

FormData.append("key", "value") is not working

Asked 13 years, 2 months ago Modified 4 years ago Viewed 257k times



Can you tell me whats wrong with this:

122



```
var formdata = new FormData();
formdata.append("key", "value");
console.log(formdata);
```



My output looks like this, I cant find my "key" - "value" pair



```
FormData
*__proto__: FormData
**append: function append() { [native code] }
***arguments: null
***caller: null
***length: 0
***name: "append"
***prototype: append
***__proto__: function Empty() {}
*constructor: function FormData() { [native code] }
**arguments: null
**caller: null
**length: 0
**name: "FormData"
**prototype: FormData
**toString: function toString() { [native code] }
*__proto__: Object
**__proto__: Object
**__defineGetter__: function __defineGetter__() { [native code] }
**__defineSetter__: function __defineSetter__() { [native code] }
**__lookupGetter__: function __lookupGetter__() { [native code] }
**__lookupSetter__: function __lookupSetter__() { [native code] }
**constructor: function Object() { [native code] }
**hasOwnProperty: function hasOwnProperty() { [native code] }
**isPrototypeOf: function isPrototypeOf() { [native code] }
**propertyIsEnumerable: function propertyIsEnumerable() { [native code] }
**toLocaleString: function toLocaleString() { [native code] }
**toString: function toString() { [native code] }
**valueOf: function valueOf() { [native code] }
```

I can't understand! Yesterday it worked so well, and today my head crashed the keyboard so many times! Firefox, Chrome, both the same :/

javascript

html

form-data

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edited Feb 14, 2013 at 15:16

asked Oct 13, 2011 at 9:39

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Marcel Korpel

21.8k ● 6 ● 61 ● 80



netzaffin

1,632 ● 3 ● 13 ● 14

8 Answers

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141



New in Chrome 50+ and Firefox 39+ (resp. 44+):

- `formData.entries()` (combine with `Array.from()` for debugability)
- `formData.get(key)`
- and more very useful methods

Original answer:

What I usually do to 'debug' a `FormData` object, is just send it (anywhere!) and check the browser logs (eg. Chrome devtools' Network tab).

You don't need a/the same Ajax framework. You don't need any details. Just send it:

```
var xhr = new XMLHttpRequest;  
xhr.open('POST', '/', true);  
xhr.send(data);
```

Easy.

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edited Jun 28, 2016 at 21:00



Sha

162 ● 3 ● 8

answered Dec 30, 2012 at 16:36



Rudie

53.7k ● 42 ● 134 ● 175

thanks - this was a useful quick way to get the `FormData` object by typing it into the Chrome console. – [Dan Smart](#) Apr 20, 2013 at 13:08

[According to Google](#) `formData` methods were added in Chrome v50. – [thdoan](#) Jun 1, 2016 at 8:35

How would you look at the browser logs if its a mobile browser like Safari? I am using the `FormData` object in a web app meant for mobile and can't figure out how to debug it.
– [kiwicomb123](#) Dec 29, 2016 at 22:50

- 1 [@kiwicomb123](#) `FormData.entries()` + `Array.from()` + `alert()` if it's modern enough, or look into [mobile debugging](#) – [Rudie](#) Dec 30, 2016 at 8:14

so no edge or ie11? – [SuperUberDuper](#) Jan 7, 2017 at 22:46



You say it's not working. What are you expecting to happen?

50

There's no way of getting the data out of a `FormData` object; it's just intended for you to use to send data along with an `XMLHttpRequest` object (for the `send` method).

Update almost five years later: In some newer browsers, this is no longer true and you can now see the data provided to `FormData` in addition to just stuffing data into it. [See the accepted answer](#) for more info.

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edited May 23, 2017 at 12:34

answered Oct 13, 2011 at 9:53

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Community Bot

1 • 1



Jesper

7,605 ● 4 ● 41 ● 58

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24 OK... this sucks. Why can I not log the `FormData` in my console? :-(This just makes no sense to me, since i thought it is an common object – [netzaffin](#) Oct 13, 2011 at 11:19

12 @netzaffin: Both Firebug and Chrome's inspector let you see the sent request parameters in an XHR request as long as you've opened the network tab and started logging, so you should be able to get by on that. You could also make a wrapper object that logs the fields and appends to the `FormData`, and then check that for the values (not forgetting to send the inner `FormData` instead of the wrapper object). – [Jesper](#) Oct 13, 2011 at 11:27

1 At least, can I check if `formdata` object has a file inside? – [MarceloBarbosa](#) Feb 11, 2015 at 16:59

1 @MarceloBarbosa: It doesn't seem like you can get any information out of it. You'll just have to keep this information yourself. – [Jesper](#) Feb 12, 2015 at 9:38

As pointed out by @Jesper you can check the XHR request sent in the network tab tab of Developer tools , there is Params option there which even lets you see the content of POST request sent. Also the response. – [Anirudh](#) Mar 31, 2016 at 9:20

31

You might have been having the same problem I was initially having. I was trying to use `FormData` to grab all my input files to upload an image, but at the same time I wanted to append a session ID to the information passed along to the server. All this time, I thought by appending the information, you would be able to see it in the server by accessing the object. I was wrong. When you append to `FormData`, the way to check the appended information on the server is by a simple `$_POST['*your appended data*']` query. like so:

js:

```
$( 'form' ).submit( function() {
    var sessionId = 8;
    var formData = new FormData( this );
    formData.append( 'id', sessionId );

    $.ajax( {
        url: "yoururl.php",
        data: formData,
        processData: false,
```

```

        contentType: false,
        type: 'POST',
        success: function(data){
            alert(data);
        }
    });
});

```

then on php:

```

$sessionID = $_POST['id'];
$files = $_FILES['image'];

foreach ($files as $key=>$val){
    //...
}

```

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edited Mar 25, 2015 at 11:24

answered Aug 4, 2013 at 1:37

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CodeGodie

12.1k ● 6 ● 39 ● 66

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If you are in Chrome you can check the Post Data

17



Here is How to check the Post data

1. Go to Network Tab
2. Look for the Link to which you are sending Post Data
3. Click on it
4. In the Headers, you can check Request Payload to check the post data



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edited Aug 31, 2015 at 15:03

answered Jul 14, 2014 at 18:41

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Spooky

2,993 ● 8 ● 28 ● 42



madhu131313

7,346 ● 7 ● 42 ● 53

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form data doesn't appear in web browser console

14



```
for (var data of formData) {  
  console.log(data);  
}
```



try this way it will show

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answered Nov 4, 2018 at 10:45



Dulanga Heshan

1,425 ● 1 ● 21 ● 37



you can see it you need to use `console.log(formData.getAll('your key'))`; watch the <https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Web/API/FormData/getAll>

8

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edited Oct 29, 2015 at 22:53

answered Oct 29, 2015 at 10:37



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Jose Ricardo Bustos M.

8,164 ● 7 ● 42 ● 65



yehonatan yehezkel

1,240 ● 20 ● 30

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In my case on Edge browser:

3

```
const formData = new FormData(this.form);  
for (const [key, value] of formData.entries()) {  
  formObject[key] = value;  
}
```



give me the same error

So I'm not using `FormData` and i just manually build an object

```
import React from 'react';  
import formDataToObject from 'form-data-to-object';  
  
...  
  
let formObject = {};  
  
// EDGE compatibility - replace FormData by  
for (let i = 0; i < this.form.length; i++) {  
  if (this.form[i].name) {  
    formObject[this.form[i].name] = this.form[i].value;  
  }  
}  
  
const data = formDataToObject.toObj(formObject); // convert  
"user[email]":"customer@mail.com" => "user":{"email":"customer@mail.com"}
```

```
const orderRes = await fetch(`/api/orders`, {
  method: 'POST',
  credentials: 'same-origin',
  headers: {
    'Content-Type': 'application/json'
  },
  body: JSON.stringify(data)
});

const order = await orderRes.json();
```

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edited Aug 2, 2018 at 13:04

answered Aug 2, 2018 at 9:51

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Ramadanowski Julie

91 ● 1 ● 4

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React Version

2

Make sure to have a header with `'content-type': 'multipart/form-data'`



```
_handleSubmit(e) {
  e.preventDefault();
  const formData = new FormData();
  formData.append('file', this.state.file);
  const config = {
    headers: {
      'content-type': 'multipart/form-data'
    }
  }

  axios.post("/upload", formData, config)
    .then((resp) => {
      console.log(resp)
    }).catch((error) => {
    })
}

_handleImageChange(e) {
  e.preventDefault();
  let file = e.target.files[0];
  this.setState({
    file: file
  });
}
```

View

```
#html
<input className="form-control"
  type="file"
  onChange={(e)=>this._handleImageChange(e)}
/>
```

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answered Oct 17, 2018 at 16:31



7urkm3n

6,311 ● 4 ● 32 ● 47



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