This page is specific to

Microsoft Visual Studio 2010/.NET Framework 4

**How to: Configure an HTTP Handler Extension in IIS**

By default, Internet Information Services (IIS) passes requests for only certain file types to ASP.NET to service. Files with file-name extensions such as .aspx, asmx, and .ashx are already mapped to the ASP.NET ISAPI extension (Aspnet\_isapi.dll). This applies to IIS 6.0, to IIS 7.0 running in Classic mode, and to managed handlers in IIS 7.0 that are running in Integrated mode.

To have IIS pass other file-name extensions to ASP.NET, you must register the extensions in IIS. For more information about how handlers participate in the application life cycle, see [ASP.NET Application Life Cycle Overview for IIS 5.0 and 6.0](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms178473.aspx) or [ASP.NET Application Life Cycle Overview for IIS 7.0](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb470252.aspx).

**To map a file-name extension in IIS 6.0**

1. Open IIS Manager.
2. Expand the node for the Web server computer, expand **Web Sites**, and then expand **Default Web Site**.
3. Right-click the name of your application, and then click **Properties**.

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| **Description: NoteNote** |
| For information about how to create an ASP.NET application, see [How to: Create and Configure Local ASP.NET Web Sites in IIS 6.0](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/33487zw6.aspx). |

1. Click the **Virtual Directory** tab, and then click **Configuration**.
2. On the **Mappings** tab, click **Add**.

The **Add/Edit Application Extension Mapping** dialog box is displayed.

1. In the **Executable** box, type or browse to the file Aspnet\_isapi.dll. By default, the file is in the following location:

[Copy Code](javascript:CopyCode('ctl00_MTCS_main_ctl05_code');" \o "Copy Code)

%windows%\Microsoft.NET\Framework\version\

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| **Description: NoteNote** |
| You can get the complete path and file name from other mappings, such as the mapping to .aspx files. |

1. In the **Extension** box, type the file-name extension, such as **.sample**.

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| **Description: NoteNote** |
| Make sure that you include the dot (.) as part of the file-name extension. |

1. Select the **Verify that file exists** check box according to what the file-name extension represents in your application. Choose these options:
   * **True**. The file-name extension represents a physical file in the application. In this case, if the requested file does not exist on disk, IIS displays an error.
   * **False**. The file-name extension does not represent a physical file. Instead, the extension is handled dynamically by a class that is mapped to the extension in ASP.NET.
2. Click **OK** and then close IIS Manager.

**To map a file-name extension in IIS 7.0 running in Classic mode**

1. Open IIS Manager.

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| **Description: NoteNote** |
| In and Windows Server 2008, if the User Account Control (UAC) feature is enabled, it prompts you to continue access to the manager. For more information, see [User Account Control Overview](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=99167). |

1. Expand the node for the Web server computer, expand **Sites**, and then expand **Default Web Site**.
2. Select the node for your application.

The **Features View** pane is displayed.

1. In **Features View**, double-click **Handler Mappings**.
2. On the **Actions** pane, click **Add Script Map**.

The **Add Script Map** dialog box is displayed.

1. In the **Add Script Map** dialog box, specify the following:
   * **Request Path**. The name or file-name extension to map.
   * **Executable**. The path of the .exe or .dll file that will handle the request. For Classic mode, specify the ASP.NET ISAPI extension (Aspnet\_isapi.dll).
   * **Name**. A descriptive name.
2. Click **OK** to close the **Add Script Map** dialog box.

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| **Description: NoteNote** |
| Using IIS Manager in IIS 7.0 to add a custom handler extension is equivalent to registering the handler extension in the Web.config file of an ASP.NET application. The registration adds a **handler** element in the **handlers** section of the **system.webServer** group. |

1. Open the Web.config file for the application.
2. Locate the [httpHandlers](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bya7fh0a.aspx) element of the **system.web** section and add an entry for the file-name extension.

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| **Description: NoteNote** |
| The file-name extension must be registered in both the [httpHandlers](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bya7fh0a.aspx) element and the **handlers** element. |

**To map a file-name extension in IIS 7.0 running in Integrated mode**

1. Follow steps 1 through 3 of the previous procedure.
2. On the **Actions** pane, click **Add Managed Handler**.

The **Add Managed Handler** dialog box is displayed.

1. In the **Add Managed Handler** dialog box, specify the following:
   * **Request Path**. The file name or file-name extension to map.
   * **Type**. The type (class) name of the managed handler. If the handler is defined in the App\_Code folder of the ASP.NET application, its type name will appear in the drop-down list.
   * **Name**. A descriptive name.
2. Click **OK** to close the **Add Managed Handler** dialog box.

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| **Description: NoteNote** |
| Using IIS Manager in IIS 7.0 to add a custom handler extension is equivalent to registering the handler extension in the Web.config file. |
| **Description: NoteNote** |
| For a handler that services a custom extension in IIS 7.0 running in Integrated mode, only a registration in the **handlers** element is needed. If you want to keep the registration in the [httpHandlers](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bya7fh0a.aspx) element also, create a **validation** element in the **system.webServer** section (if it does not exist) and set its **validateIntegratedModeConfiguration** attribute to **false**. For more information, see [How to: Suppress IIS 7.0 Registration Warnings](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb907625.aspx), |