







Upload files with CURL

 Pete Houston · [Follow](#)
1 min read · Nov 22, 2015

 --  17   

CURL is a great tool for making requests to servers; especially, I feel it is great to use for testing APIs.

To upload files with CURL, many people make mistakes that thinking to use **-X POST** as regular form data; in facts, that way will cause errors.

The proper way to upload files with CURL is to use **-F (— form)** option, which will add **enctype=”multipart/form-data”** to the request.

```
$ curl -F 'data=@path/to/local/file' UPLOAD_ADDRESS
```

For example, if I want to upload a file at */home/petehouston/hello.txt* to the server <http://localhost/upload> which processes file input with form parameter named *img_avatar*, I will make request like this,

```
$ curl -F 'img_avatar=@/home/petehouston/hello.txt' http://localhost/upload
```

Upload multiple files

To send upload request for multiple files, just add an additional **-F** option,

```
$ curl -F 'fileX=@/path/to/fileX' -F 'fileY=@/path/to/fileY' ... http://localhost/upload
```

Upload an array of file

To send upload request for an array file, simply put additional **-F** options with same form parameter name as array,

```
$ curl -F 'files[]=@/path/to/fileX' -F 'files[]=@/path/to/fileY' ... http://localhost/upload
```

Yay, that’s easy, have fun :)

- Curl
- Shell Scripting
- Development



--



17



Written by Pete Houston

1.6K Followers

Code / Design / Love @ <https://petehouston.com>

Follow

