How to allow <input type="file"> to accept only image files?

Asked **8 years, 10 months ago**　Active **1 month ago**　Viewed **416k times**

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I need to upload only image file through `<input type="file">` tag.

Right now, it accepts all file types. But, I want to restrict it to only specific image file extensions which include `.jpg` , `.gif` etc.

How can I achieve this functionality?

`html`

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edited Jun 26 at 16:55　　　　　　asked Sep 30 '10 at 7:14
meDeepakJain　　　　　　　　　kbvishnu
111 ● 1 ● 11　　　　　　　　**6,055** ● 17 ● 59 ● 95

What's the technology used server-side? – Erdal G. Dec 19 '15 at 13:38

1　kbvishnu, perhaps you could reconsider the answer you accepted so long ago. You don't have to accept another answer. I'm just suggesting, based on the number of flags we've been getting on the answer and its level of votes compared with other answers, that maybe you should at least consider unaccepting it. – Aaron Hall ♦ Jun 13 '17 at 6:50

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6 Answers

active　　oldest　　**votes**

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Use the **accept** attribute of the input tag. So to accept only PNGs, JPEGs and GIFs you can use the following code:

```
<input type="file" name="myImage" accept="image/x-png,image/gif,image/jpeg" />
```

[⊙ **Run code snippet**]　[⊗ **Hide results**]　　　　　　　⤢ Full page

[Chọn tệp] Không có tệp nào được chọn

Or simply:

```
<input type="file" name="myImage" accept="image/*" />
```

Linked

Note that this only provides a hint to the browser as to what file-types to display to the user, but this can be easily circumvented, so you should always validate the uploaded file on the server also.

It should work in IE 10+, Chrome, Firefox, Safari 6+, Opera 15+, but support is very sketchy on mobiles (as of 2015) and by some reports this may actually prevent some mobile browsers from uploading anything at all, so be sure to test your target platforms well.

For detailed browser support, see http://caniuse.com/#feat=input-file-accept

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edited Jun 10 '17 at 7:35
mehulmpt
9,990 ● 11 ● 33 ● 65

answered Jun 3 '11 at 10:20
madcap laughs
7,842 ● 1 ● 13 ● 5

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1   Does not work in IE9. – hllau Sep 13 '12 at 4:32

1   Does not work in Opera 12.12 – el Dude Jan 28 '13 at 17:37

4   w3schools.com/tags/att_input_accept.asp – Bullyen Jan 7 '15 at 14:54

12   Are you sure it's `image/x-png` ? According to this list, it is just `image/png` . iana.org/assignments/media-types/media-types.xhtml – Micros Aug 27 '15 at 8:47

6   That should be the selected answer! It just lack a note saying that you still need to check server-side (because of non supporting browser, but also for security) – Erdal G. Dec 19 '15 at 13:40 ✎

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Using this:

```
<input type="file" accept="image/*">
```

works in both FF and Chrome.

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answered Apr 6 '13 at 23:31
Tyilo
16k ● 27 ● 90 ● 169

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2   Works in Chrome and Firefox. Also works in Opera. – user352353 May 9 '14 at 17:13

11   The accept attribute is not a validation tool, all uploads should be validated on the server, always... – TlonXP Mar 23 '15 at 20:35

2   This does work in Safari. – idmean Jun 13 '15 at 14:47

1   still not supported in native android browser, but works on others well I guess caniuse.com/#feat=input-file-accept – mcy Mar 14 '16 at 11:35

     I like this solution because in the file prompt the type dropdown shows "Image Files". – hardsetting Jan 11 '18 at 23:47

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Use it like this

```
<input type="file" accept=".png, .jpg, .jpeg" />
```

It worked for me

https://jsfiddle.net/ermagrawal/5u4ftp3k/

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This doesn't work for iOS 12. User can still choose video in device. – user3160227 Jun 2 at 8:46

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This can be achieved by

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```
<input type="file" accept="image/*" />
```

But this is not a good way. you have to code on the server side to check the file an image or not.

Check if image file is an actual image or fake image

```php
if(isset($_POST["submit"])) {
    $check = getimagesize($_FILES["fileToUpload"]["tmp_name"]);
    if($check !== false) {
        echo "File is an image - " . $check["mime"] . ".";
        $uploadOk = 1;
    }
    else {
        echo "File is not an image.";
        $uploadOk = 0;
    }
}
```

For more reference, see here

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/att_input_accept.asp
http://www.w3schools.com/php/php_file_upload.asp

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Steps:

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1. Add accept attribute to input tag
2. Validate with javascript
3. Add server side validation to verify if the content is really an expected file type

For HTML and javascript:

```html
<html>
<body>
<input name="image" type="file" id="fileName" accept=".jpg,.jpeg,.png" onchange="validateFileT
<script type="text/javascript">
    function validateFileType(){
        var fileName = document.getElementById("fileName").value;
        var idxDot = fileName.lastIndexOf(".") + 1;
        var extFile = fileName.substr(idxDot, fileName.length).toLowerCase();
        if (extFile=="jpg" || extFile=="jpeg" || extFile=="png"){
            //TO DO
        }else{
            alert("Only jpg/jpeg and png files are allowed!");
        }
    }
</script>
</body>
```

Tags
Users
Jobs

```
</html>
```

Explanation:

1. The accept attribute filters the files that will be displayed in the file chooser popup. However, it is not a validation. It is only a hint to the browser. The user can still change the options in the popup.
2. The javascript only validates for file extension, but cannot really verify if the select file is an actual jpg or png.
3. So you have to write for file content validation on server side.

share improve this answer

edited Jun 4 '17 at 11:48

answered Jun 4 '17 at 11:34

Surya Kameswara Rao Ravi
876 ● 8 ● 7

1   most complete answer – paranoidhominid Aug 1 '18 at 19:24

add a comment

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you can use `accept` attribute for `<input type="file">` read this docs
http://www.w3schools.com/tags/att_input_accept.asp

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answered Sep 29 '15 at 7:55

yussan
1,758 ● 1 ● 15 ● 21

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protected by Community ♦ Jan 8 '16 at 14:56

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