

# What does vendor mean in web file structure?

Asked 6 years, 1 month ago   Active 6 years, 1 month ago   Viewed 21k times



Every now and then I see **vendor** being used in a directory structure on web apps.

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Like this:



```
<script src="js/vendor/modernizr-2.6.2.min.js"></script>
```



What does this mean? Why do people use it?

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More importantly, should I use it? I make web apps using php and javascript.

php

html

web-applications

edited May 31 '13 at 21:14



Undo ♦

23.3k 21 94 118

asked May 31 '13 at 21:05



Ben Harvey

838 2 11 19

3 It is used to denote third party plugins... – Orangepill May 31 '13 at 21:07

## 3 Answers



It's a common convention to put files coming from various third party sources (the "vendors") in a folder named that way.

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You can use it as it makes it clearer what's "from the project" and what is a dependency you rely upon, but it is merely a convention, not an obligation.



answered May 31 '13 at 21:08



Lepidosteus

8,831 3 26 46

1 I know @Steve was right first, but I'm marking this as the answer as it's concise. — [Ben Harvey](#) Jun 4 '13 at 20:18

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/vendor usually refers to a directory that contains third party plugins.

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answered May 31 '13 at 21:07



[Steve](#)

**7,351** 6 33 52



Most if the time, there are 3rd party libs stored and commonly it's ignored in VCS.

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answered May 31 '13 at 21:07



[Emii Khaos](#)

**9,202** 3 27 52