

Get full path of a file with FileUpload Control

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41

I am working on a web application which uses the FileUpload control. I have an xls file in the full filepath 'C:\Mailid.xls' that I am attempting to upload.



When I use the command



`FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName`

13

I cannot get the full filepath from my system. However, when I use the above command in another system it works fine.

I also tried the following commands with no success:

```
System.IO.Path.GetFullPath(FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName);  
Path.GetFileName(FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName);  
System.IO.Path.GetDirectoryName(FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName).ToString();  
Convert.ToString(System.IO.Directory.GetParent(FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName));
```

How can I get full path?

[asp.net](#)[file-upload](#)

edited Nov 21 '09 at 23:19



Ray Vega

83.3k

92

201

194

asked Jul 15 '09 at 10:19

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In what language are you workin? What exactly you need to do, and how? I didnt understand the question. – [Strae](#) Jul 15 '09 at 10:22

- 1 You need to provide more information (edit your post). Language, platform what your error message are. And please format your code using the editors code button. – [Nifle](#) Jul 15 '09 at 10:26

18 Answers



Try

6

```
Server.MapPath(FileUpload1.FileName);
```



Edit: This answer describes how to get the path to a file on the server. It does not describe how to get the path to a file on the client, which is what the question asked. The answer to that question is "you can't", because modern browser will not tell you the path on the client, for security reasons.

edited Jul 23 '14 at 23:02



[criticalfix](#)

2,624 1 11 30

answered Jun 19 '10 at 19:53



[Abdul Wahhab](#)

348 2 2

- 17 This wont work. Assuming the application root is C:\MySource\MyProject\ then Server.MapPath("Mailid.xls") will give you C:\MySource\MyProject\Mailid.xls instead of C:\Mailid.xls as the question said was needed. – [daniloquio](#) Sep 6 '11 at 18:20

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-
- 2 Sorry, this doesn't actually address the original issue. – [Walden Leverich](#) Jan 17 '13 at 18:02
-
- 2 It is wrong answer. Server.MapPath() return application virtual directory path. – [Ganesha](#) Dec 5 '13 at 17:03
-
- 1 This is wrong answer why it has up votes down vote it – [MohammadMMohammad](#) Apr 18 '14 at 8:52
-

29

It's *currently* true that "when you upload a file the browser will only send the source filename and not the full path" - it makes perfect sense that the server has no business knowing whether the file was in "C:\WINDOWS\" or "F:\SOMEDIR\OTHERDIR\PERSONALINFO\". The *filename* is always sent, and is useful both to help the user 'recognise' the content and possibly to interrogate the file extension to help determine the file type.

However I know from experience that Internet Explorer definitely *used to* (in older versions) send the entire path. It's difficult to find an authoritative confirmation (except this [apache fileupload control doco](#))

Internet Explorer provides the entire path to the uploaded file and not just the base file name

Regardless, you should not use nor expect the full path to be sent by any 'modern' browser.

answered Jul 15 '09 at 11:13



[Conceptdev](#)

3,121 1 17 22



times just the filename. It depends on how old the client browser is. In any case you should ALWAYS wrap `Path.GetFileName(fileUpload.FileName)` in order to guarantee it's definitely the filename you're dealing with and NOT the path. (Path utility class is in `System.IO` namespace). – [Sunday Ironfoot](#) Mar 12 '10 at 10:46

- 6 Internet Explorer 8 has been fixed to only provide the filename in the Internet zone, but in the Local Intranet zone, it still sends the full path. +1 to [@Sunday Ironfoot](#) for the `Path.GetFileName` suggestion. – [Richard Fawcett](#) May 17 '11 at 14:01

thanks [@conceptdev](#) for the IE info! – [Thousand](#) Jun 14 '17 at 13:48



Perhaps you misunderstand the way `FileUpload` works.

23



When you upload a file, it is effectively being transferred from the client's computer to the server hosting your application. If you're developing the application, most times, both client and server are the same machine (your computer). Once the application is deployed however, there could be any number of clients connecting to the server, each uploading a different file.

Knowing the full path of the file on the client's computer usually isn't necessary - you'll often want to do something with the file contents. Your examples seem like ASP.NET C#, so I'm guessing you're using the `FileUpload` control. You can get at the uploaded file's contents by reading the raw stream (`FileUpload.PostedFile.InputStream`) or by saving the file first (`FileUpload.PostedFile.SaveAs`), then accessing the saved file. It's your responsibility to save the file, if you want it to be accessible after the current request - if you don't, ASP.NET deletes it.

One more thing - don't forget to set the `SaveAsPath` property.

client's browser won't send the file, and you'll spend quite a few minutes wondering what went wrong.

answered Jul 15 '09 at 10:55



[elo80ka](#)

8,841 3 29 43

am developing an web application. I am using file upload control to browse files.It was working fine. Today I installed IE 8 After the installation I unable to get the full path of the file what could be the problem Event I uninstalled IE 8. Currently I am using IE 7. – [Dhanraj](#) Jul 15 '09 at 11:07

1 this worked for me: `FileUpload.PostedFile.FileName`
thanks elo80ka – [Somebody](#) Nov 3 '12 at 23:18

1 That was it. Forgot the basic functionality of that control. – [Stanton](#) May 2 '14 at 22:52

This is how the control works .. this should be marked as the correct answer. – [AltF4_](#) Jun 20 '18 at 10:04



As of IE8, the full path is no longer sent to sites in the Internet Zone.

9



See the "File Upload Control" section at the end of this post: <http://blogs.msdn.com/ie/archive/2008/07/02/ie8-security-part-v-comprehensive-protection.aspx> for discussion.

answered Oct 28 '09 at 20:14



[EricLaw](#)

51k 5 123 170

FileUpload will never give you the full path for security

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8



answered Jul 15 '09 at 10:27

[waqasahmed](#)

2,173 4 22 43

hi thanks for u r reply. But that command showing the full path in another system. how it's possible. – [Dhanraj](#) Jul 15 '09 at 10:42

Using the fileUpload, you cannot get the full path of the client machine of the file. No way. The FileUpload is able to handle uploading the file, and you don't need to worry about the path. You may have got the full path of a file via other means (e.g System.IO.Path or MapPath or something else). But I doubt you used FileUpload to get the full path. – [waqasahmed](#) Jul 15 '09 at 11:53



```
Convert.ToString(FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName);
```

8



edited Jun 21 '11 at 12:53

[DardhJDG](#)

15.5k 11 43 53

answered Jun 21 '11 at 4:51

[Santosh Lodhi](#)

89 1 2



3



IE 7 and previous versions sent the full path of the uploaded file to the server related to the `input type="file"` field. Firefox and other modern browsers consider this to be a security flaw and do not. However, this appears to be have been fixed in IE 8.

think it is really superfluous information that should never be posted at all. All you should be concerned with is the file name so that you can save the file without making changes to the name.

answered Jul 15 '09 at 11:30



Cerebrus

23.4k 8 50 66



Just to give my 2 cents.

3



At this moment I also DO get the full user's local path. It's only from 1 machine that I can replicate this issue, but it really does give the full path of the file at the machine of the user.

This is a end-user of our application which is hosted on a off-site server. So it's not on the local machine nor on a local server from which it might happen to be a share.

You can resolve the issue, at least to have the same behaviour all the time by this:

```
Path.GetFileName(fileUpload.FileName)
```

Btw, just found this article which states it can happen too:

<http://www.eggheadcafe.com/community/aspnet/17/10092650/fileupload-control-pro.aspx>

Just to confirm the issue.

answered Oct 7 '09 at 8:15



Gabriël

812 1 18 29

3

I had sort of the opposite issue as the original poster: I was getting the full path when I only wanted the filename. I used Gabriël's solution to get just the filename, but in the process I discovered why you get the full path on some machines and not others.

Any computer joined to domain will give you back the full path for the filename. I tried this on several different computers with consistent results. I don't have an explanation for why, but at least in my testing it was consistent.

answered Oct 28 '09 at 20:10



BrianM

493 1 3 8

3

This dumps the file in your temp folder with file name, then after that you can call it and not worry about it. Because it will get deleted if it is in your temp folder for an amount of days.

```
string filename = Path.Combine(Path.GetTempPath(),  
    Path.ChangeExtension(Guid.NewGuid().ToString(), ".xls"));  
File.WriteAllBytes(filename, FileUploadCon
```

edited Apr 20 '14 at 14:04



Flexo ♦

70.4k 21 150 234

answered Sep 26 '13 at 17:19



Yetimandaddy

41 2

Consider adding an explanation to go along with a code

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Check this:

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```
<%@ Page Language="VB" AutoEventWireup="false" CodeFile="F.
Inherits="FileUp" %>
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional/
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
```

```
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml">
<head runat="server">
    <title></title>
</head>
<body>
    <form id="form1" runat="server">
        <div>
            <asp:Label ID="Label1" runat="server"></asp:Label>
            <asp:FileUpload ID="FileUpload1" runat="server" /><l
            <asp:Button ID="Button1" runat="server" Text="Uplo.
        </div>
    </form>
</body>
</html>
```

Code:

```
Partial Class FileUp
    Inherits System.Web.UI.Page
    Protected Sub Button1_Click(ByVal sender As Object, By
Handles Button1.Click
        Dim path As String
        Dim path1 As String
        path = Server.MapPath("~/")
        FileUpload1.SaveAs(path + FileUpload1.FileName)
        path1 = path + FileUpload1.FileName
        Label1.Text = path1
        Response.Write("File Uploaded successfully")
    End Sub
End Class
```

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15.5k 11 43 53

answered Jan 29 '11 at 7:13



user594775

21 1



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I'm using IE 8 (on two separate machines). Each still uploads the full local file path. As suggested by Gabriël, `Path.GetFileName(fileUploadControl.PostedFile.FileName)` appears to be the only way to ensure that you only get the filename.

answered Aug 17 '10 at 14:15



Greg

90 8



1



[Check this post under FileUpload Control](#)

Additionally, the "Include local directory path when uploading files" URLAction has been set to "Disable" for the Internet Zone. This change prevents leakage of potentially sensitive local file-system information to the Internet. For instance, rather than submitting the full path `C:\users\ericlaw\documents\secret\image.png`, Internet Explorer 8 will now submit only the filename `image.png`.

Its an option under Internet security that can be enabled

answered Feb 11 '11 at 18:14



user613465

131 1 3

dim path as string = FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName

1

By the way, I am using Visual Studio 2010. I don't know if there is a difference with the other version.

edited Oct 20 '12 at 20:20



J. Steen

10.3k 12 49 61

answered Jun 19 '12 at 17:36



GKL

11 1

This will not problem if we use IE browser. This is for other browsers, save file on another location and use that path.

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if (FileUpload1.HasFile)

{

string fileName = FileUpload1.PostedFile.FileName;

string TempfileLocation = @"D:\uploadfiles\";

string FullPath =
System.IO.Path.Combine(TempfileLocation, fileName);

FileUpload1.SaveAs(FullPath);

Response.Write(FullPath);

}

Thank you



499 5 5



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You can't get full path of a file at client's machine. Your code might work at localhost because your client and the server is the same machine and the file is at the root directory. But if you run it on a remote machine you will get an exception.

answered Jul 15 '09 at 11:02



Canavar

41.3k 17 77 114

am developing an web application. I am using file upload control to browse files.It was working fine. Today I installed IE 8 After the installation I unable to get the full path of the file what could be the problem Event I uninstalled IE 8. Currently I am using IE 7. — [Dhanraj](#) Jul 15 '09 at 11:16



0



On Internet Explorer Options, on security tab click on custom security button, there have an option to send the local path when loading some file to server.

Disabled as default. Just enable it.

answered Mar 9 '12 at 20:51



Alisson Vieira

11



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```
Path.GetFullPath(fileUpload.PostedFile.FileName);
```

Sorry this 'll get your program file directory + your file

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edited Jun 19 '12 at 17:44



[Fahim Parkar](#)

20.8k 34 135 241

answered Nov 8 '11 at 17:26



[Zeeshan Anjum](#)

11

protected by [Community ♦](#) Nov 16 '15 at 9:57

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