

Re: deleting cookies and local browser time versus server time

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Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2008-01/msg00105.html>

- *From:* Good Man <heyho@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 02 Jan 2008 16:34:14 -0600
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lawpoop@xxxxxxxxxx wrote in
news:43ae8e36-b358-4a34-9b2f-699797bb0bba@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx:

Several others are listed in this page:

<http://us.php.net/reserved.variables>

Yep, my bad. I guess I just tend to ignore any 'browser' information in my apps.

For unsetting cookies, the PHP documentation page for cookies recommends setting the expiration date to a point in the past. However, I'm running into problems with time conflicts. Our server is in a different time zone than the browser I'm developing on. I would like to go in five-minute increments to test my code after the cookie expires, and it took me forever to figure out why my cookies weren't expiring in five minutes.

Don't involve the user local time at all. Put the server time in a variable, and test THAT number in 5 minute increments.

How can I test cookie expiration with that? The browser unsets cookies based on what *it* thinks the time is, not what the server thinks the time is.

In other words, if the server is in Pacific time, and I'm in Eastern

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time, setting the cookie to expire on `date()` (meaning, 'right now') looks to be 3 or 4 hours in the past to my browser. So, if the server give a cookie to expire at 4PM today, which is the time in Seattle, that expiration date is already in the past for me, since it's already 7PM.

I guess I'm having a bit of difficulty trying to understand. Cookies are local/stored on the user browser, correct? So with you in Los Angeles and I in New York, we'll never see each others' cookies.

I interpreted your problem as essentially keeping a file 'open' or 'checked out' (insert your verb here) for 5 minutes before allowing/disallowing changes or something. So, if you open a file at 10amPST, and I want to open it a minute later (1pm EST), I should see that only 1 minute has passed (as opposed to 3 hours and 1 minute).

If that's the case, what I am suggesting is that when person A opens the document, you record the SERVER time in a database or text file. Then when person B hits the same document, PHP compares the time elapsed on the server between when Person A and Person B accessed the document, ie: whether or not its been less than / greater than 5 minutes.

Sorry to be of so little help!

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