



Internet Explorer Zone logic and associated error messages.

## Development [ [edit](#) ]

To customize the appearance of an HTA, an optional tag `hta:application` was introduced to the `HEAD` section. This tag exposes a set of attributes that enable control of border style, the program icon, etc., and provide information such as the argument (command line) used to launch the HTA.<sup>[4]</sup> Otherwise, an HTA has the same format as an HTML page.

Any text editor can be used to create an HTA. Editors with special features for developing HTML applications may be obtained from Microsoft<sup>[5]</sup> or from third-party sources.<sup>[6]</sup>

An existing HTML file (with file extension `.htm` or `.html`, for example) can be changed to an HTA by simply changing the extension to `.hta`.

## Vulnerabilities [ [edit](#) ]

HTA have been used to deliver malware.<sup>[7][8]</sup> One particular HTA, named *4chan.hta* (detected by antiviruses as JS/Chafpin.gen), was widely distributed by the users of the imageboard as a **steganographic** image in which the user were instructed to download the picture as an HTA file, which when executed, would cause the computer to automatically spam the website (evading 4chan's **CAPTCHA** in the process) with alternate variants of itself; it was reported that such attacks were previously delivered in which the user was prompted to save it as a **.js** file.<sup>[9]</sup>

## Example [ [edit](#) ]

This is an example of **Hello World** as an HTML Application.

```
<HTML>
<HEAD>
<HTA:APPLICATION ID="HelloExample"
    BORDER="bold"
    BORDERSTYLE="complex"/>
<TITLE>HTA - Hello World</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<BODY>
<H2>HTA - Hello World</H2>
</BODY>
</HTML>
```

## See also [ [edit](#) ]

- Adobe AIR
- Active Scripting
- Apache Cordova
- Chromium Embedded Framework
- Electron (software framework)
- Firefox OS
- React Native
- XAML Browser Applications (XBAPs)
- XUL and XULRunner - a language and environment for Mozilla cross-platform applications that resembles the mechanism of HTML Applications.
- Windows Script Host

## References [ [edit](#) ]

1.

<sup>^</sup>

*Article ID:200874 in Microsoft Support*, in Microsoft Support Knowledge Base

2.

<sup>^</sup>

Microsoft wins HTML application patent

3.

<sup>^</sup> <sup>*a*</sup> <sup>*b*</sup> <sup>*c*</sup>

"Introduction to HTML Applications (HTAs)". *Microsoft MSDN*. May 2011. Retrieved 24 June 2016. Sections include Why Use HTAs, Creating an HTA, HTA-Specific Functionality, Security, Compatibility, Deployment

4.

<sup>^</sup>

*HTA:APPLICATION Object*, in MSDN Library, the complete specification of the tag `hta:application`

5.

<sup>^</sup>

*HTA Helpomatic*

6.

<sup>^</sup>

*HTAEdit, an editor for HTAs with a built-in debugger*

7.

<sup>^</sup>

"Spora Ransomware Dropper Uses HTA to Infect System". *VMRay*. 2017-01-17. Retrieved 2018-12-22.

8.

<sup>^</sup>

"8 Scariest Ransomware Viruses". Retrieved 2018-12-22.

Page 2 of 3

9. <sup>^</sup> Constantin, Lucian (2010-08-10). "4chan Flood Script Is Back with New Social Engineering Trick". *Softpedia*. Retrieved 2021-11-09.

External links [ edit ]

- HTML Component (HTC) Reference at MSDN. An HTC encapsulates specific functionality or behavior within HTAs.
- The Script Center, The Script Center, home of Hey, Scripting Guy! Blog
- LearnAbout Scripting for HTML Applications (HTAs), a tutorial site for learning about HTA's

V · T · E		Internet Explorer	[hide]
Versions	Main	1 · 2 · 3 · 4 · 5 · 6 · 7 · 8 · 9 · 10 · 11	
	Other	Mobile · for Mac · for UNIX · IEs4Linux	
Overview	History · Add-ons · Box model · Browser Helper Object (BHO) · Extensions · Removal · Shells		
Technologies	Accelerator · ActiveX · HTML (HTA · HTML Components) · favicon.ico · HTML+TIME · Index.dat · JScript · MHTML · MSXML · RSS Platform · Smart tags · Temporary Internet Files · Vector Markup Language · Web Slice · WPAD · XHR/XDomainRequest		
Software and engines	Administration Kit · Developer Tools · Integrated Windows Authentication · Tasman · MSHTML (Chakra)		
Implementations	Active Channel · Active Desktop · ActiveMovie · Channel Definition Format (.cdf) · Comic Chat/Chat 2.0 · DirectX Media · Internet Mail and News · Microsoft Java Virtual Machine (MSJVM) · MSN Explorer · MSN for Mac OS X · NetMeeting · NetShow · Outlook Express · Server Gated Cryptography (SGC) · Spyglass · Windows Address Book · Windows Desktop Update		
Events	First Browser War · Second Browser War · Download.ject · Eolas v. Microsoft · Sun v. Microsoft · United States v. Microsoft Corp.		
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