

File download using Paperclip

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I am using Rails to make a small file upload app. For file attachment I am using the wonderful Paperclip but I can't work out how to do downloads.

How would I create a link in my show view, that is passed the file id, for instance that would allow the user to download a file on my server?

[ruby-on-rails](#)[paperclip](#)[download](#)

asked Feb 16 '11 at 12:05



[seadowg](#)

1,993 5 27 43

2 Answers

If the file uploaded is attached to a model, e.g. as an attribute called `avatar`, then you can create a link like:

```
<%= link_to "Download",
```

Replace `avatar` with the name of your attribute.

edited Aug 4 '14 at 13:50



Community ♦



1 1

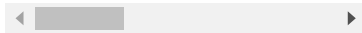
answered Feb 16 '11 at 13:22

**Syed Aslam****7,629** 5 31 53

Could you give an example of what might replace "whatever" ?
For example I have a DBFiles model ... but there is no method .url for this model... – [carl crott](#) Sep 19 '12 at 0:17

The whatever would be your "file", "avatar" or whatever you called the file property on your model. So "aUserElement.avatar.url(:original, false)" for instance. – [Automatico](#) Jun 10 '13 at 20:29

8 what does original:false mean? – [Jwan622](#) Apr 23 '15 at 3:09



Replace whatever by name that are user in your model for paper clip if you have

```
resource_file_name,  
resource_file_name,  
resource_file_name,
```

then replace whatever by resource



answered Oct 4 '12 at 10:46

Thorin**1,540** 14 26