.HTACCESS

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- .htaccess is a configuration file for use on web servers running the Apache Web Server software.

- When a .htaccess file is placed in a directory which is in turn 'loaded via the Apache Web Server', then the .htaccess file is detected and executed by the Apache Web Server software.

- These .htaccess files can be used to alter the configuration of the Apache Web Server software to enable/disable additional functionality and features that the Apache Web Server software has to offer.

.HTACCESS

- These facilities include basic redirect functionality,

  - for instance if a 404 file not found error occurs,

  - for more advanced functions such as content password protection.

- '.htaccess' is the filename in full, it is not a file extension.

  - Example :'file.htaccess', it is simply called, '.htaccess'.

- You can create a .htaccess file using any good text editor such as TextPad, Microsoft WordPad.

EXAMPLE OF .HTACCESS FILE

- It enables password protection on the directory.

- It offers redirection to a custom error page if a user fails to login correctly.

- It enables SSI (server side includes) for use with '.html' files.

```
AuthName "Member's Area Name"
AuthUserFile /path/to/password/file/.htpasswd
AuthType Basic
require valid-user
ErrorDocument 401 /error_pages/401.html
AddHandler server-parsed .html
```

EXAMPLE OF .HTACCESS FILE

- Example

    AuthName "Member's Area Name"
    AuthUserFile /path/to/password/file/.htpasswd
    AuthType Basic
    require valid-user

- First line tells the Apache Web Server the secure directory is called 'Member's Area Name', this will be displayed when the pop-up login prompt appears.

- The second line specifies the location of the password file.

- The third line specifies the authentication type, in this example we are using 'Basic' because we are using basic HTTP authentication

- The fourth line specifies that we require valid login credentials, this line can also be used to specify a specific username

PASSWORD PROTECTION

- We can password protect a directory (or multiple) of a web site which require a username and password to access.

- The login procedure for these secure directories is handled automatically by the web browser using a pop-up login interface .

- Passwords are also encrypted using one of the best encryption methods available which ensures login credentials are kept secure.

- Decide which directory to password protect, then create a .htaccess file.

- Note:All files and subdirectories within the directory will be password protected.

ADDING MIME TYPES

- MIME types set what a file is, or rather what file extensions refer to what file types.

- For example, a '.html' file extension refers to a HTML document, a '.zip' file extension refers to a ZIP archive file.

- The server needs to know this so it knows how to deal with the file. This is often used to create custom file extension for common file types.

ADDING MIME TYPES

- To setup a MIME type, create a .htaccess file following the main instructions and guidance which includes the following text:

Add Type : text/html htm0

- 'AddType' specifies that you are adding a MIME type. The second part is the MIME type, in this case text or HTML, and the final part is the file extension, in this example 'htm0'.