Cannot delete, a file with that name may already exist
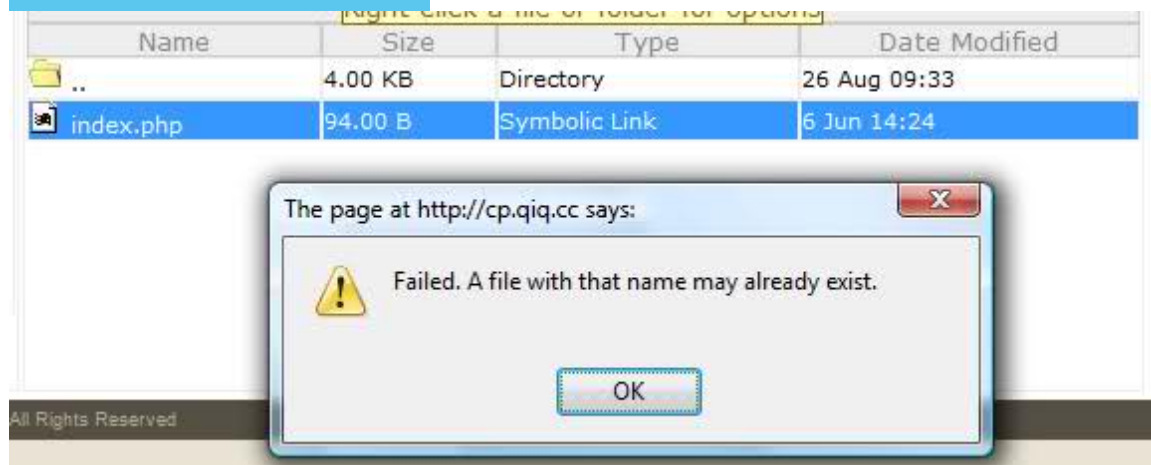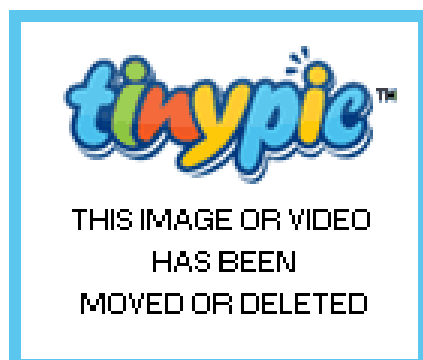
1

This is starting to vex me. I recently decided to clear out my FTP, and stumbled across an old Wordpress install I forgot I had (oh yes, very security conscious me). Anyway, for some reason deleting the directory failed so I investigated to see what was causing the blockage and I've narrowed it down to a file in wp-content.

Now when I try to delete this file I can get two errors. I've tried in Windowx Explorer (**FTP**) and the Web Control Panel's File Manager. Here's some error shots:
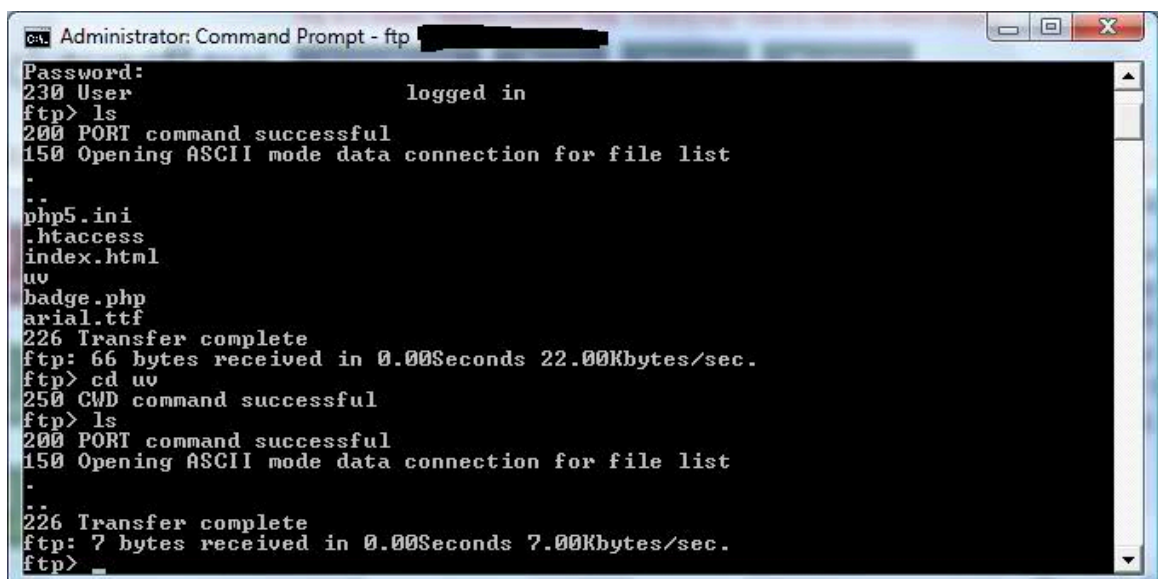
As you can see my File manager thinks the file is a [Symbolic Link](). While it scares me that my web server is host to an obviously religoious artifact I'm also heavily confused by the situation.

- I've tried renaming the file.

- I've refreshed the FTP view.

- I've tried moving the file to another dir (which worked, no success on deletion though).

- I've tried editing the file and then deletion.

And I'm at a loss. Is there a special way to delete SymLinks? I've never heard of them, until now.

edit

Oho Windows you really are a magician of sorts. I decided to take a look at my FTP via command prompt and guess what? The file doesn't exist. Whether `ftp` ignores symlinks I don't know but I'm about to give up :P

`file` `ftp` `symlink`

1 Answer

Sorted by: **Highest score (default)** ⬍

First of all, try emailing your webhost either for SSH-access or to remove the symlink for you.

If you get SSH-access, use:

```
unlink index.php
```

Or if neither works: Create a **PHP** file there (for instance remove.php) that contains:

```
<?php unlink("./index.php") ?>
```

Then open that file in your browser, afterwards remove the remove.php file.

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answered Aug 26, 2008 at 9:55