

# going CRAZY with servlet / xls download on winXP

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.programmer/2006-01/msg02163.html>

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  - *Date:* 16 Jan 2006 04:52:31 -0800
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Hi,

I made nice servlet (Struts action actually) that downloads xls (or opens – depends what the users chooses).

headers:

```
response.setHeader("Content-Disposition", "attachment;  
filename=report.xls");  
response.setContentType("application/vnd.ms-excel");
```

works on win2k perfectly. I click a download link, then I can choose whether to save or open – both work great.

Now win XP... Download works but when I choose to open the file – it opens only if there is already ms-excel opened in the background. If ms-excel is closed (typical scenario ;) ), IE 6.0 seems to download the file (yes, the progress bar), then opens the ms-excel, then I see beautiful error message that the file "documents and settings/..././report[1].xls" cannot be found.

In fact this file does not exist (IE's progress bar is a malicious liar) in any place of the hdd.

Note that everything works on IE 6.0 (or firefox) in win2k (so I decided not to post any code samples) but opening file fails on IE 6.0 in winXP

What is wrong then?

I tried plethora of different headers in every possible combinations found in posts of similar (but not equal) problems with file downloads.

Pleaseeeeeeeeeeeeee help or I will have to hire a psychiatrist

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