

## Re: Can I force 401 error when user not authenticated?

**Source:**

<http://www.derkeiler.com/Newsgroups/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet.security/2004-04/0294.html>

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**Date:** 04/24/04

Date: Sat, 24 Apr 2004 16:07:20 +1000

Hi

When using forms authentication, you are never sending back a 403 header. You are just redirecting the user to another ASP.NET page. A 403 header forces the browser to use HTTP authentication (e.g. Basic, IWA, Digest etc).

Forms auth never involves these HTTP status codes – all pages are 200 OK. It is at the application layer (of your ASP.NET app) that you enforce authentication, not at the lower HTTP level.

Cheers

Ken

"Bigtoga" <bigtoga@maratrane.com> wrote in message  
news:BM9ic.11313\$004.293@newssvr31.news.prodigy.com...  
: Currently I have succesfully implemented role-based folder security using  
: roles and web.config in each folder. This works great – if a user is not  
: authenticated or a member of an allowed role, that user cannot access the  
: resource (woohoo!). When the disallowed user tries to access the resource,  
: it redirects them to a login page.  
:  
: What I want is that, when an unauthorized user tries to access a secure  
: resource, I want it to raise a 401 error (which would then call my 401  
: customer error page).  
:  
: Can I do this?  
:  
: In my web.config for the application, I have:  
:  
: <forms name="Auth" loginUrl="login.aspx" protection="All" path="/" />  
:  
: If the user fails, it auto-redirects to login.aspx.  
:  
:  
:

: I tried this:

```
:  
: <forms name="Auth" protection="All" path="/" /> <!-- loginUrl omitted-->
```

: And rebuilt then restarted the webserver – same thing.

: How can I set it up so that unauthorized requests raise a 403 error? i have  
: this in web.config as well...

```
: <customErrors mode="On" defaultRedirect="/errors/404.aspx">
```

```
: <error statusCode="400" redirect="/errors/400.aspx"/><!--400 (Bad  
: Request)-->
```

```
: <error statusCode="401" redirect="/errors/401.aspx"/><!--401  
: (Unauthorized)-->
```

```
: <error statusCode="403" redirect="/errors/403.aspx"/><!--403  
(Forbidden)-->
```

```
: <error statusCode="404" redirect="/errors/404.aspx"/><!--404 (Not  
Found)-->
```

```
: <error statusCode="500" redirect="/errors/500.aspx"/><!--500 (Internal  
: Server Error)-->
```

```
: </customErrors>
```