the physical path that you entered in the previous step is to a remote share, click **Connect as** to specify credentials that have permission to access the path. If you do not use specific credentials, select the **Application user (pass-through authentication)** option in the **Connect As** dialog box.

Select the protocol for the website from the **Type** list.

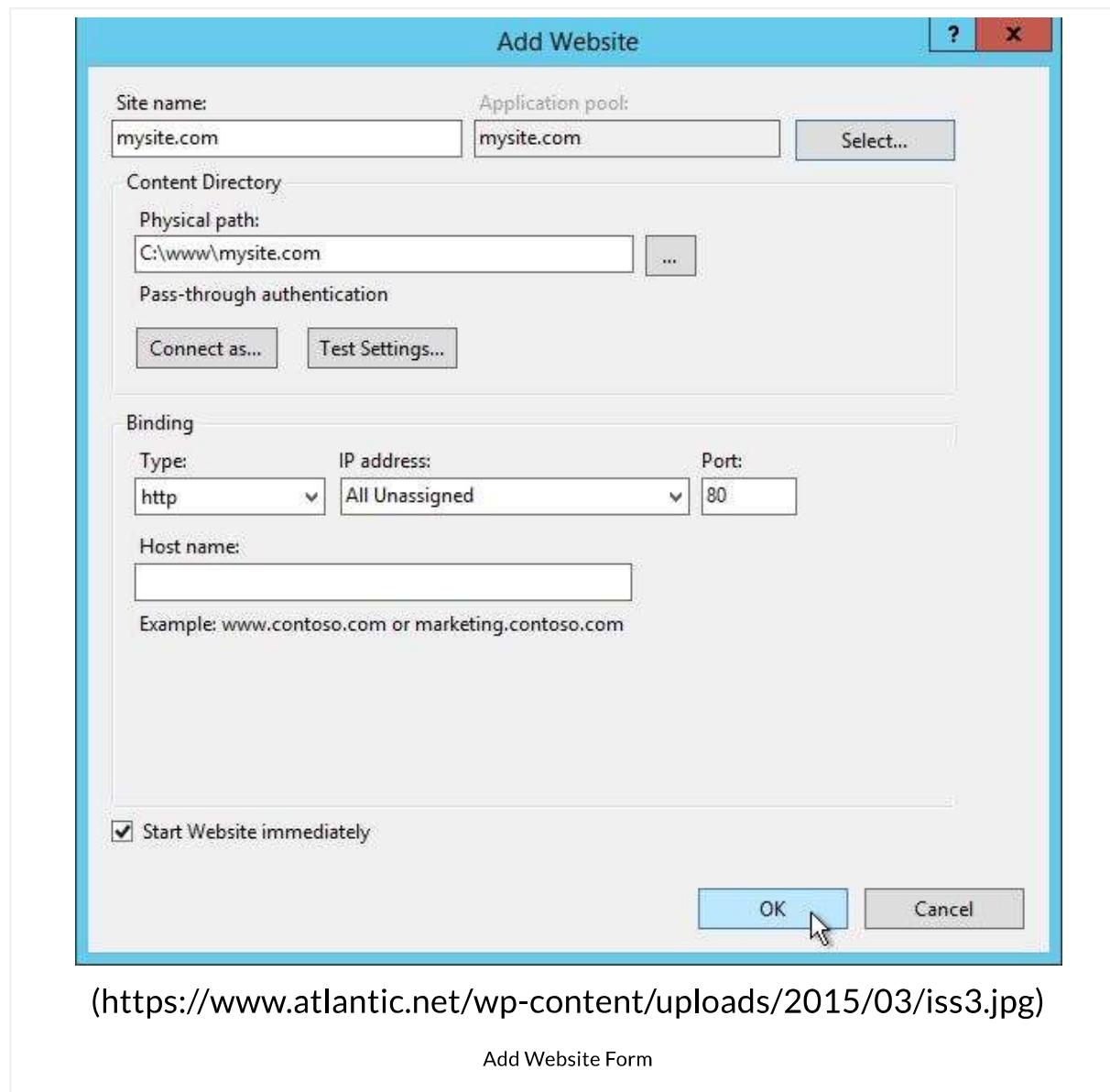
If you must specify a static IP address for the website (by default, this is set to **All Unassigned**), enter the IP address in the **IP address** box.

Enter a port number in the **Port** text box.

Optionally, enter a host header name for the website in the **Host Header** box.

If you do not have to make any changes to the site, and you want the website to be immediately available, select the **Start Website immediately** check box.

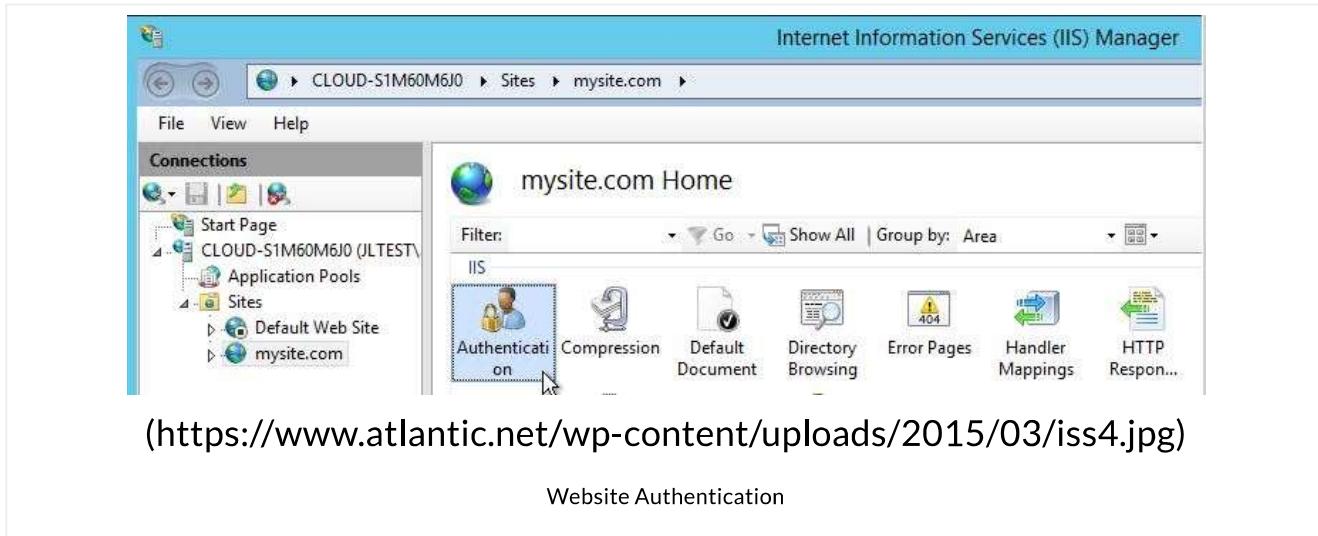
Click **OK**.



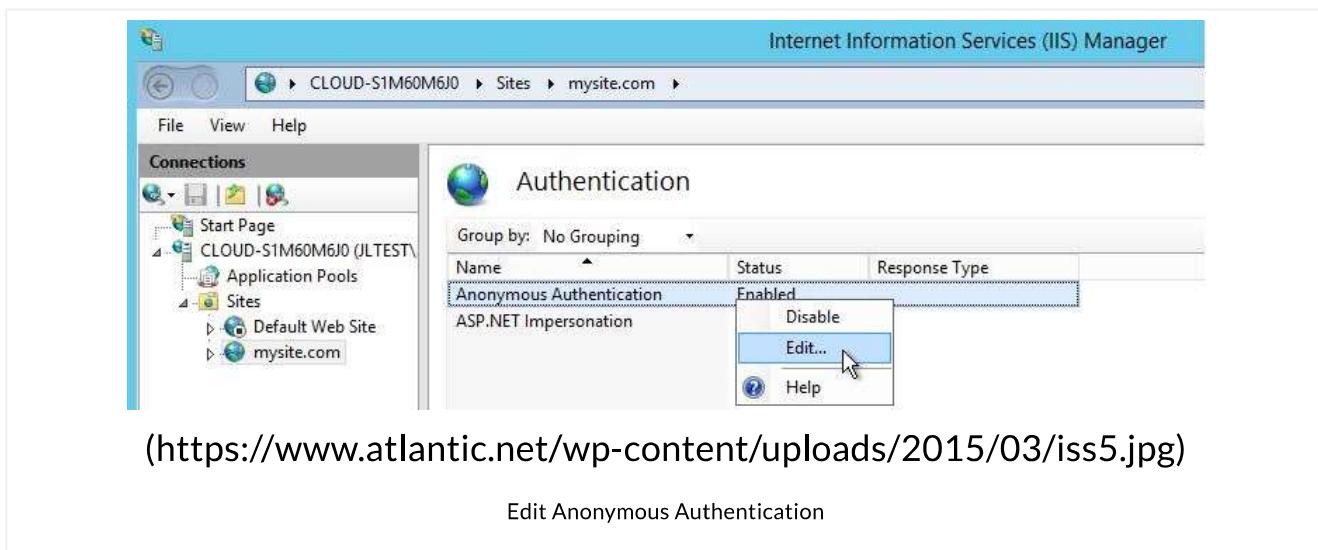
(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss3.jpg>)

Add Website Form

In **Features View** of IIS Manager, double-click **Authentication**.



Select **Anonymous Authentication**/right click and select **Edit** to set the security principal (user credentials) under which anonymous users will connect to the site.



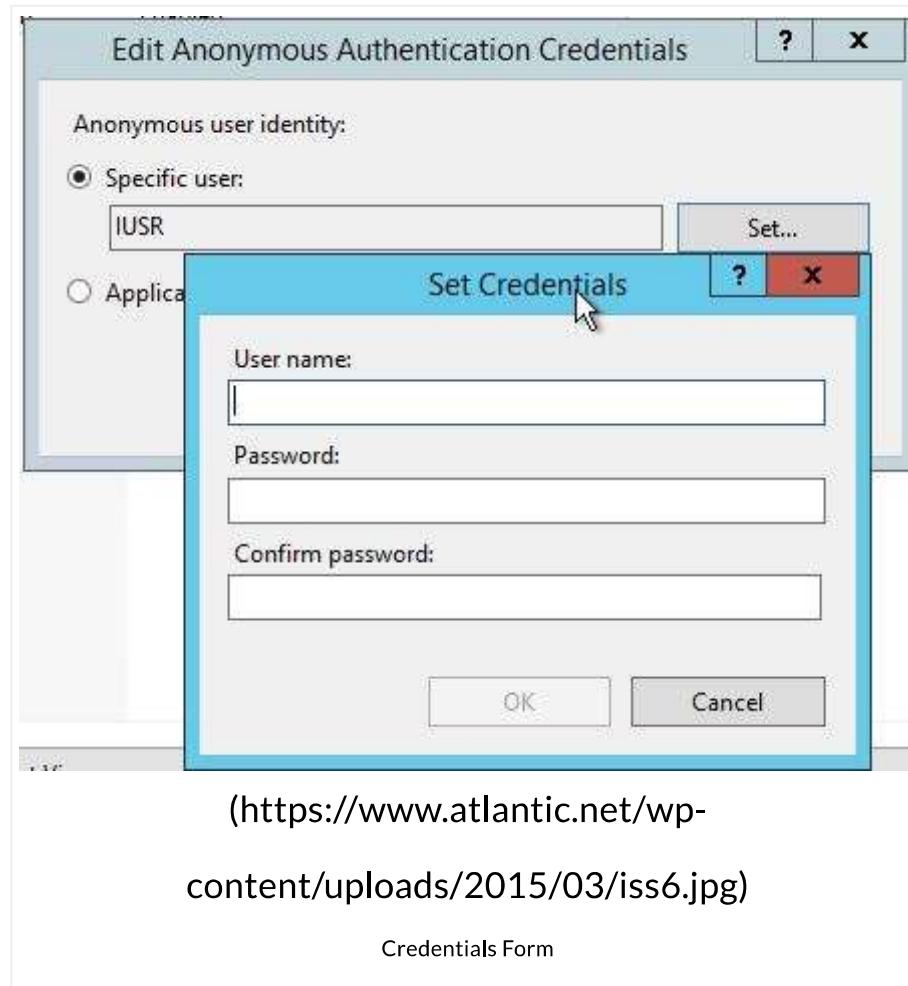
In the **Edit Anonymous Authentication Credentials** dialog box, select one of the following options:

If you want to configure a specific user account that IIS uses to access your site or application, select **Specific user**. Then click **Set** to open the **Set Credentials** dialog box, and enter a user name and password for the identity. Then click **OK**.

If you want IIS processes to run by using the account that is currently specified on the property page for the application pool, select **Application pool identity**. By default, this identity is the IUSR account.

**(Recommended:** Change the default IUSR account to your username. If you leave it set to IUSR, you grant anonymous users all the internal network access associated with that account)

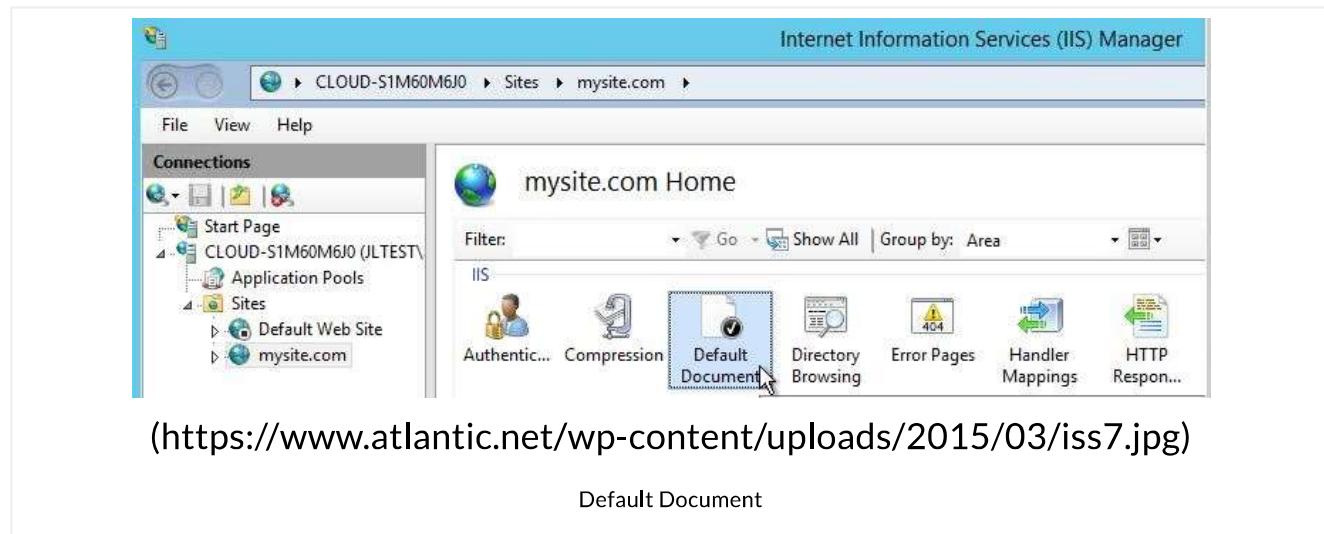
Click **OK** to close the **Edit Anonymous Authentication Credentials** dialog box.



(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss6.jpg>)

Credentials Form

In **Features View** of IIS Manager, double-click **Default Document**.



(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss7.jpg>)

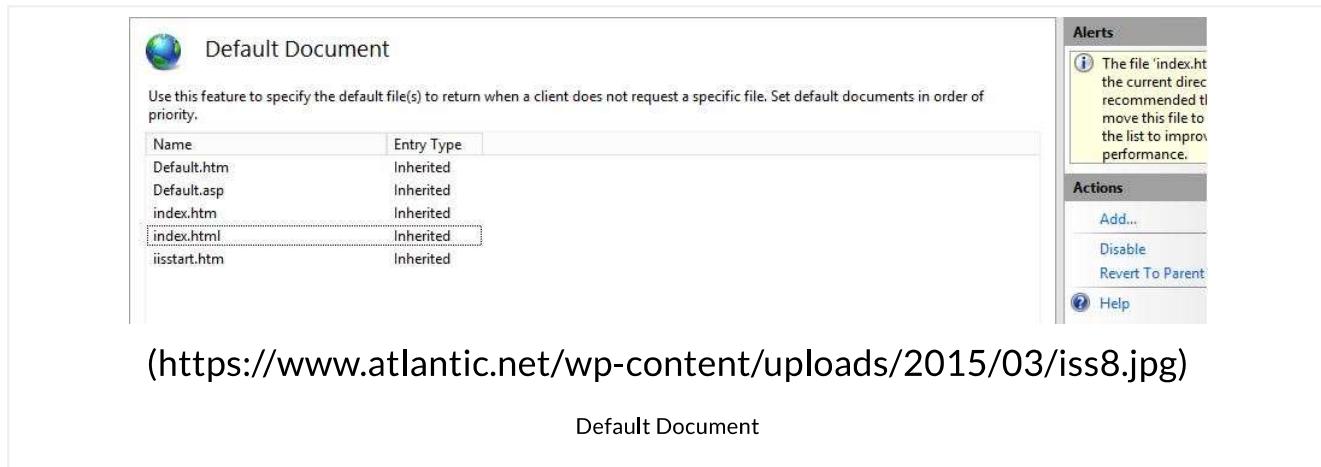
Default Document

In the **Actions** pane, click **Add**.

In the **Name** box, enter the file name that you want to add to the list of default documents and then click **OK**. This file name is added to the top of the default document list.

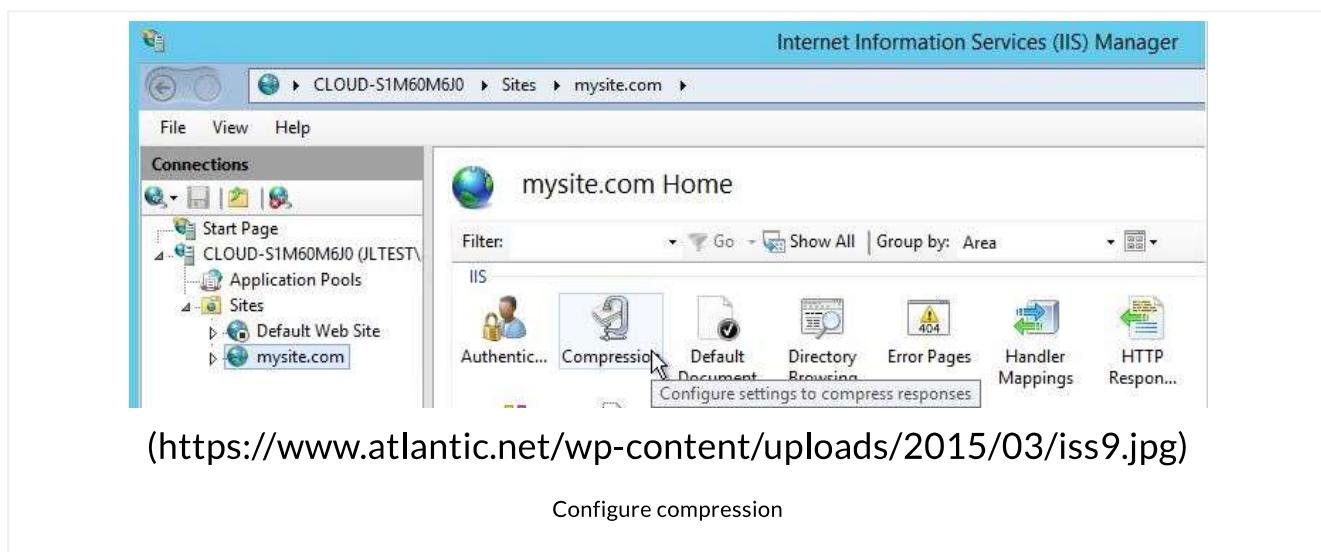
*Optional, select a default document in the list and in the **Actions** pane, click **Move Up** or **Move Down** to change the file's precedence.*

*Optional, select a default document in the list, and in the **Actions** pane, click **Remove** to remove any file names that you do not want to use as default documents.*



(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss8.jpg>)

In **Features View** of IIS Manager, double-click **Compression**.



(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss9.jpg>)

Select **Enable static content compression** to configure IIS to compress static content/ Then click **Apply**

The screenshot shows the 'Compression' section of the IIS Manager. It includes a description of the feature, two checked checkboxes ('Enable dynamic content compression' and 'Enable static content compression'), and an 'Apply' button in the 'Actions' pane.

(<https://www.atlantic.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/iss10.jpg>)

Static Content Compression

You can now test your site by doing the following: Click on your site / in the Action pane select Browse \*:80 (http)

The screenshot shows the 'Actions' pane of the IIS Manager. Under 'Manage Website', the 'Browse Website' section is expanded, showing the 'Browse \*:80 (http)' option, which is highlighted with a blue selection bar.

(<https://www.atlantic.n>  
et/wp-  
content/uploads/2015/  
03/iss11.jpg)

View your website

Congratulations! You have just Built a Static Site on IIS Windows Server 2012. Thank you for following along in this How-To and check back with us for new updates soon.

As part of making your website HIPAA-compliant, we recommend you read more about our HIPAA-Compliant Hosting (<https://www.atlantic.net/hipaa-compliant-hosting/>).

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