

## Re: php/mysql search/mysql\_num\_rows() error

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*Source:* <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/alt.php/2006-06/msg00172.html>

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- *From:* "J.O. Aho" <[user@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:user@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 12 Jun 2006 21:43:52 +0200
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Chris wrote:

I'm working on some search engine code from devpapers.com and keep coming up against an error when testing.

This is the error I get:

```
Warning: mysql_num_rows(): supplied argument is not a valid MySQL result resource in  
c:\inetpub\wwwroot\TMP8j9vfrf3s.php on line 36  
Couldn't execute query
```

as the result from the `mysql_query()` can be a resource or `FALSE`, and in your case it's a `FALSE` that is returned and not a resource, which leads `mysql_num_row()` to output an error.

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These are lines 33 through 36:

```
$query = "SELECT * FROM links WHERE pageURL LIKE \"%$trimm%\" OR pageDesc  
LIKE \"%$trimm%\" OR pageTitle LIKE \"%$trimm%\" ORDER BY pageLink DESC" ;  
// Execute the query to get number of rows that contain search keywords  
$numresults = mysql_query($query);  
$row_num_links_main = mysql_num_rows($numresults);
```

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I'm guessing it's a simple syntax error and I just can't see it after looking at it so long, so maybe a different set of eyes will see it.

I suggest you do a small change to your code

```
//SQL queries uses single quotes to enclose strings  
$query = "SELECT * FROM links WHERE pageURL LIKE '%$trimm%' OR  
pageDesc LIKE '%$trimm%' OR pageTitle LIKE '%$trimm%' ORDER BY pageLink  
DESC" ;  
// Execute the query to get number of rows that contain search keywords
```

Re: php/mySQL search/mysql\_num\_rows() error

```
$numresults = mysql_query($query);  
if($numresults) {  
    //$numresults is a resource!!!  
    $row_num_links_main = mysql_num_rows($numresults);  
} else {  
    //$numresults is false  
    echo "Query: $query<br>\n".mysql_errno().": ".mysql_error()."<br>\n";  
    exit;  
}
```

This way you see what is wrong with your query or if you have connection problems. When the page is finished, you may want to store this in a error log file instead of outputting it to the web page.

```
//Aho  
.
```