

cURL - Operation not permitted error

Asked 15 years, 10 months ago Modified 3 years, 5 months ago Viewed 5k times

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I'm trying to use cURL with PHP and its giving me this error:

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"Failed to connect to 208.77.188.166: Operation not permitted"



I'm pretty sure its a server issue - but just in case, here is my code:



```
<?php

$ch = curl_init();
$url  ="http://www.example.com";
curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_URL, $url);
curl_setopt($ch, CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER, true);

$output = curl_exec($ch) or die(curl_error($ch));
echo $output;

?>
```

cURL is enabled on Apache, I've tried changing permissions of the file to 777.

Any ideas?

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asked Feb 17, 2009 at 22:48



[Ed Brown](#)

417 ● 3 ● 10

6 Answers

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It's possible that you need to enable `allow_url_fopen` ([reference](#)) -- you can do this in an `.htaccess` file if it's on apache.

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You can enable this by putting this in an `.htaccess` file:



```
php allow_url_fopen on
```





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edited Nov 20, 2023 at 22:45



Community Bot

1 • 1

answered Feb 18, 2009 at 6:11



artlung

34k • 19 • 73 • 124



1



Make sure you set all required CURL options:

```
CURLOPT_RETURNTRANSFER => true,  
CURLOPT_HEADER          => false,  
CURLOPT_FOLLOWLOCATION    => true,  
CURLOPT_ENCODING         => "",  
CURLOPT_USERAGENT        => "spider",  
CURLOPT_AUTOREFERER      => true,  
CURLOPT_CONNECTTIMEOUT   => 120,  
CURLOPT_TIMEOUT           => 120,  
CURLOPT_MAXREDIRS         => 10,
```

I will also suggest you echo out errors also using something like this:

```
$hostconnect = curl_init($url);  
$errormsgcurl = curl_error($hostconnect);  
echo $errormsgcurl;
```

The above code is not tested and it just serves as an example.

Also would suggest trying out your code on a local apache server this way you can tell where the problem sits easily.

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answered Mar 4, 2009 at 16:39



Codex73

5,766 • 13 • 57 • 77



1



Many shared hosting providers prohibit outbound connections. Bluehost, for example, requires that you purchase a static IP before allowing outbound connections. Then you need to make sure CURL knows what outbound interface to use.

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answered Mar 5, 2009 at 3:42



gahooa

137k • 13 • 99 • 103

this is not true. i have a shared hosting plan with bluehost, and it works perfectly when using curl to do outbound connections. i run a WoW armory fan site that does about 20,000+ outbound connections daily. – Jayrox Mar 5, 2009 at 16:37



1

The error you are receiving is most likely do to a firewall blocking all outbound connections. Many shared hosting providers are blocking outgoing port 80 connections to try to stop rampant errors in PHP scripts that allow remote includes to then be used as an attack vector against the server.



Please contact your host, and if this is the case you will need to find an alternate way to connect to the remote host, or move hosting companies.



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answered Mar 5, 2009 at 3:55



[X-Istence](#)

16.6k ● 6 ● 61 ● 75



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You should try using a version of curl installed on the server or on your workstation (command line version) and try to replicate the error, you may need to set a referrer header in the curl request, but that all depends on the server you are trying to contact.



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answered Feb 17, 2009 at 23:01



[Astra](#)

11.2k ● 3 ● 39 ● 41



0

Could be a proxy issue or some kind of authentication problem on the server - can you access this URL using a regular web browser ?



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answered Feb 17, 2009 at 23:40



[Adam Pierce](#)

34.3k ● 23 ● 71 ● 89

