How can I decode HTML characters in C#?

Asked 10 years, 10 months ago Active 5 months ago Viewed 317k times



I have email addresses encoded with HTML character entities. Is there anything in .NET that can convert them to plain strings?

372







41





asked Sep 23 '08 at 18:01



Vasil 17.2k 24

80 108

9 Answers



You can use httpUtility.HtmlDecode

If you are using .NET 4.0+ you can also use WebUtility.HtmlDecode which does not require an extra assembly reference as it is available in the System.Net namespace.



edited Nov 14 '11 at 17:11

answered Sep 23 '08 at 18:02

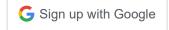


Quintin Robinson 70.4k 14 109 13

- 1 It's supposed to be in System. Web, but it isn't. I haven't touched C# for more that a year, if I get a bit more frustrated with this I'll convert them manually. Vasil Sep 23 '08 at 18:10
- 1 It's in the .NET 2.0 version of System Web Mark Cidade Sep 23 '08 at 18:14

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8 In case you're trying trying to decode the Query String, you need to use HttpUtility.UrlDecode - PeterX May 23 '13 at 8:10



On .Net 4.0:

182 System.Net.WebUtility.HtmlDecode()



No need to include assembly for a C# project





Jeroen Vannevel 35.9k 18 85 answered Apr 14 '10 at 17:40



Indy9000

7,344 2 23 3

6 It is better solution because HttpUtility doesn't decode "'" symbol.. I don't know why.. - RredCat Sep 13 '11 at 13:44

This is required in developing for the Universal Windows platform. - matthewsheets Jun 10 '15 at 19:32

Will this cause XSS in .Net web pages? – Senura Dissanayake Aug 15 '18 at 11:53



As @CQ says, you need to use httpUtility.HtmlDecode, but it's not available in a non-ASP .NET project by default.



For a non-ASP .NET application, you need to add a reference to <code>system.Web.dll</code> . Right-click your project in Solution Explorer, select "Add Reference", then browse the list for <code>system.Web.dll</code> .



Now that the reference is added, you should be able to access the method using the fully-qualified name System. Web. HttpUtility. HtmlDecode or insert a using statement for System. Web to make things easier.

answered Sep 23 '08 at 18:29

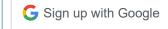


OwenP

18.1k 13 60 84

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1 Agreed, that's why I use HttpUtility, fell into same trap =P - Quintin Robinson Sep 23 '08 at 18:07



Use Server.HtmlDecode to decode the HTML entities. If you want to *escape* the HTML, i.e. display the < and > character to the user, use Server.HtmlEncode.





answered Sep 23 '08 at 18:02



Daniel Schierbeck
1,309 2 14 22

4 There may not be a server context (i.e. when running test cases and the like) I fell in to this trap before:) - Rob Cooper Sep 23 '08 at 18:04



To decode HTML take a look below code

1

string s = "Svendborg Værft A/S";
string a = HttpUtility.HtmlDecode(s);
Response.Write(a);



Output is like

Svendborg Værft A/S

edited Feb 28 at 15:57



327 2 14

Patrick

answered Nov 17 '16 at 10:01



Abhishek Jaiswal 829 9 4

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takes a string and returns a string.



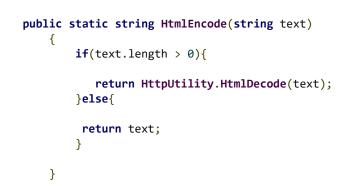


answered Jun 25 '16 at 3:36



Write static a method into some utility class, which accept string as parameter and return the decoded html string.

Include the using System.Web.HttpUtility into your class



answered May 25 '18 at 9:34



Tahir Alvi

79 2 9 32



For .net **4.0**

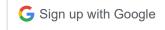
Add a reference to System.net.dll to the project with using System.Net; then use the following extensions



// Html encode/decode
 public static string HtmDecode(this string htmlEncodedString)

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```
{
    return htmlEncodedString;
}

public static string HtmEncode(this string htmlDecodedString)
{
    if(htmlDecodedString.Length > 0)
    {
        return System.Net.WebUtility.HtmlEncode(htmlDecodedString);
    }
    else
    {
        return htmlDecodedString;
    }
}
```

answered Oct 3 '18 at 13:00



protected by wudzik Dec 7 '16 at 6:38

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