

How to unit test my application manually on multiple browsers?

Asked 15 years, 10 months ago Modified 11 years, 1 month ago

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6



My project requires support on multiple browsers, like Firefox 2.0, firefox 3.0, IE 6, IE 7, etc. My problem is I cannot test the application on lower versions of the browsers. I have to move to other system or other machines for the testing. Is there any way to solve this?

I cannot even use Virtual Box, since my company won't encourage other softwares to be installed.

Thanks in advance.

unit-testing

browser

cross-browser

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edited Nov 9, 2013 at 16:55



Martijn Pieters

1.1m ● 319 ● 4.2k ● 3.4k

asked Feb 10, 2009 at 19:03



Techmaddy

4,636 ● 5 ● 29 ● 33

1 is this really /unit/ testing? – user3850 Feb 10, 2009 at 19:57

The web App is supposed to support all the specified browsers as mentioned in the question. So, before check-in, I do a unit testing on all the browsers. – [Techmaddy](#) Feb 10, 2009 at 20:04

@hop I think you are right that this is not unit testing, because how could you write unit tests for this in the first place. I think it would be insanely difficult. I think this is what the call black box testing, but please correct me if I am wrong :) – [Alfred](#) Jan 8, 2010 at 0:51

7 Answers

Sorted by:

Highest score (default)



8



Use a browser [emulator](#) such as:

1. [BrowserShots.org](#) : Free; test your web design in different browsers
2. [iCapture](#) : Free; safari screenshots
3. [ieCapture](#) : Free; internet explorer screenshots
4. [Lynx Viewer](#) : Free; this service allows web authors to see what their pages will look like (sort of) when viewed with Lynx, a text-mode web browser.
5. [Browser Cam](#) : Free for 24 hours; Cross-browser screen captures.
6. [Multiple Internet Explorers](#) : install multiple Internet Explorer versions on the same machine.
7. [Browser Compatibilitytool by NetMechanic](#) : paid service

8. [Screenshot Generator](#) : Screenshot generator to see your site on a Macintosh G5 in Safari, MacIE or Mozilla.
9. [Browser Archive](#) : Software archive of previous version of browsers at evolt.org

Source: <http://spellbook.infinativ.it/2006/07/26/top-10-browser-emulators.htm>

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edited Jun 20, 2020 at 9:12



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1 • 1

answered Feb 10, 2009 at 19:04



Chris Ballance

34.3k • 26 • 105 • 152



4

There are ["Portable" versions of Firefox](#) that will let you test 1.5, 2.0, and 3.0 without much trouble... even from a USB key if the pesky IT folks won't let you install locally.



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answered Feb 10, 2009 at 21:14



scunliffe

63.5k • 26 • 131 • 165



For IE you can check out [IETester](#)

2

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answered Feb 10, 2009 at 19:06

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Josh Mein

28.6k ● 15 ● 78 ● 88



1

There's a similar question here: [Running Internet Explorer 6, Internet Explorer 7, and Internet Explorer 8 on the same machine](#)



The accepted answer there was to use virtualization so that you can get a true picture of how the website would behave under each browser running on its native system. You can run firefox on a portable thumbdrive, but you can't do it with IE. You could put a firefox and an IE on each VM to cut down on the number of VM instances that you need.



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edited May 23, 2017 at 12:01

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1 ● 1

answered Mar 11, 2009 at 22:20



kdmurray

3,048 ● 3 ● 33 ● 47



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Campaign to get VirtualBox installed. Seriously. It's a basic tool for web design. Presumably they give you a



better editor than notepad, they owe you decent testing tools as well.



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answered Feb 10, 2009 at 19:07

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levand

8,480 ● 3 ● 42 ● 55



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A testing solution depends on the functionality of the application and the resources at your disposal. Your first question should be what platform am I writing on and for? The Operating System platform will determine the default tool set you have.



What is the scope of the application?



-Are you testing graphical elements?
-GUI IO?
-Computational functionality?

Will you have access to:

- Virtual Machine(s) - one computer emulating other environments
- Use Multiple local machines and a KVM Switch, more raw processing power, easy access, works well for GUI testing
- Use multiple remote machines via SSH or some other server-client arrangement, a client like VNC or a form of remote desktop might be required .

You will require an automated method of application installation, activation, reset and reporting. Can you run scripts or batchfiles? Must the app run in a GUI mode, does it have a CLI? Do you have access to other services such as web servers, can you open ports to send/receive status reports? Can you remotely login to the test machines, launch and reset the browsers from the command line?. Can you reset a hung Application?

Failure and success can be reported in various ways such as the creation of a local file, the downloading of an image from a server or a ping on a port. Essentially testing will require more work and time because you will need to design, implement and perhaps ironically test a testing suite and apparatus.

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edited Feb 10, 2009 at 20:15

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answered Feb 10, 2009 at 20:10



Paxic

1,760 ● 16 ● 28



To Check All IE You can go to CodeckPack . nl and install all IE, ie, [IE collection](#).

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or you can use [www. multibrowserviewer .com](http://www.multibrowserviewer.com) it can check in 45 browsers and 3 os



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answered Jan 7, 2010 at 10:43



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Baljeetsingh Sucharia

2,079 ● 2 ● 20 ● 39
