Click to prove you're human

You know the page: you click on a link, but instead of getting the site you want, an error pops up indicating that the requested page is not available. Something along the lines of '404 Not Found'. A 404 error is the standardized HTTP status code. The message is sent from the webserver of an online presence, to the web browser (usually the client) that sent the HTTP request. The browser then displays this error code. The typical trigger for an error 404 message is when website content has been removed or moved to another URL. There are also other reasons why an error message could appear. These include: The URL or its content (such as files or images) was either deleted or moved (without adjusting any internal links accordingly) The URL was written incorrectly (during the creation process or a redesign), linked incorrectly, or typed into the browser incorrectly The server responsible for the website is not running or the connection is broken The entered domain name doesn't exist (anymore) Dead links are often left for long periods of time since operators have no idea that the linked content has been deleted or moved. Many websites still appear in the search engine results pages (SERPs) even though they aren't available online anymore (or at least not at the specified URL). Other linked websites such as blogs, news portals, etc. are often not informed that the site has been removed or can now be found under a new URL. Many website operators don't check their external links regularly and therefore a functioning link could easily become a dead one. A 404 error is rarely a reason to celebrate. At the end of the day, the website's visitors have not found the content that they were looking for. However the appearance of a 404 page does not necessarily mean that the desired information is not available at all. In many cases, the solution to the original error is easily found and the visitor can be quickly directed to the web page that they were originally looking for. So how exactly can you go about achieving a 404 error fix? Our advice would be to try out these potential solutions (in the order that they are listed): Reload the page: It might be that the error 404 has appeared for the simple reason that the page did not load properly. This can be checked quite easily by clicking on the 'Refresh' button in your browser or also by pressing the F5 button.Check the URL: Regardless of whether you have entered the URL address manually or been directed via a link, could be that a mistake has been made. For this reason you should check the specified path of the website. It could be that either you, or the person who entered the link, has mistyped something. Apart from spelling mistakes, it could also be that forward slashes have been left out or misplaced. But bear in mind that this can only really be checked with 'clean' URLs, as they contain unreadable words instead of incomprehensible abbreviations, letters, numbers, and symbols. Go back through the directory levels: For example, if a URL of the following structure example.com/Directory1/Directory2/Directory3 causes a 404 error page, then you can always go back to the previous directory level (in this example: example.com/Directory1/Directory2) in order to check whether the desired page is linked there. All you need to do is clear the last directory in the URL. The link for the page you are looking for should be visible on the previous page. If it is not to be found on that page then you can also go back to the previous page and look for the correct link there. But if it so happens that this method is also successful and you eventually end up back on the homepage, then move onto the next tip. Use the website's search function: Many websites offer a search function as part of their homepage. By entering one or several keywords, it can help you find the specific page that you are looking for.Use a search engine: You also have the possibility of using the website of your choice to find a website. As long as the desired site exists, you should be able to find it by entering the website domain and/or a keyword transcription of the subject matter. Delete the browser cache and cookies: Ifyou can access the website from another device, and the HTTP 404 error only seems to appear on a certain computer, then the problem could lie with your browser. Therefore you should delete the browser cache as well as all cookies for this site, and this may then finally allow you to access the page. Contact the website: If none of the abovementioned tips have been successful then the only remaining option may be to get in touch with the person/people responsible for the website. Contact information can usually be found in the website's masthead or else on a specific 'Contact Us' page. The operators of the website should be able to provide information as to whether the page you are looking for actually exists. It might be the case that the page in question has been moved to a new URL, and in this scenario you will be doing the website operator a big favor. They can then carry out a 404 error fix by introducing a domain redirect, which will automatically direct users from the old web page to the current one. Search engines, such as Google and Bing, will have a negative impression of a site if it has many 404 errors. Once the crawlers have established that many requests are being met with 404 codes, it presumes the site isn't very well maintained. Dead links affect a site's ranking and Google can decrease its placement in the SERPs or even stop indexing it if there are too many 404 error pages occurring. This may result in a considerable decrease in visitor numbers for the website. The visitor loses trust in the site if it's full of broken links or if the landing page (the page that is accessed from the search engine results) is dead. If the site is experiencing this problem regularly, many users won't take the trouble to continue to search since they aren't even sure if the desired content is still available. It's important for website operators to prevent HTTP 404 pages. This applies to internal 404 error pages on their own website as well as external 404 error pages on other sites. There are numerous free tools available to help you find these broken links more easily. Three of the best and most well-known are: Google Search Console (formerly known as 'Google Webmaster Tools'): if you already have a Google account and have registered your website there, you should make use of the Google Search Console option. Any 404 errors found by the Google crawler are displayed in the web tool and can also be marked as corrected here too. Additional functions enable you to find errors in robots.txt files and use crawling statistics to work out how often your site has been crawled by Google crawlers.Dead Link Checker: one of the simplest and fastest tools for finding both internally and externally linked 404 pages is the Dead Link Checker. With this web app you simply enter the URL of the site you want to inspect and then start the check. Here you have the choice of checking a single web page or a whole site. The app lists all the tracked error pages with status codes and URL.W3C Link Checker: this online tool from World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) is particularly detailed when it comes to testing individual website pages, so the process takes longer to verify links than with other websites. The W3C Link Checker works just like the Dead Link Checker: you enter the URL and let the tool do the rest. It's also possible to add further details Some content management systems (CMS) like WordPress, Joomla and Drupal automatically generate a 404 error page when a website's URL can't be found. The HTTP 404 page is just a simple standard error message, but most of them can be personalized using special CMS extensions. If your CMS doesn't give you the option of creating or changing your 404 page, or if your website is solely based on HTML, PHP, etc., it will prove a bit more complicated. You can create an error page as follows: Create an error page ('404.html' or '404.php') in the root directory (if there isn't an existing one already).Open the .htaccess file (or create one if needed) in the root directory, enter this in 'ErrorDocument 404 /404.html' and save the change. The error page will be generated with this code.To see if it's worked, try to access an unavailable webpage and hopefully the error 404 message should appear in the browser. Having a standard 404 error page is better than having none at all, although a customized page is more preferred for several reasons. On the one hand, you can be sure that visitors receive an accurate HTTP status code: for example, if the requested content is no longer present on the site, this should be conveyed with the '410 Gone' message. The visitor then knows that this content has been permanently deleted. On the other hand, you can provide a specially-designed error page containing related links (i.e. links to your homepage or subpages where the content overlaps that which the visitor originally requested). You could even add a search function for your website. By taking these extra measures and providing incentives, you might be able to prevent visitors from leaving your site straight after seeing the 404 code. With a creative 404 message you may even find that visitors are more forgiving. Naturally they will be disappointed at not finding content they were promised, but an original or funny 404 page could make up for it. If done properly, error pages do have some potential. Make sure that the design of the error message matches the style of your website and you already have the foundation for a good 404 error page. If you let visitors know in a funny and light-hearted way that your content isn't available, you'll hopefully get a smile out of them and they won't hold a grudge. For inspiration, check out our article on cool and creative 404 pages. Was this article helpful? Related tags Go to Main Menu 404, 302, 503 – short number combinations with great significance. Users encounter server status reports time and time again and if you know how to interpret them you can act accordingly. Knowledge of HTTP codes is even more relevant for website owners. With the right know-how… REDPIXEL.PLShutterstockHTML, CSS, and server-side programming languages like PHP form the foundation for creating dynamic websites. In addition, client-side scripting languages such as JavaScript or TypeScript, along with powerful frontend and backend frameworks, make it possible to develop websites… In order to access a web page in a browser, you just have to enter the URL into the address bar in your web browser and the requested website will pop up on your screen. This seems simple enough, but the process that's taking place in the background is a highly complex one. Learn… The infamous blue screen of death usually shows up without any warning. It's an important indicator of internal problems with hardware, software, or drivers. If Windows can no longer be run as a result of such a problem, then the forced shutdown takes place in the form of a blue… MichaelJayBerlinShutterstockInternet users are often confronted with error messages. HTTP status codes can be especially annoying, and even more so if you don't understand what they mean. The message 'HTTP 400 – Bad Request' is a mystery for many internet users, but luckily it can be solved in most cases.… maxsattanaShutterstock301 redirects are a part of everyday life in the world of online marketing, SEO and web development. Permanent redirection is used to avoid 404 errors that occur when a website's address has been changed. In this article, we'll explain how redirects work, why they are needed and… The error 404 or "Page Not Found" represents that the server cannot find a web page request by the user. It is given when the webpage doesn't exist on a website. It is a standard HTTP status code, meaning a specific resource could not be found on a server.404 issue usually occurs from the client side, which indicates that a user's browser can connect to a server, but the server cannot find a requested page. Missing resources on a web server is the most common reason for the error 404. Hence, the website owners need to handle the 404 error correctly to improve the user experience.There are multiple situations where error 404 occurs due to some other reasons like bugs and glitches. So in this tutorial, we will explain everything about the HTTP 404 error a.k.a Page Not Found error, and also discuss how to fix the 404 error.What is a 404 Error?Error 404 is the server-side error that occurs when a client needs access to specific resources unavailable on a web server. Although the error usually occurs due to missing resources and files, there are still a few more reasons behind the error. The first 404 error was encountered in 1993 when a user tried to access a page about the Mosaic web browser on the NCSA website, but the link was outdated.Error code404 or Connection refusedError typeNetwork communication protocol errorError causesNetwork problem: Check your internet connection and try again.Incorrect SSH installation: Verify SSH configuration.Wrong credentials: Ensure you're using the correct username and passwordSecurity system configuration: Check firewall and security settings.If you are facing the error 404, we recommend you evaluate its reasons. This will help you find the most accurate way to resolve the error with no issues. What Causes Error 404Before getting to know about the methods to resolve the 404 error, let's take a look at the most common reasons behind 404 error: The web server does not contain the requested resources or files. You are using an incorrect or broken URL unavailable on the web server.Your link is outdated, and the webpage is probably shifted to another URL. There can be some issues with server configuration. Web server owners can create a custom error page to protect the restricted content from public access. How the 404 Error Might AppearError 404 might appear in differently in different browsers. Some of the most common texts you will see when facing 404 errors are:404HTTP 404error 404404 not founddefine 404error 404 not found404 issueerror 404 indicate404 status codeerror 404 means404 HTTPHow to Fix the 404 ErrorIf you are facing a 404 error while surfing the internet you can follow easy steps like refreshing the page or switching browsers. But if you are facing the 404 error on your website as a website owner, you might need to follow some technical solutions like using descriptive URLs or removing the .htaccess file.Let's look at the possible solutions to 404 errors from a user's perspective and a website owner's perspective. We have provided easy and simple steps that you can follow to resolve the 404 error.Fixing Error 404 as End-UserIf you are facing a 404 error as a user, here are some quick easy tips you can use to fix 404 error.1. Refresh the window or Clear the CacheYou can try refreshing the webpage because sometimes a 404 error can be due to some glitches.You can also try to clear the web browser cache to fix the 404 error. How to delete the web browser cache?If you are unaware of clearing the browser cache, please go to the browser's Settings. Type "cache" or go to the Privacy and Security section. Click on the Clear Browsing data option and select all the available options, such as cached images and files, browsing data, cookies, and other data. Clearing the browser cacheNow click on the delete option to delete the browser data. Once you are done, restart your web browser and then open the website again.2. Check for TyposUsing the incorrect link with spelling mistakes is the common reason behind the 404 error. Hence, we recommend you check and verify issues with the link. Moreover, you can contact the website owner or the link provider to check if the link you are accessing is correct. On the other side, there can be a possibility that you are accessing a broken link, so please verify it from the website owner.3. Use a Different Web BrowserIf you still face issues, it is better to change the web browser. For example, if you use Google Chrome and get a 404 error, you can try Microsoft Edge, Safari, Firefox, etc. You can also uninstall your web browser and install its latest version because sometimes the software gets bugs that can be resolved in the updates.Fixing 404 Error as a Website OwnerFacing a 404 error as a website owner is very difficult as these errors can negatively affect your website's SEO. You can follow these simple fix 404 error pages:1. Restore Deleted Pages or the Recent BackupAs a website owner who recently got the 404 error, it is better to check the web pages you deleted recently. You can go to the local backup of the web server and then restore them to retrieve the deleted files. If you are still determining the backups, contact your hosting provider. The hosting provider will assist in recovering the deleted web pages. You can also consult a professional web developer to help you retrieve the web pages. 2. Use Descriptive URLsThere are different types of URLs you can use for your webpage. However, you can use a descriptive URL rather than a generic and cryptic URL to eliminate the chances of a 404 error:URL TypeDescriptionGeneric URLIt is a non-descriptive URL that provides no specific details about the webpage content. The generic URLs are the default and auto-generated naming conventions. For instance, ww.xyz.com/page2?id=39845 is the generic URL that does not specify any information about the webpage.Cryptic URLIt contains a combination of characters, encoded strings, and numbers. This type of URL does not prioritize user-friendly links. For example, www.xyz.com/4h7cjq1y is a cryptic URL that can be challenging to understand.Descriptive URLIt provides meaningful and clear information about the webpage content. This type of URL contains relevant keywords describing the page's topic, title, and category. For example, www.xyz.com/status-codes/error-404 is the descriptive URL for the What is Error 404 page.3. Disable the .htaccess File.htaccess is the web server's configuration file that controls the permissions and basic and advanced settings. Therefore, we don't recommend you disable or modify the .htaccess file without deep knowledge. Improper configuration file handling can affect the website's working and permissions. To disable the .htaccess file, please follow the below process:First, access the FTP of the web server and go to the local files. You will see the .htaccess file here, so right-click on it and then click on the Rename option.Now, rename the file to htaccess_backup to disable the .htaccess file. Once you are done, then check if the error is resolved.If the issue still exists, please go to the FTP again and rename the .htaccess file as the original.4. Create A Custom 404 PageCreating a custom 404 page can help you provide a user-friendly and informative experience for website visitors if they land on any non-existent page. On this page, you can guide the visitors about what to do next and apologize for the inconvenience.You can also include the correct links and navigate to the valuable content. Hence, adding a custom error 404 page is good as it can improve user experience and manage the website's branding.Also Check:How to create a custom 404 page?Consequences of 404 Error404 errors have a huge negative impact on your website rankings, which can reduce your website's traffic and performance. Some of the consequences of a 404 error page are:1) Bad user experienceIf your website has multiple 404 error pages, it will ruin the user experience of your website viewers. It creates confusion and frustration in users. This might also cause negative brand perception.2) Poor SEO404 errors can ruin your website's online ranking, and have a negative impact on the website's SEO. 404 pages increase the bounce rate and decrease crawl efficiency.3) Create noise in website analytics404 pages can create noise in website analytics, making it difficult to track user behavior and track website performance.4) Other consequences404 pages can harm e-commerce websites as 404 pages can cause economic loss and miss opportunities for marketing.How to find a 404 Error on your websiteTo find the 404 errors you can some tools that will crawl your website and find all broken pages. Some of the tools you can use to find broken links on your website are:Search ConsoleScreaming Frog SEO SpiderDeepCrawlAhrefsSo this was all about the 404 Error and the best possible ways to fix it quickly. We have also mentioned all the reasons that cause the error 404. Servers sometimes incorrectly return the 200 OK status codes rather than the 404.Don't worry because error 200 OK is called a soft 404 error as it indicates the webpage is not found due to misconfigured files or missing pages in the server. Hence, you can use the above methods to resolve the error as the web server owner.Check other HTTP Status Errors:500 internal server error503 service unavailable error403 forbidden error Resource Not Found Exception: A Brief Overview The resource not found exception (also known as 404 error) is one of the most common errors that web developers encounter. It occurs when a user tries to access a resource that does not exist on the server. This can happen for a variety of reasons, such as a typo in the URL, a misconfigured web server, or a deleted file. In this article, we will discuss the resource not found exception in more detail. We will cover the causes of this error, how to troubleshoot it, and how to prevent it from happening in the future. We will also provide some tips on how to handle resource not found errors gracefully, so that your users don't have a negative experience when they encounter them. Header 1 Header 2 Header 3 Data 1 Data 2 Data 3 Data 4 Data 5 Data 6 What is a Resource Not Found Exception? A resource not found exception (also known as a 404 error) is an HTTP status code that indicates that the requested resource cannot be found. This can happen for a variety of reasons, such as: The resource was deleted. The resource was moved to a new location. The resource is temporarily unavailable. The resource is not accessible due to security restrictions. When a resource not found exception occurs, the browser will typically display an error message to the user. The message will typically include the following information: The HTTP status code (404). The URL of the resource that was requested. A brief explanation of the error. What causes a Resource Not Found Exception? There are a number of things that can cause a resource not found exception. Some of the most common causes include: The resource was deleted. If a resource is deleted from the server, it will no longer be accessible and will generate a 404 error when it is requested. The resource was moved to a new location. If a resource is moved to a new location on the server, the old URL will no longer work and will generate a 404 error. The resource is temporarily unavailable. If a resource is temporarily unavailable, such as for maintenance, it will generate a 404 error. The resource is not accessible due to security restrictions. If a resource is not accessible due to security restrictions, such as a password protected page, it will generate a 404 error. A resource not found exception is a common error that can occur for a variety of reasons. While it can be frustrating for users, it is important to understand what causes the error and how to fix it. By following the tips in this article, you can help to prevent resource not found exceptions from occurring on your website. Here are some additional resources that you may find helpful: [HTTP Status Codes]([How to Fix 404 Errors]([Preventing 404 Errors](How to fix a Resource Not Found Exception? A Resource Not Found Exception (also known as a 404 error) occurs when a web browser cannot find the resource (such as a file, page, or script) that it is looking for. This can happen for a variety of reasons, such as: The resource has been deleted. The resource has been moved to a new location. The resource is temporarily unavailable. The resource is not accessible from the current domain. If you are seeing a Resource Not Found Exception, there are a few things you can do to try to fix it. 1. Check the URL. The first thing you should do is check the URL that you are trying to access. Make sure that you have typed it correctly, and that you are not missing any characters. If you are still getting a 404 error, try using a different browser or device. 2. Check the server logs. If you are the owner of the website, you can check the server logs to see if there are any errors that are causing the 404 exception. The server logs will show you the exact request that was made, and the status code that was returned. This information can help you to identify the problem and fix it. 3. Use a search engine. If you are not sure where the resource is located, you can try using a search engine to find it. Just type the name of the resource into the search bar, and see if it comes up in the results. If it does, you can click on the link to access the resource. 4. Contact the website owner. If you have tried all of the above steps and you are still getting a 404 error, you can contact the website owner and let them know about the problem. They may be able to fix the issue or provide you with a direct link to the resource. Preventing Resource Not Found Exceptions There are a few things you can do to help prevent Resource Not Found Exceptions from happening. 1. Use descriptive URLs. When you are creating URLs for your website, make sure to use descriptive names that will make it easy for people to find the resources they are looking for. For example, instead of using a URL like `/file.html`, you could use a URL like `/products/product-name.html`. This will make it easier for people to find the resource they are looking for, and it will also help to prevent 404 errors. 2. Use 301 redirects. If you are moving a resource to a new location, you should use a 301 redirect to send people to the new location. This will help to prevent people from getting a 404 error when they try to access the resource from the old location. 3. Keep your website up-to-date. Make sure to keep your website up-to-date with the latest content. This will help to prevent people from trying to access resources that no longer exist. 4. Use a content management system. A content management system (CMS) can help you to manage your website content more effectively. A CMS can help you to create, edit, and publish content, and it can also help you to track changes to your website. This can help to prevent 404 errors by making it easier for you to keep track of your website content. Resource Not Found Exceptions can be a frustrating problem, but there are a few things you can do to fix them. By following the tips in this article, you can help to prevent Resource Not Found Exceptions from happening, and you can also make it easier for people to find the resources they are looking for. Q: What is a Resource Not Found Exception? A: A Resource Not Found Exception (also known as a 404 error) occurs when a web browser cannot find the resource (such as a file or page) that it is looking for. This can happen for a variety of reasons, such as: The resource was deleted or moved. The resource is temporarily unavailable. The resource is not publicly accessible. Q: What are the symptoms of a Resource Not Found Exception? A: When a user encounters a Resource Not Found Exception, they will typically see an error message in their web browser. The message may vary depending on the browser and the specific error, but it will typically include the following information: The status code of the error (404). The URL of the resource that was not found. A brief description of the error. Q: How can I fix a Resource Not Found Exception? A: There are a few things you can do to try to fix a Resource Not Found Exception: Check the URL of the resource that you are trying to access. Make sure that you are typing it correctly and that it is pointing to a valid resource. Try refreshing the page. Sometimes, a Resource Not Found Exception can be caused by a temporary problem with the server. Refreshing the page can sometimes fix the problem. Contact the website administrator. If you are unable to fix the problem yourself, you can contact the website administrator and ask them to help you. Q: What are the security implications of a Resource Not Found Exception? A: A Resource Not Found Exception can potentially have security implications, as it can allow an attacker to access sensitive information or resources. For example, if a web server is configured to return a 404 error for all requests to a specific directory, an attacker could use this to enumerate the contents of the directory by sending a series of requests to different files in the directory. It is important to take steps to protect your website from Resource Not Found Exceptions, such as: Ensuring that your website is properly configured to return the correct error codes for different types of errors. Using a web application firewall to block malicious requests. Implementing security best practices, such as input validation and output encoding. Q: How can I prevent Resource Not Found Exceptions in the future? A: There are a few things you can do to prevent Resource Not Found Exceptions in the future: Use a version control system to track changes to your code. This will help you to identify and fix any errors that could cause Resource Not Found Exceptions. Write unit tests to verify that your code is working correctly. Unit tests can help you to catch errors early on, before they cause problems in production. Use a code linter to identify potential errors in your code. Code linters can help you to find errors that could cause Resource Not Found Exceptions, such as typos and incorrect syntax. By following these tips, you can help to prevent Resource Not Found Exceptions and keep your website secure. In this article, we discussed the ResourceNotFoundException in Java. We first introduced the concept of a resource and then explained what a resource not found exception is. We then provided several examples of how this exception can occur and how to troubleshoot it. Finally, we offered some tips for preventing resource not found exceptions in your code. We hope that this article has been helpful in understanding the ResourceNotFoundException in Java. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us. Key Takeaways A resource is a piece of data or code that is used by a program. A resource not found exception occurs when a program cannot find a resource that it needs. This exception can occur for a variety of reasons, such as: The resource does not exist. The resource is not accessible. The resource is not in the correct format. To troubleshoot a resource not found exception, you can: Check the location of the resource. Check the permissions of the resource. Check the format of the resource. To prevent resource not found exceptions, you can: Use a consistent naming convention for your resources. Store your resources in a central location. Use version control for your resources. Apr 19, 2018 Sorry for my english. I'm a newbie to LitespeedWebserver. I have just installed my fresh wordpress website on LSWS. Homepage display very well. But when I navigate to another links in this my webiste, LSWS display error: "404 page not found". I realize that in Wordpress Dashboard 'Permalink' settings, if I choose 'Plain' setting, LSWS work fine. But if I choose an another, error will occur. Thanks in advance for helping me. Apr 19, 2018 Thanks for reply. Yeah, .htaccess file exist in my 'html' folder. This is .htaccess content: # BEGIN WordPress RewriteEngine On RewriteBase / RewriteRule ^index\.php$ - [L] RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d RewriteRule . /index.php [L] # END WordPress Last edited by a moderator: Apr 19, 2018 Apr 19, 2018 Hello again, So first check the log files for more information. In the htaccess i can see "RewriteRule ^/index\.php$ - [L]". The default line is "RewriteRule ^index\.php$ - [L]". Apr 19, 2018 Hello again, So first check the log files for more information. In the htaccess i can see "RewriteRule ^/index\.php$ - [L]". The default line is "RewriteRule ^index\.php$ - [L]". Thanks. I have edited .htaccess, but nothing changed. # BEGIN WordPress RewriteEngine On RewriteBase / RewriteRule ^index\.php$ - [L] RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d RewriteRule . /index.php [L] # END WordPress Apr 19, 2018 is virtual host from apache's httpd.conf or created in litespeed web admin(i.e.,native virtual host) ? if it's latter one, please show web admin->virtual hosts-> General-> HT Access Apr 19, 2018 is virtual host from apache's httpd.conf or created in litespeed web admin(i.e.,native virtual host) ? if it's latter one, please show web admin->virtual hosts-> General-> HT Access Thanks for reply. HT Access is default settings: Allow Override: None Access File Name: It seem I haven't configured correctly. How do I do that? Mar 12, 2020 I have a similar issue but my server is OpenLiteSpeed. If I put the permanent settings to Plan, it works with subpages. Other than that, nothing else works. Please kindly advice Sep 4, 2023 I solved this problem by changing public_html permission settings to 750. I checked my old hosting, it was 750. I don't know how come it changed to restrictred mod. Error 404 is an HTTP status code indicating that the server can't find a web page. Usually, this happens when the URL is incorrect or the page has been deleted or moved. For website owners, having frequent 404 errors can disengage visitors, leading to a poor user experience. Additionally, these issues can negatively impact your site's search engine optimization (SEO) by affecting crawling and indexing. This article will explain the main causes behind the 404 error not found message. We'll also offer simple methods to fix the problem and show you how to check if your website has any 404 errors. Download comprehensive HTTP status codes cheat sheet A 404 error code typically occurs when the web server can't find the requested page. Here are the most common reasons why it happens: Mistyped URL. Simple spelling mistakes in the URL prevent the server from finding the intended page. Moved or deleted page. When a website owner deletes or moves a page without setting up a proper redirect, visitors will encounter a 404 error. DNS issues. If the domain name isn't correctly pointed to the server, the system will fail to locate the requested resource. Broken or dead links. Whether internal or external, linked content that points to a non-existent page can trigger a 404 error. File permissions. Incorrect file permissions can block access to specific web pages, resulting in an error. Corrupted .htaccess file. A misconfigured or corrupted .htaccess file can also cause 404 errors. From restarting the web browser to restoring backup files, this section will explain how to fix 404 error messages. Note that the first method is for end-users, while the other steps are for website owners and administrators. Sometimes, it only takes a quick fix to solve error 404. For visitors, we suggest trying these simple troubleshooting steps to identify whether the issue lies with your browser or device: Restart browser. Close and reopen the browser to reload the page, as this can refresh the connection and resolve the problem. Clear cache and cookies. Clear your browser cache, cookies, and history to ensure outdated or corrupted data isn't causing the error page to appear. Check for typos. Double-check the URL for spelling mistakes or missing characters that could prevent the server from locating the specific page. Use another device. Access the website from a different device – maybe the 404 page not found error affects only one device or session. Switch to incognito. Use an incognito or private browsing window, which doesn't store cache or cookies, to see if a fresh session resolves the issue. If the issue persists, inform the website owner or someone responsible for the site you're trying to visit. Look for contact information on the site's Contact Us page or footer area and let them know about the issue. If you host your WordPress site on Hostinger, try our AI Troubleshooter to detect and resolve 404 errors automatically. This tool identifies the root cause and provides tailored solutions to fix the issue. Here's how to use Hostinger's AI Troubleshooter: Log in to hPanel and navigate to Websites → Dashboard. In your dashboard's left sidebar, go to WordPress → AI Troubleshooter. The tool will automatically scan your website for errors. If it detects a 404 error, AI Troubleshooter will provide details on when the error occurred and check the server, error logs, and website files. Once the scan is complete, the tool will suggest actions to take. You can apply the fixes yourself or let the tool resolve the problem by clicking the Fix my website button. After that, check your website to confirm the issue has been resolved. If the problem persists, hit Try another solution for alternative fixes. When your domain isn't correctly pointed to the hosting server, it can result in a 404 response code. DNS settings control how your domain connects to the server, and even a minor misconfiguration can cause the requested domain name to be inaccessible. To resolve this issue, verify that the DNS configurations are correct. If your domain and hosting are with Hostinger, the domain will automatically point to the correct hosting server. However, if you own a hosting plan from Hostinger but use a domain from another provider, follow these steps: Go to hPanel → Websites → Dashboard → Hosting Plan → Plan Details. In the Website Details section, you'll find your hosting account's IP address. Similarly, check the Nameservers section to write down the correct nameservers. Open your domain provider's control panel and update the DNS settings with the correct information to resolve the error. Once done, wait for the DNS to propagate, which can take up to 24 hours. Periodically check the status using online tools like DNS Checker, DNSMap, or whatsmydns.net. File and folder permissions control who can access, edit, or run the data on your hosting account. When these settings are incorrect, the server may block access to certain pages, leading to error 404. For Hostinger customers, here are the steps to reset file permissions in hPanel: Go to Websites → Dashboard → Advanced → Fix File Ownership. Check the box to confirm that you want to reset the file permissions to default. Hit Execute. Important! Hostinger's default permissions are set to 644 for files, meaning the owner can read and write, while others can only read. For folders, it's 755, which allows the owner to read, write, and execute and others to only read and execute. If you want more control over file or folder permissions, you can set them manually in the file manager. Here's how: Access your hosting provider's file manager and open the public_html directory where your website files are stored. Right-click the file or folder and select Permissions or a similar option. Adjust permissions accordingly by ticking the appropriate boxes. Once done, save your changes. A corrupted or misconfigured .htaccess file can cause a 404 error, so consider disabling it and recreating a new one to resolve the issue. .htaccess manages URL redirections, access control, and various website functionalities. When this file breaks, it can lead to page not found issues. Follow these instructions to disable and recreate the .htaccess file: Navigate to the public_html directory via your hosting's file manager. Right-click the .htaccess file and choose Rename. Give it a new name to disable it, such as .htaccess_old, then save the changes. Click New File and name it .htaccess. Copy and paste the code below into the new file: RewriteEngine On RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d RewriteRule . /index.html [L] For WordPress sites, use the following code snippets instead: # BEGIN WordPress RewriteEngine On RewriteBase / RewriteRule ^index.php$ - [L] RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d RewriteRule . /index.php [L] # END WordPress Once done, hit the Save button. If some of your website pages have been deleted or corrupted, restoring a backup can help recover lost content and resolve 404 errors. This method is beneficial when external links redirect visitors to missing pages. Note that the exact steps depend on how you previously backed up your site. Here's how to do it in Hostinger's hPanel: Go to Websites → Dashboard and choose Files → Backups. To fully restore the website, click Select under the Restore website option. Choose your preferred backup date from the available options and hit Restore. Alternatively, if you want to restore specific files or folders, choose File Backups instead. Select a backup date and click Next Step. Select the files or folders you want to restore. You can choose multiple items by checking the boxes next to each one. Once selected, click Restore files. It's important to regularly check for 404 errors to keep your website running smoothly and avoid frustrating visitors. Below are several methods to help identify and address these issues properly. Google Search Console Google Search Console (GSC) offers valuable features to monitor and maintain your website's health. You can go to Indexing → Pages and select Not found (404) under the Why pages aren't indexed section to see a list of pages that trigger 404 errors. Alternatively, enter the URL you want to check into the search bar at the top. The tool will show whether the URL is indexed or returns a 404 error. After fixing the issue on your website, you can ask Google to reindex the page. Link checker tools Tools like Screaming Frog and Ahrefs' Broken Link Checker are excellent for finding 404 errors. These tools scan your domain to detect errors or broken pages, so you can correct them before they affect user experience or search engine performance. Manual checks While automated tools are helpful, manual checks provide a more hands-on approach. Regularly review your website's internal links to ensure they direct users to the correct pages. Additionally, consider user-reported errors, as visitors may uncover 404 errors that automated scans missed or find pages that these tools haven't indexed. Addressing error 404 is necessary to preserve your website's SEO performance. Here's why fixing this issue matters: User experience 404 errors can discourage visitors, leading to higher bounce rates and reduced engagement. Users will likely leave your website and seek information elsewhere when they encounter broken pages. This signals search engines that your website doesn't provide a good user experience. Crawling and indexing Search engines like Google rely on crawling to discover and index content on your website. Frequent website 404 error messages can interfere with the process. As a result, your pages may be left out of search engine results pages (SERPs) or even lead to potential penalties, impacting your site's visibility. Lnk equity Broken links cause link equity loss, affecting your site's SEO. Backlinks from other websites that lead to 404 error pages lose their SEO value. Over time, this can diminish your site's authority and reduce its ranking potential in search results. Addressing 404 errors is crucial for maintaining a positive user experience and ensuring good SEO health on your website. When users encounter broken links, they may leave your website, leading to increased bounce rates and decreased search engine rankings. Conducting regular website audits helps identify and fix issues before they affect your visitors. You can use tools like Google Search Console to monitor 404 errors and other potential problems, enabling you to resolve them quickly. By prioritizing these actions, you enhance your website's usability and search visibility, ultimately contributing to a more successful online presence. Error 404, also known as 404 not found, is an HTTP status code that appears when the server can't find the requested resource. This typically happens when a user attempts to access a page that has been deleted, moved, or never existed. To prevent 404 errors, periodically audit your website for broken links, ensure all URLs are correctly configured, and use 301 redirects for any moved pages. Additionally, tools like Google Search Console let you proactively monitor and address potential issues. Yes, we recommend customizing your 404 pages. A well-designed custom error 404 page can guide users to relevant content, enhancing their experience. Add a search bar, helpful links, or a friendly message to engage visitors. All of the tutorial content on this website is subject to Hostinger's rigorous editorial standards and values. The 404 Not Found Error is an HTTP response status code, which indicates that the requested resource could not be found. Like most HTTP response codes, the cause of a 404 Not Found Error can be challenging to track down and resolve. This article will explore the 404 Not Found Error by examining what might cause this error. Later on, we'll provide a few tips to diagnose and debug your application's 404 error. With that, let's get started! Server- or Client-Side? All HTTP response status codes in the 4xx category are client error responses. These types of messages contrast with errors in the 5xx category, such as the 502 Bad Gateway Error, which are server error responses. That said, the appearance of a HTTP 404 error doesn't always mean the issue is client-related (web browser or device used to access the application). Sometimes, the root of the problem is server-side. Remember, the server is still the network object producing the 404 Not Found Error. We'll explore some of the scenarios (and potential solutions) where the error results from the server and/or client issues in the following sections. Start With a Thorough Application Backup Make a backup of your application, database, etc. before trying to fix or change the system. Even better, if you have the capability, create a complete copy of the application onto a secondary staging server that isn't available to the public. This will give you a clean testing ground to test all potential fixes without threatening your live application. After you've done that, it's time to start diagnosing and fixing your 404 error. Diagnosing a 404 Not Found Error A HTTP 404 error happens when a resource is unavailable. The client (web browser) received a message from the server (remote computer) that the specific resource (web page/URL) is unavailable. Here are a few scenarios where this could happen: The client sent a proper request to the server, and the server successfully received that request, and the server could not find a valid resource at that particular location. This is typically due to an invalid URL specified by the client. This represents the majority of 404 Not Found Errors. Some web applications "fake" 404 Not Found Errors when requesting an invalid resource. The server returns a standard 200 OK response code, which means the resource loaded as expected, however, the server displayed a custom "404 page." Such fake errors are typically referred to as soft 404 errors. The provided URL could have been valid in the past, but the server has failed to provide a server-side redirect. Troubleshooting on the Client-Side The best way to start troubleshooting a 404 Not Found Error is to look for potential issues on the client side. Here are a few tips to try on the browser or device that's giving you problems. Check the Requested URL The most common cause of a 404 Not Found Error is inputting an incorrect URL. Domain names (e.g., airbrake.io) are case-insensitive, meaning that this mixed case link to AirBrAKe.IO works just as well as the standard, lowercase version of airbrake.io. However, path, query, or fragment portions that appear after the domain name are often case-sensitive unless the application/server configuration pre-processes all URLs as lowercase before execution. For example, while airbrake.io can be upper, lower, or mixed case, a link to airbrake.io/ERROR-MONITORING/ (with BLOG in uppercase) is invalid, resulting in our good friend the 404 Not Found Error. Of course, the lowercase version to works just fine, as expected. As you can see, a minor typo in part of the URL can easily result in an unexpected 404 Not Found Error. Clear Relevant Cookies As you may already be aware, HTTP cookies are tiny pieces of data stored on your local device. Websites and applications use these cookies to "remember" information about this particular browser and/or device. Most modern web apps take advantage of cookies to store user and browser-specific data. By doing so, the app can identify the client and allow future visits to be faster and easier. However, cookies can store just about any information. In many cases, web applications or services -- such as ad networks -- will use data retrieved from local cookies to redirect or handle incoming requests. An invalid or corrupted cookie can "confuse" the server as you try to access a resource that no longer exists. . In most cases, you only need to concern yourself with cookies relevant to the website or application causing the problem. Cookies are stored based on the web application's domain name, so you can explicitly remove only those cookies that match the website domain (e.g., airbrake.io). However, if you are unfamiliar with manually removing certain cookies, it's much easier and safer to clear all cookies at once. Clearing cookies can be accomplished in different ways, depending on the browser you're using: Google Chrome Internet Explorer Microsoft Edge Mozilla Firefox Safari Log Out and Log In If your application has some form of user authentication, the last client-side step to try is to log out and then log back in. If you've recently cleared the browser cookies, this should usually log you out automatically the next time you try to load the page. The application may have a problem with your previous session in some situations. As with other data, the session token (or session string) is stored locally on your device in the cookies and is transferred by the client to the server during every request. If the server doesn't recognize the session token sent by the client or something has gone wrong with the server that indicates that particular token is invalid, you may get a 404 error. For most web applications, logging out and logging back in will force the local session token to be recreated. Debugging Common Platforms If you're running common software packages on the server that is responding with the 404 Not Found Error, you may want to start by looking into the stability and functionality of those platforms first. The most common content management systems -- like WordPress, Joomla!, and Drupal -- are all typically well-tested out of the box. Still, once you start modifying the underlying extensions or PHP code, it's easy to cause an unforeseen issue that results in a HTTP 404 error. Here are a few tips to help you troubleshoot some of these popular software platforms: Rollback Recent Upgrades If you recently updated the content management system itself before the 404 Not Found Error appeared, consider rolling back to the previous version you had installed when things were working fine. Similarly, any extensions or modules you may have recently upgraded can cause server-side issues, so reverting to previous versions of those may also help. For assistance with this task, simply Google "downgrade [PLATFORM_NAME]" and follow along. In some cases, however, certain CMSs don't provide a version downgrade capability. This is typically the case for the more popular platforms. Uninstall New Extensions, Modules, or Plugins The purpose of new extensions, modules, or plugins (they all mean the same thing) is to improve the capabilities and features of the platform beyond what it's capable of out of the box. Keep in mind that some extensions can take complete control of the system. Once they do, they can make virtually any changes to the PHP code, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, or database. As such, it may be wise to uninstall any recently added extensions if you're experiencing a 404 error. Check for Unexpected Database Changes If you uninstall an extension, it may not completely remove all changes made by the extension. This is particularly true for many WordPress extensions, which are given carte blanche within the application. This can include full access rights to the database. These extensions can modify database records that don't "belong" to the extension itself but are created and managed by other extensions (or even the base CMS itself). In those scenarios, the extension may not know how to revert alterations to database records, so it will ignore such things when uninstalled. If you're convinced an extension is the likely culprit for the 404 Not Found Error, open the database and manually look through tables and records that were likely modified by the extension. Troubleshooting on the Server-Side If you aren't running a CMS application, here are some additional tips to help you troubleshoot your server. Check Your Web Server Configuration Most modern web servers provide one or more configuration files that allow you to adjust server behavior based on various circumstances easily. For example, the server may be configured to reject requests to specific directories or URLs, resulting in a 404 Not Found Error. Configuration options for each different type of web server can vary dramatically. We'll list a few popular web servers you can look through: Apache Nginx IIS Node.js Apache Tomcat Look Through the Logs Nearly every web application will keep some form of server-side logs. Application logs are typically the history of what the application did, including requested pages, connected servers, database results, etc.   Server logs are related to the actual hardware running the application. These logs will often provide details about the health and status of all connected services or the server itself. Google "logs [PLATFORM_NAME]" if you're using a CMS, or "logs [PROGRAMMING_LANGUAGE]" and "logs [OPERATING_SYSTEM]" to get more information on finding the logs in question. Validate Application Links There are several tools you can use to ensure your application is not producing any 404 Not Found Errors. For starters, you should register your site with the Google Search Console (if you haven't done so already). This tool gives you insight into what Google's web crawler bots have found while traversing your site. Any issues will be displayed here for all your registered applications and can be an easy (and automatic) way to find invalid links or other site problems. Need to check a particular resource or URL? Use the W3C Link Checker tool to check links for 404 errors. Debug Your Application Code or Scripts If all else fails, it may be that a problem in some custom code within your application is causing the issue. Try to diagnose where the issue may come from by manually debugging your application and parsing through application and server logs. Ideally, make a copy of the entire application to a local development machine and perform a step-by-step debug process. This will allow you to recreate and view when and how the 404 error occurred. When you're navigating the web and suddenly hit a dead end with the message "HTTP Error 404 – The Requested Resource Is Not Found," it's more than just a minor problem; it's a sign that the web's intricate map has a missing piece. This error occurs when the server can't find the specific resource (like a web page, image, or file) that was requested. Essentially, it's the internet's way of telling you that the address you punched in or clicked on points to a ghost town. Understanding why a 404 error pops up is crucial to diagnosing and fixing the problem, whether you're a website owner, developer, or just a curious user. The root of the issue can lie in various places: the URL might have been typed incorrectly, the page could have been moved or deleted, or there might be a problem with the server where the resource is supposed to live. To get to the bottom of a 404 error, one needs to grasp how web addresses work and how websites are structured and hosted. Variations of the issue The 404 error can manifest in several ways, depending on the website, browser, or device you're using. Here are some common variations you might encounter: HTTP 404 Not Found 404 Error Error 404 The page cannot be found The requested URL was not found on this server HTTP 404 Not Found 404 Page Not Found Error 404 Not Found 404 File or Directory Not Found Webpage cannot be found Each of these messages essentially means the same thing: the resource you're looking for can't be found. However, the wording might vary slightly from one website or server to another. Reasons why this error occurs Several reasons can lead to a 404 error, each with its own set of intricacies: Incorrect URL: The most common cause is simply that the URL (the web address) was typed incorrectly. A missing letter, a misplaced dash, or any small typo can send you to a 404 page. Moved or deleted content: If a website undergoes a redesign or updates its content, pages might be moved to new locations or removed altogether. Without proper redirection, this leads to 404 errors. Broken links: Sometimes, links on websites point to pages that have been moved or deleted. Clicking these links will result in a 404 error. Domain name issues: If the domain name isn't correctly pointing to the website's server or if there's a problem with the DNS settings, it can cause a 404 error. Server problems: On rare occasions, server issues can also lead to a 404 error. If the server is configured improperly or is unable to handle requests correctly, it might fail to serve the requested page even if it exists. Achieve peace of mind with 99.99% uptime on 10Web Managed WordPress Hosting, powered by Google Cloud. Fixing the HTTP Error 404 The Requested Resource Is Not Found in XAMPP Having familiarized yourself with this XAMPP error, let's take a look at some ways to resolve it. Check the URL The most common and easily overlooked cause of a 404 error is simply mistyping the URL. A single misplaced character, unnecessary subdirectory, or misspelled word in your URL can lead to this error. Since XAMPP serves your projects locally, ensuring the URL matches your directory structure exactly is crucial. Make sure you've entered the correct address in your browser. Compare the URL to your project's directory structure in XAMPP's `htdocs` folder. The URL should correspond to the folder and file names exactly. Do not include "XAMPP" or other unrelated terms in your URL. If your project is located in `C:\xampp\htdocs\myproject\index.php`, the correct URL would typically be ` . On some systems, URLs are case-sensitive. Ensure that the case of the letters in your URL matches that of the actual files and folders. If after this step, you're still staring down a 404 error, it's time to dive a bit deeper into potential causes and their solutions. Analyze your .htaccess file The `.htaccess` file plays a crucial role in how Apache serves files from its root directory. Among other things, it can rewrite URLs, redirect requests, and control access. The `.htaccess` file directs the server on how to handle certain types of requests. For WordPress, it ensures that the URL structure is correctly interpreted, directing all requests through `index.php` unless the requested file or directory exists. This process is vital for the server to serve the correct content and not return a 404 error for dynamically generated URLs. This file should be in the `htdocs` folder where your project is stored. If you're using WordPress, it's essential for handling permalinks and redirects. If the file is not present, creating one may resolve your 404 error. The content of the `.htaccess` file can vary based on your site's needs but starting with the default WordPress structure is a good baseline. Finding or creating the .htaccess file Navigate to the XAMPP root directory, then to `htdocs`, and locate your project folder. If you're on macOS, go through Applications > XAMPP > xamppfiles > htdocs. Look for the `.htaccess` file. If it's not there, you'll need to create one. Creating a new .htaccess file (if needed) Open a text editor of your choice. Copy the provided code block into the new file. This is a standard setup for WordPress but adjust according to your specific requirements: # BEGIN WordPress RewriteEngine On RewriteRule .* - [E=HTTP_AUTHORIZATION:%{HTTP:Authorization}] RewriteBase / RewriteRule ^index\.php$ - [L] RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-f RewriteCond %{REQUEST_FILENAME} !-d RewriteRule . /index.php [L] # END WordPress Save the file as `.htaccess` in the root directory of your project within `htdocs`. Replace an existing .htaccess file (if applicable) If you suspect the existing `.htaccess` file might be corrupted or improperly configured, replace it with a new one following the steps above. Sometimes, a fresh start is all it takes. Deactivate and remove recently added plugins. Plugins extend the functionality of your website, but they can also be the source of unexpected issues, including the dreaded 404 error. This can happen if a plugin modifies your site's .htaccess file, interferes with permalink settings, or makes other changes that disrupt the normal functioning of your site. Identifying and removing the problematic plugin can quickly resolve these issues. Deactivating and uninstalling plugins can reverse changes they've made to your site's configuration, including any unintended alterations to the .htaccess file or database entries that might be causing the 404 error. How to deactivate plugins via the WordPress dashboard Log in to your WordPress admin dashboard. Navigate to Plugins > Installed Plugins from the menu on the left. Find the plugin you suspect might be causing the issue. Click on the "Deactivate" link located under the name of the plugin. To perform a bulk deactivation: In the Plugins page click the checkbox next to Plugin to select all plugins. Click on the bulk actions dropdown menu and choose Deactivate. After deactivating, check your site to see if the 404 error persists. If it's resolved, you've found the problematic plugin. Uninstalling plugins After deactivating the plugin, a "Delete" link will appear below the plugin's name. Click this link to completely remove the plugin from your site. Confirm the deletion. WordPress will then remove the plugin files from your site. Deactivate plugins via

FTP If you’re unable to access your WordPress admin dashboard, or if you prefer a quicker method to deactivate all plugins at once, you can do so by renaming the plugins folder. Access your site’s files through an FTP client or your hosting file manager. Navigate to the `wp-content` folder. Rename the `plugins` folder to something like `plugins_old`. This will deactivate all plugins at once. Try accessing your site again. If the error is resolved, one of the plugins was the cause. You can then rename the folder back to `plugins` and activate each plugin one by one in the dashboard to identify the problematic one. By methodically testing each plugin, you ensure that you’re not accidentally removing or disabling a plugin that’s vital to your site’s functionality. Check for changes in your database Plugins not only interact with your site’s files but can also make significant modifications to your database. These changes might persist even after a plugin is uninstalled, potentially leading to issues like the 404 error. Checking your database allows you to identify and rectify these remnants, ensuring your site’s smooth operation. Accessing your database via phpMyAdmin Access your database via phpMyAdmin. This tool provides a user-friendly interface for managing your MySQL databases. It’s an essential step for reviewing your database’s structure and content without needing to use command-line SQL queries. Review and modify database tables. Specifically, look for tables added by plugins or changes within key tables like `wp_options`, which could be causing issues. Go to the phpMyAdmin dashboard. Enter your credentials to log in. Click on the “Databases” tab at the top of the phpMyAdmin screen. Find and click on your WordPress site’s database from the list. The default WordPress tables should appear, such as `wp_posts`, `wp_options`, etc. Carefully go through the list of tables. Look for any that do not match the standard WordPress table structure or seem to be related to the plugin you uninstalled. To remove an unnecessary table, click on the “Drop” link next to it. Confirm the action when prompted. Be cautious with this step to avoid deleting vital data. Inspecting the wp_options table Within your WordPress database, click on the `wp_options` table. Review the entries for any remnants of the problematic plugin. This might include settings or other data left behind. If you’re not sure about what to look for, setting up a new WordPress installation and comparing its clean database structure to your current one can help identify discrepancies. Verify your Apache settings Apache serves as the backbone for serving your web content. A misconfiguration, especially related to the ports it uses, can lead to your PHP files not being accessible. Port conflicts are a common issue, particularly on machines where multiple applications might be listening on the default ports. Changing the listening port in Apache’s configuration files resolves conflicts with other applications that may be using the default ports. This ensures that Apache has a clear, unobstructed path to serve your web content, thereby resolving access issues like the 404 error when trying to open PHP files. Identifying a free port Open the XAMPP control panel. Click on the “Netstat” button to display a list of ports currently in use. Look for port 80 (the default for HTTP) and 443 (the default for HTTPS). If either is in use and causing conflicts, choose an alternative, such as 8080 for HTTP or 8443 for HTTPS. Modifying the httpd.conf file Locate the `httpd.conf` file. In Windows, it’s typically found at `C:\xampp\apache\conf\httpd.conf`. On macOS, use Finder’s Go to Folder and type `/etc/apache2` to locate Apache’s configuration directory. Open the `httpd.conf` file in a text editor. Find the line that reads `Listen 80` and change 80 to your chosen port number (e.g., 8080). Similarly, update the `ServerName` directive from `localhost:80` to `localhost:8080` (or your chosen port). Save and close the file. Editing the `httpd-ssl.conf` file for HTTPS If you’re working with HTTPS, locate the `httpd-ssl.conf` file, often found in `C:\xampp\apache\conf\extra` or `/etc/apache2` on macOS. Open it with your text editor. Change the `Listen 443`, ``, and `ServerName localhost:443` lines to reflect your new port choice, like 8443. Save the changes. After making the necessary changes, go back to the XAMPP control panel. Stop and then restart the Apache service to apply the changes. Try accessing `localhost:8080` (or whichever new port you chose) in your web browser to test the configuration. Conclusion Addressing the HTTP Error 404: The Requested Resource Is Not Found in XAMPP involves a efficient approach, starting with simple checks like verifying the URL and advancing to more complex solutions such as examining the .htaccess file, deactivating and uninstalling problematic plugins, inspecting database changes, and adjusting Apache’s configuration to resolve port conflicts. Each step offers a pathway to identifying and fixing the root causes of the issue, ensuring your local development environment runs smoothly. By tackling the problem systematically, you can restore access to your web content and continue your development work with minimal disruption. Achieve peace of mind with 99.99% uptime on 10Web Managed WordPress Hosting, powered by Google Cloud. When a server receives a request from a client application, like a browser or API, it returns an HTTP status code to signal the outcome. A 200 OK response confirms the request was successful. Codes in the 4xx range, however, indicate that there is a problem with the client's request, and the server is unable to process it. 404 Not Found is one of the most common examples of a client-side error. Find out what the 404 error means, its causes, and how to fix it, whether you are visiting a website or managing one. 404 Not Found is an HTTP status code that indicates the server was unable to find the requested page, file, or API endpoint at the specified URL path. This error usually means that the resource has been deleted or moved without a redirect, or that the client attempted to access an incorrect or outdated URL. The appearance of the 404 error depends on how the server is configured and how the browser renders the server's response. Below are some of the most common examples. Generic Browser Message When a server returns a 404 status, most browsers, like Chrome, Firefox, and Edge, generate and display a stylized default message with the following or similar wording: 404. That's an error. The requested URL was not found on this server. That's all we know. This type of message is shown if the server has not been configured to display a customized 404 error page. Custom 404 Pages Modern websites often use the 404 response to display a custom error page. These pages are designed to retain visitors who land on outdated or broken links. They usually contain: A friendly message that explains what went wrong. Links back to active pages, such as the homepage. A search bar to help users find what they are looking for. Site branding and links to trending or popular content. Raw Server Message If no styling is applied and a custom error page is not configured, the browser may display a plain HTML message. This message is generated directly by the web server and contains only minimal information. For example: Not Found. The requested URL /404 was not found on this server. The lack of information on this page can negatively impact the user experience. API Error Responses When an API cannot locate a requested resource, it usually returns a 404 Not Found status code and a structured response. Here is an example of a structured JSON response: { "status": 404, "error": "Not Found", "message": "The requested resource was not found." } Some APIs also include contextual information, such as endpoint paths, IDs, or internal error codes, to help web developers troubleshoot the issue. There are two types of 404 errors: hard 404s and soft 404s. End users are largely unaffected, but soft 404 errors have significant implications for SEO and API behavior. A hard 404 error occurs when a server cannot locate the resource at the specified URL and correctly responds with a 404 Not Found status. A soft 404 error happens when the resource is missing, but the server is configured to respond with a 200 OK message instead. The user sees an error message or blank page, but the underlying status code indicates that the content was served. The table below shows the summary: Error TypeServer ResponseClient ExperienceSEO and API ImpactHard 404404 Not FoundThe resource is missing, and the server confirms its absence.Correctly handled by APIs and search engines. Signals that the content is no longer available and should be removed from indexing.Soft 404200 OKThe user sees an error message, but the server responds with a 200 success status code.Misleads APIs and search engine crawlers. It harms SEO and leads to ranking penalties. Some websites return soft 404s intentionally to preserve the SEO value of their deleted pages. Search engines like Google highly discourage this approach, which may flag, de-rank, or even exclude these pages from search results. The most common causes of the 404 error are listed in the sections below. Common client-side issues include: Incorrect URL. The URL points to a non-existent page, often due to a typo or copy-paste error. Cached URLs. An old URL that has since been removed from the website is still stored in the browser cache or bookmarks section. When the user tries to visit the page, the host server returns a 404 error. Broken link. A link from an external source, such as an email or social media post, is incorrect and points to a non-existent or deleted resource. Server-side issues that can lead to a 404 error are: Deleted content. The requested content is missing. No redirect. The page was moved, but a proper redirect was not set up. File permissions. The content is at the requested location, but the server cannot access the resource due to incorrect file or directory permissions. Incorrect CMS routing. The Content Management System (CMS) or application routing rules are not configured correctly and are failing to handle the requests properly. DNS propagation. If your website has recently changed hosting providers or updated DNS records, it can take up to 48 hours for the changes to propagate across global DNS servers. During this period, some users may be redirected to an outdated IP address and receive a 404 Not Found error. API and backend configuration issues can also cause error 404, for example: Invalid resource ID. The request is targeting an object or ID that does not exist. For example, the GET /users/Mike request will return a 404 error if the user Mike has been deleted. Incorrect endpoint. The request targets an endpoint with an incorrect URL path. A simple typo, such as targeting the /api/v1/payment-token endpoint instead of the valid /api/v2/payment-token version, will likely result in a failed request if v1 has been deprecated. Unsupported HTTP method. The correct endpoint is called, but it uses an unsupported HTTP method. For instance, using the GET method to update a server resource does not work, as this method is only used for read-only operations. If you encounter a 404 Not Found error while browsing, the page was likely moved or no longer exists. However, there are several steps you can take to check whether the error was triggered by a mistake on your end. Confirm that the URL is correct. Even small errors, such as duplicate forward slashes, typos, or missing file extensions, can prevent the server from locating the requested page. For example, entering the following URL results in a 404 error: Removing the extra character allows the server to serve the correct page: Always check URLs in emails, social media posts, or chat messages, as these may have been copied or formatted incorrectly. Websites frequently redesign their layout, restructure content, and move and rename pages. The page you are looking for may still exist, but has been moved to a different location. Use the website's navigation menu or a search tool, if one is available, to locate the relevant resource. Browsers and operating systems cache browsing data, such as URLs and IP addresses, to improve loading speeds and reduce the number of server requests. If a website has moved or deleted a page, your device may still be relying on outdated cached data, which can trigger a 404 Not Found Error. If the link is correct, try accessing the page from a different device to determine whether the issue is caused by local caching. If the website is accessible from a different device, the local cache is the likely cause of the 404 error. To fix this issue, clear the browser's cache. To clear the cache in Chrome: 1. While the browser is open, press Ctrl-Shift-Del. 2. Select the Basic tab. 3. Check the Cached images and files box. 4. Click Delete data and reload the website. To clear the cache in Firefox: 1. Open the browser and press Ctrl-Shift-Del. 2. Set the time range using the When dropdown. 3. Check the Temporary cached files and pages option. 4. Click Clear. Reload the website to confirm the 404 error is resolved. To clear the cache in Safari, press Cmd+Alt+E and reload the page. If the URL continues to return a 404 Not Found status even after attempting the previous steps, contact the website owner to inform them that the page is inaccessible. Look for a Contact Us section on the site and include the full URL of the page that returned the error. Website owners appreciate these reports, as fixing broken links improves SEO performance and leads to better user experiences. When a user reports a 404 Not Found error on your website, try visiting the same URL to confirm the issue. If you can reproduce the error, follow the steps in the sections below to identify and resolve the cause. Server access logs capture incoming HTTP requests and the server's responses. The log entries reveal response status codes, URLs, request methods, and the timestamps of the events. The location of the access logs depends on the system's operating system and web server. For example, on a Linux system running Apache or NGINX, the default paths are: Apache /var/log/apache2/access.log NGINX /var/log/nginx/access.log Note: The commands in this guide are presented using Ubuntu 24.04. To review access logs on an Apache server: 1. Connect to the server via SSH and open a terminal session. 2. Use the tail command to view the last 100 access log entries: sudo tail -n 100 /var/log/apache2/access.log 3. Utilize the grep command to search for entries that reference the 404 error: sudo grep " 404 " /var/log/apache2/access.log 4. If testing in real-time, enter the following command to review logs as requests come in: sudo tail -f /var/log/apache2/access.log Examples of Apache log entries contain the following information: 192.168.1.10 - - [11/Jun/2025:13:47:23 +0000] "GET /about-us HTTP/1.1" 404 487 "-" "Mozilla/5.0" 203.0.113.22 - - [11/Jun/2025:14:01:12 +0000] "GET /api/data.json HTTP/1.1" 404 234 "-" "curl/8.0" 5. Review the entry and check if: The status code confirms that a 404 error occurred. The URL does not contain typos, missing characters, or incorrect syntax. The correct request method was used (i.e., GET, POST). The timestamp correlates with error entries in other logs and systems. The access log helped you determine if a client-side issue, a missing resource, or a misconfigured path caused the 404 error. If the requested resource is not at the expected location, check if it exists on the server and that the correct path is configured. The steps to verify the file's location depend on whether the website uses a CMS or serves static files. A CMS like WordPress does not serve files directly from the server's file system. Instead, requests are routed through application logic and mapped to content in a database. A 404 error may occur due to deleted or unpublished pages, broken permalinks, or conflicts with plugins and themes. To check for routing issues in WordPress: 1. Access the WordPress Dashboard. 2. Click Posts (or Pages) and review the list of posts. It is possible that the resource was accidentally unpublished or moved to the Trash folder. 3. Open the affected post or page and click the Slug field. Confirm the URL slug matches the URL returning the 404 error. If there is a mismatch, adjust the slug to match the correct path. This is one of the most common reasons for the 404 error in CMS-driven websites. 4. Return to the Dashboard, then navigate to Settings and select Permalinks. 5. Click Save Changes without modifying any settings. This flushes the WordPress permalink structure and regenerates the .htaccess file rewrite rules. 6. Conflicting or corrupted plugins may override or interfere with default routing behavior. Go to Plugins and temporarily deactivate all plugins. Try to load the URL, which returns a 404 error. If the page loads successfully, enable one plugin at a time and test the URL after each activation to isolate the faulty plugin. Contact the plugin developer's support service to report the issue. 7. Custom or headless themes may affect default CMS routing. Go to Appearance and open the Themes menu. Temporarily switch to a default theme like Twenty Twenty. Reload the page to confirm that the URL is now accessible. Note: To ensure the server is not serving outdated data, clear the CMS cache using a caching plugin (i.e., W3 Total Cache or LiteSpeed Cache). Also, purge the Content Delivery Network (CDN) cache if your site uses one, such as Cloudflare. In a static website, files are served directly from the server's file system. For example, the default document root for Apache is: /var/www/html If the access log shows that a specific file returns a 404 error, like in this example: "GET /kb/uploads/linux-commands-cheat-sheet.pdf HTTP/1.1" 404 The corresponding file should exist at: /var/www/html/kb/uploads/linux-commands-cheat-sheet.pdf To confirm that the file is at the expected location: 1. Use the ls command to confirm the file's path: sudo ls -l /var/www/html/kb/uploads/linux-commands-cheat-sheet.pdf 2. Linux is case-sensitive, and requesting Linux-commands-cheat-sheet instead of linux-commands-cheat-sheet will result in a 404 error. Use a wildcard to help search for variations: sudo ls /var/www/html/kb/uploads/*cheat* 3. Confirm the file has the correct permissions with the chmod command: sudo chmod 644 /var/www/html/kb/uploads/linux-commands-cheat-sheet.pdf 4. Ensure that the parent directory is executable: sudo chmod 755 /var/www/kb/uploads/linux-commands-cheat-sheet.pdf If a page was removed or moved to a different location, you need to establish redirects to the new or replacement content to preserve its SEO value. There are three types of redirects: CodePurposeUse Case301Permanent redirect.The page has been permanently moved, and replacement content is available at a different URL.302Temporary redirect.The page is temporarily unavailable but will return soon.307A temporary redirect that preserves the API request method.The page has been temporarily moved. Unlike the 302 code, 307 guarantees that the original HTTP method and the request body are preserved during the redirection. One of the easiest and most common ways to manage redirects in WordPress is by using the free Redirection plugin. To install the plugin and configure redirects in WordPress: 1. Log in to the WordPress Dashboard. 2. Go to Plugins and click Add New Plugin. 3. Type Redirection in the search bar and click Install Now to install the plugin. 4. Click Activate once the installation is complete. 5. Go to Tools and select Redirection. 6. Click Add New and expand the Show advanced options section. 7. Enter the following values: Source URL: /page-giving-404 Target URL: /replacement-page HTTP code: 301 8. Click Add Redirect. Note: Always point each redirected URL to its final destination. Redirecting a URL that is already redirected or creating loops by redirecting a page back to itself can negatively impact SEO and confuse both search engines and users. 9. Open a terminal or command prompt and use the curl command to test the redirect: curl -I The expected output for a 301 redirect is: HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently Location: If your website runs on an Apache web server, you can manually configure URL redirects using the .htaccess file in the website's root directory. To set up redirects: 1. Open a terminal and use a text editor, such as Nano, to open the .htaccess file: sudo nano /var/www/html/.htaccess 2. Add the following lines to configure a permanent redirection rule: Redirect 301 /old-page.html /new-page.html To establish a temporary redirect, for example, during maintenance windows, enter: Redirect 302 /event /maintenance-notice 3. Press Ctrl+X, then y, and Enter to save the file and exit Nano. 4. Test the redirect to confirm it works using the curl command: curl -I The expected output for a 301 redirect is: HTTP/1.1 301 Moved Permanently Location: There is no need to restart the Apache service after editing the file. Apache reads the .htaccess file on each request, and changes take effect immediately. The 404 error the user reported may not be the only broken link on the website. To ensure that all internal links work, use automated link-checking tools to perform a full audit. Popular tools for auditing links include: ToolPlatformFeaturesGoogle Search ConsoleWeb-basedThe service is free. It requires owners to verify website ownership before usage.Screaming Frog SEOWindows/macOSFree for up to 500 URLs. A full-blown local SEO crawler and audit tool.Ahrefs Site AuditWeb-basedPaid tool with extensive crawl reports and link data.SEMrushWeb-basedPaid tool offering site audits, link tracking, and issue prioritization.SitebulbWindows/macOSPaid crawler with visual reports and in-depth technical analysis. Besides broken links, these tools also report: HTTP response codes, for example, 404 Not Found, 400 Bad Request, 401 Unauthorized, etc. The anchor text associated with each link. Source pages where the broken link appears. Destination URLs for the linked resources. Once the affected links are identified, apply the appropriate fix based on the actions outlined in Steps 2 and 3. This can include: Correcting URL syntax errors or typos. Updating URLs. Establishing redirects for missing or renamed content. Removing links entirely if there is no replacement content. Performing these audits regularly ensures that search engines crawl and index your website properly. A 404 error cannot always be avoided. A well-designed error page helps users understand what went wrong and encourages them to stay on your website rather than leave. An engaging 404 error page should include the following elements: A clear message (Page not found). A link to the homepage. A search bar. Suggested or popular pages. Branding and tone that reflect your company's values and style. CMS platforms, like WordPress, have built-in support for custom 404 error pages. Typically, the page design matches the website's active theme. The default page, 404.php, is in the active theme's root directory: /wp-content/themes/your-theme-name/404.php You can manually edit the file and customize the page even further. For a no-coding solution, look to theme builders or plugins that help users design 404 error pages in a visual, user-friendly environment, such as Divi, Elementor, or 404page. Web admins running a website on an Apache web server can configure a custom 404 page in the .htaccess file. To set up a custom 404 page in Apache: 1. Use an FTP client, cPanel, or a terminal to access the server's root directory. 2. Open the .htaccess file in a text editor and add the following line: ErrorDocument 404 /custom-404.html 3. Place the custom error page in the web root directory: /var/www/html/custom-404.html The path in ErrorDocument must be relative to the document root and point to the location of the error file. When your frontend code or an external system sends an API request, the server returns a 404 Not Found error if it cannot locate the requested resource. This may happen because the request URL is incorrect, the object is missing or has been moved, or the backend service is not routing the request correctly. To troubleshoot API-related 404 errors, refer to the sections below. By testing the endpoint outside of your application, you can determine if there is an issue with the frontend, network, or backend logic. 1. Use tools like Postman or curl to recreate the API call manually. For example, the following request targets a specific object: curl -i -X GET The API returns a structured 404 error message in JSON or XML. In this example, the response indicates that the request reached the backend but that the specified object (token ID) does not exist or is inaccessible. { "status": 404, "message": "Token not found", "path": "/v2/payment-token/xzy1DRT9opsiauensba" } 2. Test the same endpoint without the object ID to verify that the base route is functional: curl -i -X GET If the server returns a 200 OK, the path is valid, and the issue is likely with the resource ID. 3. To confirm whether the resource exists, query your database or service layer. For example, to check for the entry in MySQL, enter: SELECT * FROM tokens WHERE id = 'xzy1DRT9opsiauensba'; 4. If the object is missing or deleted, the 404 response is valid. If the object does exist, proceed to check other potential causes. Double-check the URL path and compare it against the API documentation. Look for: Typos in the endpoint path or resource ID. Missing or extra path segments. Incorrect version numbers (e.g., /v1.9/ vs /v2.1/). Incorrect HTTP methods, such as using POST instead of GET. Some APIs return a 404 Not Found error to unauthorized users, even if the resource exists, as a security precaution. Verify that the authentication token is valid and that the user has permission to access the resource. If the request reaches the server but still returns a 404 error, it may be caused by a misconfigured backend application or web server. Confirm that: The endpoint exists and is correctly defined in your application framework, such as Django (Python), Express (Node.js), or Laravel (PHP). The route is registered and enabled. The request is not being blocked by middleware, a proxy, or access control logic. If the 404 error originates from the server or backend application logic, also check your web server and application error logs. On Linux, you can monitor logs in real-time using the tail command: sudo tail -f /var/log/apache2/error.log The following table lists popular web servers and frameworks and their default error log locations: PlatformLog File LocationExample Log EntryApache/var/log/apache2/error.log[error] [client 192.168.1.10] File does not exist: /var/www/html/v2/payment-token/xzy1DRT9opsiauensbaNGINX/var/log/nginx/error.log2025/06/17 12:45:01 [error] 2048#0: *123 open() "/v2/payment-token/xzy1DRT9opsiauensba" failed (2: No such file or directory)ExpressConsole, Winston, PM2, or custom logs[2025-06-17T14:12:53.452Z] GET /v2/payment-token/xzy1DRT9opsiauensba 404Error: Token not foundDjango/var/log/syslog or a custom directoryERROR 2025-06-17 14:33:21 Not Found: /v2/payment-token/xzy1DRT9opsiauensbaHttp404: Token not foundFlaskConsole, WSGI server output, or custom logs2025-06-17 14:40:09,824 - ERROR - 404 Not Found: /v2/payment-token/xzy1DRT9opsiauensbaTokenNotFound: Token not foundLaravelstorage/logs/laravel.log[2025-06-17 14:15:55] local.ERROR: NotFoundHttpException: No route found for GET /v2/payment-token/xzy1DRT9opsiauensba Compare the timestamp with the time the user reported the error. Look for: Typos in the route name or dynamic parameters. Confirmation that the route handler or controller was executed. Any messages about denied access, missing routes, or misconfigured middleware. Fix any issue you identify and test the endpoint again using curl, Postman, or your frontend interface: curl -i -X GET If the request is successful, the server returns a 200 OK status and a valid response object: { "status": 200, "token": "xzy1DRT9opsiauensba", "expires": "2025-07-17T15:30:00Z", "type": "single-use", "customerId": "u456789", "createdAt": "2025-06-17T14:15:33Z" } Continue to monitor your logs to ensure the error no longer appears. To reduce the chance of the 404 error occurring, take the following precautions: Audit the website regularly. Use tools like Google Search Console, Screaming Frog, or Ahrefs to identify broken links. Content management systems, such as WordPress, support plugins that scan websites, identify crawl issues, and detect missing pages early. Set up proper redirects. In a CMS, use plugins, like Redirection, to manage URL changes without editing server files. On Apache and NGINX servers, configure server-side redirects in .htaccess or nginx.conf config files. Maintain consistent URL structures. Do not update slugs, folder names, extensions, or premalinks unnecessarily. On platforms like WordPress, altering permalink settings can simultaneously break multiple URLs. Update internal links when making changes. Manually update links, navigation bars, and menus if a URL is no longer valid. CMS users should also review widgets, shortcodes, and custom fields that reference the old path and update them accordingly. Manage deleted content. Before removing a page, check if it receives traffic or has backlinks. If the content is no longer needed, redirect the URL to a relevant page rather than leaving it broken. Conclusion This article explained what causes the 404 Not Found error and outlined practical steps to resolve it, whether you are a website visitor or a site administrator. If you manage a WordPress website, find out how to troubleshoot the WordPress 500 Internal Server Error. Was this article helpful?