

How can I read an HttpServletResponse output stream?

Asked 15 years, 8 months ago Modified 7 years, 8 months ago

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28



I want to make a Servlet filter that will read the contents of the Response after it's been processed and completed and return that information in XML or PDF or whatever. But I'm not sure how to get any information out of the HttpServletResponse object. How can I get at this information?



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asked Mar 31, 2009 at 15:49



[DyreSchlock](#)

873 ● 3 ● 13 ● 24

4 Answers

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Add this to the filter java file.

30



```
static class MyHttpServletResponseWrapper
    extends HttpServletResponseWrapper {

    private StringWriter sw = new StringWriter(BUFFER_SI

    public MyHttpServletResponseWrapper(HttpServletResponse
        super(response);
    }

    public PrintWriter getWriter() throws IOException {
        return new PrintWriter(sw);
    }

    public ServletOutputStream getOutputStream() throws
        throw new UnsupportedOperationException();
    }

    public String toString() {
        return sw.toString();
    }
}
```

Use the follow code:

```
HttpServletResponse httpResponse = (HttpServletResponse)
MyHttpServletResponseWrapper wrapper =
    new MyHttpServletResponseWrapper(httpResponse);

chain.doFilter(request, wrapper);

String content = wrapper.toString();
```

The content variable now has the output stream. You can also do it for binary content.

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edited Jan 13, 2016 at 12:59

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marcospereira

12.2k ● 3 ● 48 ● 53

answered Mar 31, 2009 at 18:20



Bruce

1 Yeah, using an Servlet Reponse Wrapper and capturing output when it's written is about the best way to do it, I think.

– [DyreSchlock](#) Apr 2, 2009 at 13:35

1 The code that handles the request is using the output stream though. The TeeOutputStream can be used. ([commons.apache.org/io/apidocs/org/apache/commons/io/output/...](https://commons.apache.org/io/apidocs/org/apache/commons/io/output/)) – [DyreSchlock](#) Apr 2, 2009 at 13:37

5 what's a reasonable value of `BUFFER_SIZE` ? – [asgs](#) Sep 2, 2015 at 13:54

1 Have created LoggingFilter implements Filter, registered it, use your code and it does not work, just emtry strings on the exit. Could you show full (completed) version code?

– [user2602807](#) Oct 13, 2017 at 13:26



5

Spring now has feature for it . All you need to do is use `[ContentCachingResponseWrapper]`, which has method `public byte[] getContentAsByteArray()` .



I Suggest to make WrapperFactory which will allow to make it configurable, whether to use default `ResponseWrapper` or `ContentCachingResponseWrapper`.



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answered Apr 14, 2017 at 9:49

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omilus

1,276 ● 12 ● 9

See stackoverflow.com/questions/39935190/... for details.

– Siva Jul 29 at 3:01



1



I don't much know that you can get data out of an `HttpServletResponse` object as such. It may make more sense to structure your application such that requests are proxied to the appropriate handlers and passed about with data transfer objects, from which you can build the appropriate final response. In this manner, you never modify more than one response object or need to read from such.

Not a direct answer, I know, but that's how I'd do it give the question.

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answered Mar 31, 2009 at 15:58

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Stefan Kendall

67.7k ● 69 ● 257 ● 409

-
- 1 Ultimately, I'd do the same thing and put myself in a position where I wouldn't have to read for the response. But the actually request processing I'm using is fairly black boxed and can't be messed with :/ – [DyreSchlock](#) Mar 31, 2009 at 16:09
-



I don't believe you can necessarily do this given that writing to the output stream may result in the data being

1



flushed to the client prior to any servlet filters being invoked post-population. As *iftrue* suggests, a different architecture would be advisable, to generate your XML (say) and then regenerate in whatever output format you desire.

EDIT: Having read your response to *iftrue*'s posting, if you *really* can't interfere with the current processing, perhaps you require a servlet to proxy your request, capture the output from the original output, and then munge as appropriate. Very nasty, however :-(

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answered Mar 31, 2009 at 17:10



Brian Agnew

272k ● 38 ● 339 ● 442
