

Open a Web Page in a Windows Batch File

[Ask Question](#)

91

I have a **batch file** that does a bunch of things and at the end needs to **open up a web browser** to a page. Is there a way to, in essence, call `ShellExecute` on a **http** to open the web page?



Windows Command Prompt



20

[windows](#)[batch-file](#)[cmd](#)[shellexecute](#)

edited Oct 6 '14 at 20:39

asked Oct 6 '14 at 19:59

[BahaiResearch.com](#)

29.5k 90 288 501

- 2 When you say MS-DOS, I presume you mean Windows command prompt, not actual standalone MS-DOS? – [NPE](#) Oct 6 '14 at 20:03

3 Answers



153

You can use the `start` command to do much the same thing as `ShellExecute`. For example

[Home](#)[PUBLIC](#)[Stack Overflow](#)[Tags](#)[Users](#)[Jobs](#)[Teams](#)[Q&A for work](#)

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).



This will launch whatever browser is the default browser, so won't necessarily launch Internet Explorer.

answered Oct 6 '14 at 20:04



[Ross Ridge](#)

28.3k 5 49 86

What if we want to open this webpage in a separate browser rather than the default one ? – [Dulith De Costa](#) Oct 21 '15 at 7:44

- 7 [@DulithDeCozta](#) If you want to open a webpage in a specific browser that installed on the machine you'll need to use something like: `C:\path\to\browser.exe http://www.stackoverflow.com` . You should ask your own question if you need more details. – [Ross Ridge](#) Oct 21 '15 at 17:34



3



unfortunately, the best method to approach this is to use Internet Explorer as it's a browser which is guaranteed to be on Windows based machines. This will also bring compatibility of other users which might have alternative browsers such as firefox, chrome, opera..etc,

`start iexplore.exe http://www.website.com`

answered Oct 6 '14 at 20:04



[Daryl Gill](#)

4,746 7 27 65

When you use the start command to open a website it will use

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).



specific browser then use `start iexplorer.exe`
`www.website.com`

Also you cannot have `http://` in the url.

edited Jan 22 '15 at 5:54



[j_freyre](#)

4,270 2 24 43

answered Jan 22 '15 at 5:49



[user4481177](#)

27 1

4 I can use `http://` and `https://` using `start` – [N1mr0d](#) Sep 16 '15 at 5:25

1 Are you sure it's not `iexplore.exe` – [FreeSoftwareServers](#) Aug 21 '18 at 22:34

protected by [Robert Longson](#) Feb 2 '16 at 12:29

Thank you for your interest in this question. Because it has attracted low-quality or spam answers that had to be removed, posting an answer now requires 10 [reputation](#) on this site (the [association bonus does not count](#)).

Would you like to answer one of these [unanswered questions](#) instead?