

GO PREMIUM

Display Image stored in Database using PHP

Hi,

I am not able to display a Image stored in Database using PHP.

M

I have created a database, and in that I have created a table to store the Images of employees. Below is the table that I have created.

```
1: create table `staff_picture` (  
2:   `staff_id` int(7) not null default 0,  
3:   `staff_picture` mediumblob,  
4:   `pic_filename` varchar(100) default null,  
5:   `pic_type` varchar(50) default null,  
6:   `pic_file_size` varchar(20) default null,  
7:   `pic_file_width` varchar(20) default null,  
8:   `pic_file_height` varchar(20) default null,  
9:   primary key (`staff_id`)  
10: ) engine=innodb default charset=utf8;
```

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I have inserted one image in the table and then below is the code that I am executing, but it is not displaying the image, it only shows a blank page.

```
1: <?php  
2: $connect=mysql_connect('localhost','hrm','password');  
3: $select=mysql_select_db('hrm',$connect);  
4: $sql='SELECT staff_picture FROM staff_picture WHERE staff_id=2';  
5: $res=mysql_query($sql);  
6: $row = mysql_fetch_array($res);
```

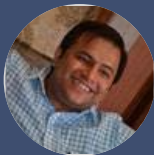
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Thanks in advance



Status: Solved Priority: Medium Security: Public Views: 3611



LVL 1

Vipin Kumar
Sr. Network Engineer
Asked: 2016-04-17

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LVL 111

Ray Paseur
Commented: 2016-04-17

First important issue: You need to get off the MySQL extension at once! It is no longer supported,

not even for security fixes. Here is why and how to do that:

<http://www.experts-exchange.com/articles/11177/PHP-MySQL-Deprecated-as-of-PHP-5-5-0.html>

Second important issue: When your script runs a query, you must tell MySQL or MySQLi or PDO that you want to know about any errors. Otherwise these extensions will fail silently, and you will never know what is wrong. The article tells how to find out about those issues that may be causing a failure "under the covers."

We have to pursue a few questions to get to the bottom of this. How do you know that the image was inserted into the table?



LVL 111

Ray Paseur

Commented: 2016-04-17

Let's try it this way. We should be able to see whether we can retrieve the image from the database.

```
1: <?php // demo/temp_leovipin2.php
2: /**
3:  * https://www.experts-exchange.com/questions/28940091/Display-Image-stored-
in-Database-using-PHP.html
4:  */
5: error_reporting(E_ALL);
6:
7: // TRY TO CONNECT TO THE DB SERVER
8: $connect=mysql_connect('localhost','hrm','password');
9: if (!$connect) trigger_error('CONNECT FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
10:
11: // TRY TO SELECT THE DATABASE
12: $select=mysql_select_db('hrm',$connect);
13: if (!$select) trigger_error('SELECT FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
14:
15: // TRY TO RUN A QUERY
16: $sql='SELECT staff_picture FROM staff_picture WHERE staff_id=2';
17: $res=mysql_query($sql);
18: if (!$res) trigger_error('QUERY FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
19:
20: // TRY TO RETRIEVE A ROW
21: $row = mysql_fetch_assoc($res);
```

```
22: if (!$row) trigger_error('FETCH FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
23:
24: $content = $row['staff_picture'];
25: header('Content-type: image/jpeg');
26: echo $content;
```

[Select all](#)

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LVL 1

Vipin Kumar

Sr. Network Engineer

Author Commented: 2016-04-17

@Ray,

Firstly, I am using MYSQL only here in example to ease, rest I am using only MYSQLi.

Secondly I am not getting errors, as I have already tested that my connection is successful, database is being selected and the query is being executed by putting if else statements and also giving me the desired result by removing the **header('Content-type: image/jpeg');** line it gives me a huge jibberish output.

Thirdly, I have checked that the image has already inserted into table by checking via **PHPMYADMIN** and also by downloading it from there.

Kindly let me know if any more information is required.

Thanks in advance.



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LVL 1

Vipin Kumar

Sr. Network Engineer

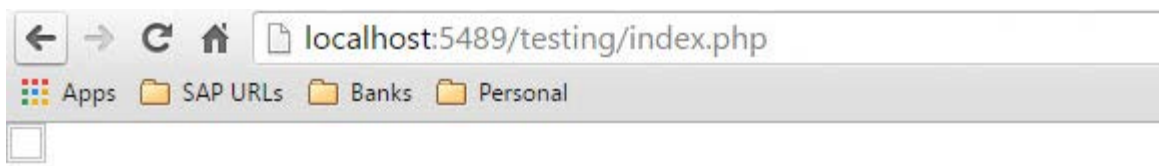
Author Commented: 2016-04-17

@Ray,

I have attached the screenshot of the page that I am getting after executing the code provided by you.

Also, I was getting the same screen when I was executing the code provided by me.

Thanks in advance.





LVL 111

Ray Paseur

Commented: 2016-04-17

Good, but I gotta ask... If you're using MySQLi why would you post a MySQL example without error detection? The closer we can get to the "truth" the faster we can solve the problem, and choosing a different extension may obscure the problem.

Let's keep at this until we can get PHP to show us the error messages, if any. Please try it this way, with the settings to get PHP to display errors.

```
1: <?php // demo/temp_leovipin2.php
2: /**
3:  * https://www.experts-exchange.com/questions/28940091/Display-Image-stored-
in-Database-using-PHP.html
4:  */
5: ini_set('display_errors', TRUE);
6: error_reporting(E_ALL);
7:
8: // TRY TO CONNECT TO THE DB SERVER
9: $connect=mysql_connect('localhost','hrm','password');
10: if (!$connect) trigger_error('CONNECT FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
11:
12: // TRY TO SELECT THE DATABASE
13: $select=mysql_select_db('hrm',$connect);
14: if (!$select) trigger_error('SELECT FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
15:
16: // TRY TO RUN A QUERY
17: $sql='SELECT staff_picture FROM staff_picture WHERE staff_id=2';
18: $res=mysql_query($sql);
19: if (!$res) trigger_error('QUERY FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
20:
21: // TRY TO RETRIEVE A ROW
22: $row = mysql_fetch_assoc($res);
23: if (!$row) trigger_error('FETCH FAIL', E_USER_ERROR);
24:
25: $content = $row['staff_picture'];
26: header('Content-type: image/jpeg');
27: echo $content;
```

[Select all](#)[Open in new window](#)

If this does not give us a good (meaning "shows the error") result, please show us how you uploaded the image and stored it in the database.



LVL 1

Vipin Kumar
Sr. Network Engineer
Author Commented: 2016-04-17

@Ray,

It is still the same, it has not given any errors. I uploaded and stored the image in database using PHPMYADMIN

Server: mysql wampserver » Database: hm » Table: staff_picture

Browse

Structure

SQL

Search

Insert

Export

Import

Privileges

Operations

Triggers

Column	Type	Function	Null	Value
staff_id	int(7)			2
staff_picture	mediumblob		<input type="checkbox"/>	Binary - do not edit (0 B) Choose File IMG_3151.JPG (Max: 16MiB)
pic_filename	varchar(100)		<input type="checkbox"/>	IMG_3151.JPG
pic_type	varchar(50)		<input type="checkbox"/>	image/jpeg
pic_file_size	varchar(20)		<input type="checkbox"/>	840836
pic_file_width	varchar(20)		<input type="checkbox"/>	151
pic_file_height	varchar(20)		<input type="checkbox"/>	200

Go

☒ Ignore



Ray Paseur
Commented: 2016-04-17



LVL 111

OK, thanks. Often images and other "blob" data contain binary values that have unwanted meaning to a SQL database. The general recommendation about uploaded images goes this way:

1. Upload the image and store the image in the file system.
2. Store the URL of the image in the database, but do not store the image data.
3. When someone wants the image, use the database to recover the URL, and use the URL to find the image.

However if you have some reason to *not* use the file system, you can still store the image in the database, but you will need to `base64_encode()` the image data before storing it (increasing its size by about a third) and `base64_decode()` the column after retrieving it from the database and before sending it to the browser. This is generally true of any binary-safe data transport across binary-sensitive boundaries.



LVL 1

Vipin Kumar

Sr. Network Engineer

Author Commented: 2016-04-17

@Ray,

In my case how do I achieve the encode and decode the image. Can you provide an example?

Thanks in advance.





LVL 111

Ray Paseur

Commented: 2016-04-17

Yes, I think I can provide an example, but it will take me a while to write the code. Mostly, nobody does this. Instead we store images in the file system. Assuming you want a MySQLi example, right?



LVL 1

Vipin Kumar

Sr. Network Engineer

Author Commented: 2016-04-17

@Ray,

You can provide me the MYSQL example only. I will myself do it for MYSQLi based on it.

Thanks



LVL 111



Ray Paseur

Commented: 2016-04-18

OK, three scripts. These are teaching examples. You can install them on your server and run them to see how the moving parts work. Please read them over - code and comments - and post

back with any questions.

First, we need to create the table.

```

1: <?php // demo/temp_leovipin2_create.php
2: /**
3:  * https://www.experts-exchange.com/questions/28940091/Display-Image-
stored-in-Database-using-PHP.html
4:  */
5: ini_set('display_errors', TRUE);
6: error_reporting(E_ALL);
7:
8:
9: // DATABASE CONNECTION AND SELECTION VARIABLES - GET THESE FROM YOUR
HOSTING COMPANY
10: $db_host = "localhost"; // PROBABLY THIS IS OK
11: $db_name = "??";
12: $db_user = "??";
13: $db_word = "??";
14:
15: // OPEN A CONNECTION TO THE DATA BASE SERVER AND SELECT THE DB
16: $mysqli = new mysqli($db_host, $db_user, $db_word, $db_name);
17:
18: // DID THE CONNECT/SELECT WORK OR FAIL?
19: if ($mysqli->connect_errno)
20: {
21:     $err
22:     = "CONNECT FAIL: "
23:     . $mysqli->connect_errno
24:     . ' '
25:     . $mysqli->connect_error
26:     ;
27:     trigger_error($err, E_USER_ERROR);
28: }

```

[Select all](#)

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Next, we upload the image. Note that it gets stored in a temporary *storage* folder. You might think about leaving it there!

```

1: <?php // demo/temp_leovipin2_upload.php
2: /**
3:  * https://www.experts-exchange.com/questions/28940091/Display-Image-
stored-in-Database-using-PHP.html
4:  */
5: error_reporting(E_ALL);
6:
7:
8: // DATABASE CONNECTION AND SELECTION VARIABLES - GET THESE FROM YOUR
HOSTING COMPANY
9: $db_host = "localhost"; // PROBABLY THIS IS OK
10: $db_name = "??";
11: $db_user = "??";
12: $db_word = "??";
13:

```

```
14: // OPEN A CONNECTION TO THE DATA BASE SERVER AND SELECT THE DB
15: $mysqli = new mysqli($db_host, $db_user, $db_word, $db_name);
16:
17: // DID THE CONNECT/SELECT WORK OR FAIL?
18: if ($mysqli->connect_errno)
19: {
20:     $err
21:     = "CONNECT FAIL: "
22:     . $mysqli->connect_errno
23:     . ' '
24:     . $mysqli->connect_error
25:     ;
26:     trigger_error($err, E_USER_ERROR);
27: }
28:
```

[Select all](#)

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And we want to display the image. You may want to experiment with the WHERE clause.

```
1: <?php // demo/temp_leovipin2_image.php
2: /**
3:  * https://www.experts-exchange.com/questions/28940091/Display-Image-
stored-in-Database-using-PHP.html
4:  */
5: ini_set('display_errors', TRUE);
6: error_reporting(E_ALL);
7:
8:
9: // DATABASE CONNECTION AND SELECTION VARIABLES - GET THESE FROM YOUR
HOSTING COMPANY
10: $db_host = "localhost"; // PROBABLY THIS IS OK
11: $db_name = "??";
12: $db_user = "??";
13: $db_word = "??";
14: require_once('RAY_live_data.php');
15: // OPEN A CONNECTION TO THE DATA BASE SERVER AND SELECT THE DB
16: $mysqli = new mysqli($db_host, $db_user, $db_word, $db_name);
17:
18: // DID THE CONNECT/SELECT WORK OR FAIL?
19: if ($mysqli->connect_errno)
20: {
21:     $err
22:     = "CONNECT FAIL: "
23:     . $mysqli->connect_errno
24:     . ' '
25:     . $mysqli->connect_error
26:     ;
27:     trigger_error($err, E_USER_ERROR);
28: }
```

[Select all](#)

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Best regards, ~Ray



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LVL 35

Slick812

Commented: 2016-04-18

I have never had to change any data (encode) for a succesful BLOB storage and retrieval, as long as you use a correct DB column Type, you use mediumblob, so binary images will work in that - here is an mysql example page page that shows you CODE for a mysql blob for image -

https://blogs.oracle.com/oswald/entry/php_s_mysqli_extension_storing.

You really should try and to get the blob data extraction (file) into a server file, and then download that file, and look at it in a Image editor. Most Images editors will tell you some "Error" IF the image file is corrupted or show it, if it is not corrupted. You can also test the String Length of the extracted DB image file data variable, to see if it exactly matches the file size.



LVL 1

Vipin Kumar

Sr. Network Engineer

Thanks Ray.. it works

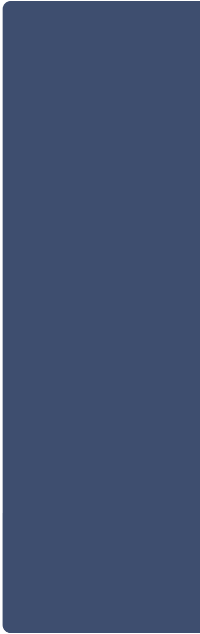
Author Commented: 2016-04-18



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