

# How to create file download links in Django?



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In order to create a download link, we need to create a Django view that would serve the files:

```
# views.py

import mimetypes

...

def download_file(request):
    # fill these variables with real values
    fl_path = '/file/path'
    filename = 'downloaded_file_name.extension'

    fl = open(fl_path, 'r')
    mime_type, _ = mimetypes.guess_type(fl_path)
    response = HttpResponse(fl, content_type=mime_type)
    response['Content-Disposition'] = "attachment; filename=%s" % filename
    return response

...
```

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Once you've done this, add a line to `urlpatterns` in `urls.py`, which references the view.

```
# urls.py
...

path('<str:filepath>/', views.download_file)

...
```

## How it works?

It works because we send the following HTTP header to a browser:

```
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename
```

It tells a browser to treat a response as a downloadable file. Have you noticed that we also include `Content-Type` header? This one tells what kind of file we are sending to the browser or in other words its *mime type*. If the header is not set Django will set it to `text/html`. `mimetypes.guess_type` is a handy function which tries to guess the mime type of the file, however if you know the mime type of your file(s) beforehand, it is better to set this manually.

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## Why should I use Django ORM when I know SQL?

The main benefits of using Django ORM instead of SQL is a huge improvement in development speed, code maintenance, security and ease of development in general. Let's talk about these in detail. Development speed Django ORM comes with a lot of built-in tools that



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## JavaScript, Django and PostgreSQL timezone handling

Please have a look at the first part, which covers date, time and time zone basics in detail. This is a post about timezones issue I've been working on at DjaoDjin. Imagine there is a company with multiple teams distributed across the globe.



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