

## Re: Web authentication

**Source:** <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Python/comp.lang.python/2003-12/0637.html>

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**From:** Alan Kennedy ([alanmk\\_at\\_hotmail.com](mailto:alanmk_at_hotmail.com))

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[John J. Lee]

> *Doesn't/shouldn't <http://user:passwd@example.com/blah.html> work?*

>

> *I don't know where that syntax is specified (if anywhere)*

RFC 2396: Uniform Resource Identifiers (URI): Generic Syntax

Section: 3.2.2. Server-based Naming Authority

Quoting from that section

""""

URL schemes that involve the direct use of an IP-based protocol to a specified server on the Internet use a common syntax for the server component of the URI's scheme-specific data:

```
<userinfo>@<host>[:<port>]
```

where <userinfo> may consist of a user name and, optionally, scheme-specific information about how to gain authorization to access the server. The parts "<userinfo>@" and "[:<port>]" may be omitted.

```
server = [ [ userinfo "@" ] hostport ]
```

The user information, if present, is followed by a commercial at-sign "@".

```
userinfo = *( unreserved | escaped |  
              ";" | ":" | "&" | "=" | "+" | "$" | "," )
```

Some URL schemes use the format "user:password" in the userinfo field. This practice is NOT RECOMMENDED, because the passing of authentication information in clear text (such as URI) has proven to

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be a security risk in almost every case where it has been used.  
""

regards,

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alan kennedy

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check http headers here: <http://xhaus.com/headers>  
email alan: <http://xhaus.com/contact/alan>