# "Too many values to unpack" Exception

I'm working on a project in Django and I've just started trying to extend the User model in order to make user profiles.

Unfortunately, I've run into a problem: Every time I try to get the user's profile inside of a template ( `user.get_template.lastIP` , for example), I get the following error:

```
Environment:

Request Method: GET
Request URL: http://localhost:8000/
Django Version: 1.1
Python Version: 2.6.1

Template error:
In template /path/to/base.tpl, error at line 19
   Caught an exception while rendering: too many values to unpack

19 :                        Hello, {{user.username}} ({{ user.get_profile.rep}}).
How's it goin? Logout


Exception Type: TemplateSyntaxError at /
Exception Value: Caught an exception while rendering: too many values to unpack
```

Any ideas as to what's going on or what I'm doing wrong?

python   django

edited Sep 25 '09 at 22:56

Alfred Myers
**5,143** ● 1 ● 19 ● 55

asked Sep 25 '09 at 22:04

Steve Gattuso
**1,845** ● 6 ● 27 ● 49

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2   Not enough information. Please post your UserProfile model. – Daniel Roseman Sep 25 '09 at 22:12

## 5 Answers

That exception means that you are trying to unpack a tuple, but the tuple has too many values with respect to the number of target variables. For example: this work, and prints 1, then 2, then 3

```
def returnATupleWithThreeValues():
    return (1,2,3)
a,b,c = returnATupleWithThreeValues()
print a
print b
print c
```

But this raises your error

```
def returnATupleWithThreeValues():
    return (1,2,3)
a,b = returnATupleWithThreeValues()

print a
print b
```

raises

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "c.py", line 3, in ?
    a,b = returnATupleWithThreeValues()
ValueError: too many values to unpack
```

Now, the reason why this happens in your case, I don't know, but maybe this answer will point you in the right direction.

answered Sep 25 '09 at 22:13

Stefano Borini
**50.6k** ● 42 ● 193 ● 318

@Sterfano Borini, I am getting also similar error but in my case, I am creating a string as `obj='{"vendorId": "' + vID +'", "vendorName" :"'+vName+'", "addedDate" : "'+vAddedDate+'","usersList" : "'+ usersList + ',' status" : "'+str(vStatus)+'","edit"'+edit+'"}';` although all the values are string, it gives me error, I run it on python prompt it is running, but while taking response from web it gives me this exception. can you please suggest whats going wrong. – MegaBytes Jan 10 '15 at 8:03

This problem looked familiar so I thought I'd see if I could replicate from the limited amount of information.

A quick search turned up an entry in James Bennett's blog here which mentions that when working with the UserProfile to extend the User model a common mistake in settings.py can cause Django to throw this error.

To quote the blog entry:

> The value of the setting is not "appname.models.modelname", it's just "appname.modelname". The reason is that Django is not using this to do a direct import; instead, it's using an internal model-loading function which only wants the name of the app and the name of the model. Trying to do things like "appname.models.modelname" or "projectname.appname.models.modelname" in the AUTH_PROFILE_MODULE setting will cause Django to blow up with the dreaded "too many values to unpack" error, so make sure you've put "appname.modelname", and nothing else, in the value of AUTH_PROFILE_MODULE.

If the OP had copied more of the traceback I would expect to see something like the one below which I was able to duplicate by adding "models" to my AUTH_PROFILE_MODULE setting.

```
TemplateSyntaxError at /

Caught an exception while rendering: too many values to unpack

Original Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "/home/brandon/Development/DJANGO_VERSIONS/Django-
1.0/django/template/debug.py", line 71, in render_node
    result = node.render(context)
  File "/home/brandon/Development/DJANGO_VERSIONS/Django-
1.0/django/template/debug.py", line 87, in render
    output = force_unicode(self.filter_expression.resolve(context))
  File "/home/brandon/Development/DJANGO_VERSIONS/Django-
1.0/django/template/__init__.py", line 535, in resolve
    obj = self.var.resolve(context)
  File "/home/brandon/Development/DJANGO_VERSIONS/Django-
1.0/django/template/__init__.py", line 676, in resolve
    value = self._resolve_lookup(context)
  File "/home/brandon/Development/DJANGO_VERSIONS/Django-
1.0/django/template/__init__.py", line 711, in _resolve_lookup
    current = current()
  File "/home/brandon/Development/DJANGO_VERSIONS/Django-
1.0/django/contrib/auth/models.py", line 291, in get_profile
    app_label, model_name = settings.AUTH_PROFILE_MODULE.split('.')
ValueError: too many values to unpack
```

This I think is one of the few cases where Django still has a bit of import magic that tends to cause confusion when a small error doesn't throw the expected exception.

You can see at the end of the traceback that I posted how using anything other than the form "appname.modelname" for the AUTH_PROFILE_MODULE would cause the line "app_label, model_name = settings.AUTH_PROFILE_MODULE.split('.')" to throw the "too many values to unpack" error.

I'm 99% sure that this was the original problem encountered here.

edited Sep 28 '09 at 1:31                    answered Sep 26 '09 at 12:43

Hylidan
**418** ● 3 ● 5

What happens if you haven't got `AUTH_PROFILE_MODULE` in your `settings.py` ? – Sevenearths Jun 6 '12 at 10:05

try unpacking in one variable,

python will handle it as a list,

then unpack from the list

answered Dec 14 '09 at 8:51

Ahmad Dwaik
**515** ● 1 ● 6 ● 12

Thank-you, this saved my life when trying to diagnose an unexpected error in IronPython when returning from a report.Render call – Cruachan Jul 1 '11 at 10:53

1   can someone explain more on this? – nick May 26 '14 at 11:33

8   this is like a haiku, and I never get those – user299709 Aug 9 '14 at 1:04 ✎

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Most likely there is an error somewhere in the get_profile() call. In your view, before you return the request object, put this line:

```
request.user.get_profile()
```

It should raise the error, and give you a more detailed traceback, which you can then use to further debug.

answered Sep 25 '09 at 22:12

priestc
**7,401** ● 12 ● 51 ● 90

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This happens to me when I'm using Jinja2 for templates. The problem can be solved by running the development server using the `runserver_plus` command from django_extensions.

It uses the werkzeug debugger which also happens to be a lot better and has a very nice interactive debugging console. It does some ajax magic to launch a python shell at *any* frame (in the call stack) so you can debug.

answered Sep 25 '09 at 23:03

hasen
**53.6k** ● 49 ● 138 ● 189