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## Build error with variables and url\_for in Flask

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Have found one or two people on the interwebs with similar problems, but haven't seen a solution posted anywhere. I'm getting a build error from the code/template below, but can't figure out where the issue is or why it's occurring. It appears that the template isn't recognizing the function, but don't know why this would be occurring. Any help would be greatly appreciated - have been pounding my against the keyboard for two nights now.

Function:

```
@app.route('/viewproj/<proj>', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def viewproj(proj):
```

...

Template Excerpt:

```
{% for project in projects %}
<li>
<a href="{{ url_for('viewproj', proj=project.project_name) }}">
{{project.project_name}}</a></li>
{% else %}
No projects
{% endfor %}
```

Error log: <https://gist.github.com/1684250>

EDIT: Also wanted to include that it's not recognizing the variable "proj" when building the URL, so it's just appending the value as a parameter. Here's an example: `/myproject/viewproj?projname=what+up`

Last few lines:

```
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] File
"/srv/www/myproject.com/myproject/templates/layout.html", line 103, in top-level
template code, referer: xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] {% block body %}{%
endblock %}, referer: xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] File
"/srv/www/myproject.com/myproject/templates/main.html", line 34, in block "body",
referer: xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] <a href="{{
url_for('viewproj', proj=project.project_name) }}">, referer: xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] File
"/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/flask/helpers.py", line 195, in url_for, referer:
xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] return
ctx.url_adapter.build(endpoint, values, force_external=external), referer:
xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] File
"/usr/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/flask/helpers.py", line 1409, in build, referer:
xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] raise
BuildError(endpoint, values, method), referer: xx://myproject.com/
[Wed Jan 25 09:47:34 2012] [error] [client 199.58.143.128] BuildError: ('viewproj',
{'proj': '12th'}, None), referer: xx://myproject.com/
```

python flask werkzeug build-error url-for

edited Apr 14 '14 at 15:22



Damien

196 ● 3 ● 13

asked Jan 26 '12 at 18:41



Rob

46 ● 1 ● 1 ● 3

Are you, by any chance, using blueprints? Are there any other routes defined for the `viewproj` function? – Alex Morega Jan 26 '12 at 19:04

Nope. I'm still pretty early on - there's only 4 views each with their own route – Rob Jan 26 '12 at 19:33

Try removing stuff from your project, bit by bit, until you reduce the problem to a minimal test case. – Alex Morega Jan 27 '12 at 12:31

Did you define `viewproj` more than once? Duplicate function names which are both routed are likely to cause this kind of issues. – [ThiefMaster](#) ♦ Jun 1 '12 at 17:10

## 7 Answers

`url_for` looks for a function, you pass it the name of the function you are wanting to call. So you should use :

```
{{ url_for('viewproj', proj=xxx) }}
```

I got the same problem. And I solved it accoring:[Flask error: werkzeug.routing.BuildError](#)

answered Apr 5 '13 at 16:04



[atupal](#)

4,266 ● 2 ● 15 ● 30

I believe this is the correct answer because I got the same problem too. – [newguy](#) Nov 19 '14 at 10:09

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Just solved the same problem, the solution is really funny.

Just add a '.' in front of your method name in `url_for`.

Like this:

```
<a href="{{ url_for('.viewproj', proj=project.project_name) }}">
```

And it should work now.

The document for this solution from Flask is <http://flask.pocoo.org/docs/0.10/api/>, and I quote:

`flask.url_for(endpoint, **values)` Generates a URL to the given endpoint with the method provided.

Variable arguments that are unknown to the target endpoint are appended to the generated URL as query arguments. If the value of a query argument is `None`, the whole pair is skipped. In case blueprints are active you can shortcut references to the same blueprint by prefixing the local endpoint with a dot (`.`).

This will reference the index function local to the current blueprint:

```
url_for('.index')
```

answered Aug 25 '14 at 23:57



[Arthur Wang](#)

1,035 ● 2 ● 11 ● 21

That's what I needed. Kind of non-intuitive. I guess whenever you start to have strings refer to actual variable *names* like a function name, things get weird. – [user3391564](#) Sep 28 '14 at 5:21

1 This is it! I really had to scratch my head with this one.. – [Janne](#) Oct 14 '14 at 15:37

This is indeed it for me! Was getting a similar `werkzeug.routing.BuildError` on the way `url_for()` is being called. With a dot(`.`) it solves the issue AND rendered the correct relative url! Thank you [@Arthur Wang](#) – [Dey](#) Jun 26 '15 at 15:44

See if `'project.project_name'` is resolving correctly in the template. Are you passing `'projects'` correctly to template? Hard code some value for `'proj'` instead and see the url is getting generated. Something like:-

```
<a href="{{ url_for('viewproj', proj='new_project') }}">new project</a>
```

answered Jan 27 '12 at 13:45



[sojin](#)

2,401 ● 21 ● 32

Thanks for the help. When I pass `'new_project'` as a string it builds as `//myproject/viewproj?projname=new_project`. Would that imply the issue is on the `view/routing` side? – [Rob](#) Jan 27 '12 at 17:25

Your `url_for()` argument name in template is not matching with your view function. You are using `'projname'` in your template, not `'proj'` as you defined in you view. i.e instead of `{{ url_for('viewproj', projname='new_project') }}` use `{{ url_for('viewproj', proj='new_project') }}`. – [sojin](#) Jan 28 '12 at 1:26

You most likely have more than one routed function with the name `viewproj`.

Besides that, the output you posted does not correspond with the template code you posted.

`myproject/viewproj?projname=what+up` means that `projname=...` was passed to `url_for()`, but your view function expects `proj=...`

answered Jun 1 '12 at 17:15



ThiefMaster ♦

176k ● 37 ● 319 ● 430

I still reply to this even though it kind of has been answered already. The reason is for clarity. Even after reading them, I couldn't understand what was going on without looking at the source file for `url_for()`.

A clean example:

```
<a href="{ url_for('viewproj', proj='<projname>') }}">Project name</a>
```

```
@app.route('/viewproj/<projname>', methods=['GET', 'POST'])
def viewproj(proj):
```

answered Mar 18 '14 at 22:13



Victor RENÉ

131 ● 8

Seeing as you specify which methods are available on that endpoint I think you will have to pass which method you want into `url_for`.

```
url_for('viewproj', proj=project.project_name, method='GET')
```

answered Jan 27 '12 at 7:59



Jason Paidoussi

9

I had actually pulled out the specification and was getting the same error. I'm looking into specifying it solely as "GET" to see if that makes a difference, but doesn't seem to be helping. – Rob Jan 27 '12 at 9:15

This is also causing it to append method='GET' to the url: `//myproject.com/viewproj?projname=what+up&method=GET` – Rob Jan 27 '12 at 9:26

It's `'_method'` not `'method'`. – sojin Jan 27 '12 at 13:44

That should be `'methods'`. – ento Apr 4 '12 at 16:02

3 Unrelated. The methods are specified in the route call because by default only GET is allowed. When building an URL you do not need to specify the method. – ThiefMaster ♦ Jun 1 '12 at 17:13

I googled for the same problem and found this, so I thought I would post what worked for me after I banged at it for a bit (In case anyone else landed here). Looks like it may just be a string concatenation issue

I had incorrectly "translated" my working code:

```
{% for project in projects %}
<li>
  <a href="{ url_for('viewproj', proj='%s') }"|format(project.project_name)>
    {{project.project_name}}</a>
</li>
{% else %}
  No projects
{% endfor %}
```

Interesting effect of the code above is some "padding?" added to the link url

But as I thought more about it, I was questioning whether the `url_for` adds any value in the template? The following line will accomplish the same thing for your anchor tag:

```
<a href="viewproj/{{ project.project_name }}">{{ project.project_name }}</a>
```

edited Jun 1 '12 at 23:34

answered Jun 1 '12 at 17:04



user1431174

11 ● 1

6 This is just wrong. – ThiefMaster ♦ Jun 1 '12 at 17:14

