

Re: isset(), empty(), \$_GET and \$_POST problem

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2004-07/2440.html>

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"Dan" <agent@thwackspam.fathom.org> wrote in message
news:5c08g0lv9te7dhhahudb46051a13rums13@4ax.com...
> *I was trying to troubleshoot a login page that doesn't work – it keeps
> saying the login/password is missing – when my tracing discovered this
> peculiar behavior.*
>
> *register_globals is off, so at the top of my script I assign a few
> variables to incoming GET and POST values.*
>
> *\$login = clean(\$_POST['login'], 30);
> \$passwd = clean(\$_POST['passwd'], 30);
>
> \$message = \$_GET['message'];
>
> clean() is simply a function that trims to the specified length and
> applies EscapeShellCmd().
>
> Now, below that I have an if statement to check for whether a
> login/password has been supplied or if an error message exists.
>
> if (isset(\$message) || empty(\$login) || empty(\$passwd))
> {
> // render the html page showing the form
> } else {
> // do some php/mysql stuff and redirect to another page
> }
>
> Yet when I fill out those form fields and submit, it always redisplay
> the form with my tracing errors stating that those fields are empty.
>
> When I echo out all \$_GET and \$_POST variables, indeed they are empty,
> and strangely there is a \$_GET['message'] that has no value, but
> nevertheless is on the end of the url. (/index.php?message=) I can't
> figure out how it got there. The form action is just "index.php" and
> it uses the POST method, so what could be adding that GET variable?
>
> Now here's the weird part. If I simply add "1 ||" to the beginning of*

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- > *that if statement, so basically it will always evaluate to true, then*
- > *suddenly the \$_POST['login'] and \$_POST['passwd'] are properly defined*
- > *and \$_GET['message'] goes away!*
- >
- > *So this makes me wonder, are the isset() and empty() functions*
- > *actually modifying the variables passed to them somehow? And when I*
- > *put a true value in front of them, the if statement stops parsing*
- > *before it gets to those functions?*

Bet you a banana cupcake that your HTML is screwed up.

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