**Fiddler 2**

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# What is it?

Fiddler 2 is an HTTP/HTTPS proxy from Microsoft.  
We all know about FireBug for Firefox. It allows to see the different components of the page as files (HTML, CSS, JS), as DOM elements, you can debug the JavaScript...

Fiddler 2 does not provide this but:

* can be configured as the proxy of any browsers, including browsers from other computers
* allows to see all the history of the HTTP/HTTPS traffic for your browser
* allows to see the content of the requests and responses and to filter them (e.g. hide images), encoded or not
* allow to measure the impact of compression on time and quantity of data
* allows to create your own rules such as faking a robot or changing the response code based on some logic
* remaps DNS values
* has all sorts of useful [extensions](http://www.fiddler2.com/fiddler2/extensions.asp).

More details on the [Fiddler 2 official site](http://www.fiddler2.com/fiddler2/).  
An alternate solution ($$$) is [Charles Proxy](http://www.charlesproxy.com) which runs on Windows, Mac and Linux.

# FAQ

**Q: With FF, how do I use Fiddler?**  
A: install Fiddler while FF is already present. There is a new menu *Tools / Monitor with Fiddler*.  
**Q: With IE, how do I use Fiddler?**  
A: There is a new menu *Tools / Fiddler2*.  
**Q: With IE, I cannot connect through Fiddler to my local server.**  
A: This is a limitation of IE 6/7/8. Even if you remove localhost, loopback and 127.0.0.1 from the list of exceptions (menu *Tools / Internet Options / Connections / LAN Settings*) it will not work. Use FF, IE9 or use this [trick](http://www.fiddler2.com/fiddler/help/hookup.asp#Q-LocalTraffic) .  
**Q: How can I hide CSS and JavaScript requests like for the images in the menu *Rules / Hide Image requests*? Same for other scenarios.**  
A: Install the rule editor extension first then use the menu *Rules / Customize Rules...* and add the following then save and reload the rules using the menu *Tools / Reset Script* (or restart Fiddler). You should have two new menu entries under the *Rules* menu. Links to JScript and .Net sites are at the top of the script.  
**Q: Can I force caching of some URLs?**  
A: Easily, see the caching of /eic below. Think well about the consequences.  
**Q: Where are saved the custom rules?**  
A: Normally it is "P:\My Documents\Fiddler2\Scripts\CustomRules.js". My own copy of the files with the changes below is attached.  
**Q: Does Fiddler work fine with WebDAV, the HTTP extension used for shared folders of NT, Word editing (loading/saving) directly a document from a web server?**  
A: Not fully. As an example, maybe Word will be able to open the file through Fiddler but it will not be authorized to save as it looks like a different client for the server. Just try . This being said with Fiddler set as your system proxy, you can confirm that Word and other execute a WebDav request.  
**Q: Can I monitor all the HTTP traffic on my box?**  
A: If you run Fiddler and set it as your system proxy in the menu *Start / Control Panel / Internet Options / Connections / LAN Settings* you should be able to see it except if the application is configured to bypass the local proxy because either is call a local server (on your box) or because it has its instructions to use the corporate proxy (e.g. options for Java *-Dhttp.proxyHost=*[*http-proxy.ic.gc.ca*](http://http-proxy.ic.gc.ca) *-Dhttp.proxyPort=80 -Dhttp.nonProxyHosts="localhost|loopback||127.0.0.1|142.53.155.26|\*.*[*ic.gc.ca*](http://ic.gc.ca)*|199.212.215.64|*[*tplogin.justice.gc.ca*](http://tplogin.justice.gc.ca)*|199.212.215.66|*[*tpcsg2.justice.gc.ca*](http://tpcsg2.justice.gc.ca)*")*  
**Q: Can I log to the log tab using Fiddler as an example to log all the responses not being a 200 or a 302?**  
A: Yes, see <http://fiddler.wikidot.com/logging>  
**Q: Can I see HTTPS content?**  
A: Yes [documented](http://www.fiddler2.com/Fiddler/help/httpsdecryption.asp)\*  
**Q: I have an error about makecert.exe when I turn on HTTPS decryption**  
A: Read this [post](http://stackoverflow.com/questions/5519418/fiddler2-unable-to-generate-certificate/6933353)  
**Q: Can I Debug HTTPS Mixed Content Warning?**  
A: Already [documented](http://fiddler.wikidot.com/debugmixedcontent)\*  
**Q: Can I reroute traffic for one box to another one?**  
A: Yes, see the code sample below rerouting PRE to my box.  
**Q: Can I see the PDF submission to a server done by Acrobat using Fiddler?**  
A: Yes, launch Fiddler and Acrobat will use it automatically. You may need to turn on HTTP decryption for some applications.

# Code samples

Obtain the default code source with the menu Rules / Customize rules...

### Variables used to display this and that in OnBeforeResponse() below. They show up in the Rules menu of Fiddler.

class Handlers  
{  
 ...  
 // used to force the display of everything  
 public static RulesOption("View all")  
 var m\_ViewAll: boolean = false;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide Google safebrowsing")  
 var m\_HideSafeBrowsing: boolean = true;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide CSS")  
 var m\_HideCSS: boolean = true;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide HTML")  
 var m\_HideHTML: boolean = false;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide JS")  
 var m\_HideJS: boolean = true;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide JSON")  
 var m\_HideJSON: boolean = false;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide /eic")  
 var m\_HideEIC: boolean = true;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Cache /eic")  
 var m\_CacheEIC: boolean = true;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide /utils")  
 var m\_HideUtils: boolean = true;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Cache /utils")  
 var m\_CacheUtils: boolean = true;  
  
 // for those working with Confluence  
 public static RulesOption("Hide browse-macros.action")  
 var m\_HideMacrosAction: boolean = true;  
  
 // for those working with Confluence  
 public static RulesOption("Cache browse-macros.action")  
 var m\_CacheMacrosAction: boolean = true;  
  
 // heartbeat of the confluence wiki but potentially jason or dwr  
 public static RulesOption("Hide heart beat")  
 var m\_HideHeartBeat: boolean = true;  
  
 public static RulesOption("Hide external requests")  
 var m\_HideExternal: boolean = false;  
 ...

### Preprocessing of the request to redirect a request going normally to the server in PRE/DEV/QA… to my localhost

        static function OnBeforeRequest(oSession: Session)  
        {  
                ...  
  
                if (oSession.HostnameIs("[server.domain.gc.ca/](http://server.domain.gc.ca/)")) {  
                        // rerouting transparently here  
                        FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("rerouting a request to QA"); // logs to the tab of Fiddler  
                        oSession.hostname = "localhost";  
                        oSession.port = 8080;  
                }  
  
                // Another solution is to use Fiddler or Windows to create fake DNS entries remapping an host to another one  
                // In Fiddler use the menu Tools / Hosts...  
  
 }

### Post processing of the response to decide if we show or not the request/response in the list

 // Note: In the latest version, the Filters tab allows to do some simple filtering but scripts can be more sophisticated.  
  
 static function OnBeforeResponse(oSession: Session)  
 {  
  var hide: boolean = false;  
  ...  
  if (m\_HideCSS && oSession.oResponse["Content-Type"].indexOf("text/css") != -1){  
   hide = true;  
  }  
  if (m\_HideJS && (oSession.oResponse["Content-Type"].indexOf("text/javascript") != -1 || oSession.oResponse["Content-Type"].indexOf("application/javascript") != -1 || oSession.oResponse["Content-Type"].indexOf("application/x-javascript") != -1)){  
   hide = true;  
  }  
  if (m\_HideJSON && oSession.oResponse["Content-Type"].indexOf("application/json") != -1){  
    hide = true;  
  }  
  if (m\_HideEIC && oSession.uriContains("/eic")){  
   hide = true;  
  }  
  if (m\_HideUtils && oSession.uriContains("/utils")){  
   hide = true;  
  }  
  if (m\_HideMacrosAction && oSession.uriContains("/browse-macros.action")){  
   hide = true;  
  }  
  if (m\_CacheMacrosAction && oSession.uriContains("/browse-macros.action")){  
   // add caching for this number of seconds  
   oSession.oResponse["Cache-Control"] = "max-age=60";  
  }  
  if (m\_HideHeartBeat && oSession.uriContains("eartbeat")){  
    hide = true;  
  }  
  // replace the physical IP (142.xxx) by yours  
  if (m\_HideExternal && (!oSession.HostnameIs("localhost") && !oSession.HostnameIs("127.0.0.1") && !oSession.HostnameIs("123.45.67.89"))){  
    hide = true;  
  }  
  ...  
  if ((hide && !m\_ViewAll) && oSession.responseCode <= 304) {  
    // don't hide errors  
    oSession["ui-hide"] = "true";  
  }  
  
  // Play a sound when a file is missing.  Note the name "Notify" is a standard Windows system sound entry.      
  if (oSession.responseCode == 404){  
   FiddlerObject.playSound("Notify");  
   oSession["ui-strikeout"]="true";  
  }  
                 
  if (m\_CacheEIC && (oSession.uriContains("/eic") || oSession.uriContains("/epic"))){  
   // add caching for this number of seconds  
   oSession.oResponse["Cache-Control"] = "max-age=3600";  
  }  
  
  if (m\_CacheUtils && oSession.uriContains("/utils")){  
   // add caching for this number of seconds  
   oSession.oResponse["Cache-Control"] = "max-age=3600";  
  }  
 }  
 ...  
 //  
 // Log what is in the session  
 //  
 static function logSession(oSession: Session) {  
  //FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("type           = " + oSession.GetType);  
  FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("tunnel         = " + oSession.isTunnel);  
  FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("FTP            = " + oSession.isFTP);  
  FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("HTTPS          = " + oSession.isHTTPS);  
  FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("full Url       = " + oSession.fullUrl);  
  FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("Path And Query = " + oSession.PathAndQuery);  
  FiddlerApplication.Log.LogString("url            = " + oSession.url);  
 }  
 ...  
}