

4webcheck Software

Quick start guide

Overview

4Webcheck provides facilities to check or verify (at the byte level) a page (or any requestable file) on a website to a file on the local computer. The program will compare single files, all files in a local folder or multiple sites and folders. It also provides a customer database for link exchange checking and ease of use.

Please note that page and file names are case sensitive.

The program also has server header display, page link extraction, referrer comparison facilities and database URL search engine submission.

The requestor identity (User-Agent) and referrer may be set from the Preferences menu.

Installation

The first time the program is run it creates the configuration file (bt.cfg) and blank customer database file (member.dat). They may be deleted at anytime, the program will just create a default next time it is run.

A desktop shortcut may be created by right clicking anywhere on the desktop and left clicking 'New' Shortcut and browsing to the program file.

Header

Server page header

A HTTP server provides a short (typically 4-12 line) non browser displayed header with each page request.

The header includes a numeric code to indicate the status of the response. The code 200 indicates a normal reply. The 404 code indicates the page requested does not exist and so on.

The header also includes useful troubleshooting information including the server type, the content length and any cookie detail.

The Preferences menu item allows both the User-Agent and Referrer for a request to be specified.

Header cookies

Header cookies

A HTTP server provides a short (typically 4-12 line) non browser displayed header to each page request.

The header may include initial cookie detail.

The browser will provide the HTTP server with cookie data from a prior session. The server when not informed of a previous session will send initial cookie data. The 'Header cookie' item extracts this detail.

Verify

Verify page

The program will attempt to verify the specified page(s) with those on the local system.

Please note that file names are case sensitive.

A HTTP server provides a short (typically 4-12 line) non browser displayed header to each page request.

The header will include a numeric code to indicate the status of the response. The code 200 indicates a normal reply. 4Webcheck will alert if any other code is received.

The program will do a byte by byte comparison.

The program may be used to compare all files in a specified folder or folders. Please note that sub folders are not included.

The email alert option will send a single email on the first discrepancy.

Check

Page check

The program will attempt to request the specified page(s).

Please note that file names are case sensitive.

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The header will include a numeric code to indicate the status of the response. The code 200 indicates a normal reply. 4Webcheck will alert if any other code is received.

The program may be used to compare all files in a specified folder or folders. Please note that sub folders are not included.

The email alert option will send a single email on the first discrepancy.

Links

Link extraction

The program lists all HREF links from the page.

Please note that where sites use syndicated links the list may be extensive.

Referrer

Verify distinct

A HTTP server provides a short (typically 4-12 line) non browser displayed header to each page request.

The browser will typically include the URL of a previous page in the request to the HTTP server (typically described as 'Enable referrer logging' in browser preferences).

The 4Webcheck Preference's menu item allows the Referrer to be specified.

The page is requested with alternate referrers to identify any variance in reply.

Link exchange checking

Link exchange checking

For each entry in the Customer database that has link exchange data the program will attempt to request the specified page and verify the link text.

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The header will include a numeric code to indicate the status of the response. The code 200 indicates a normal reply. 4Webcheck will alert if any other code is received.

Utilities

The File byte viewer displays the bytes of any specified file.

The Visual file comparison displays the two specified files in a browser with highlighted (IE) differences.

Preferences

The Preferences menu item allows both the User-Agent and Referrer to be selected or specified.

The email alert option requires the SMTP server.

Troubleshooting

The program uses the HTTP protocol suite.

The two typical areas of issue will be either resolving the address of the HTTP server for the page(s) requested or connecting to that server.

The standard error "DNS server lookup error" indicates that there is no host for the domain or the nameserver for it is not available.

Please note that a resolver may take a minute or two to respond.

Please note that page and file names are case sensitive.

The HTTP protocol is a standard which has seen several revisions (notably 1.0 and 1.1). Web servers and browsers differ in their adherence to them. The security or privacy requirements of the host may also impact on requests.

Files are uploaded to a web server in either binary or ASCII mode. The use of ASCII mode will change the file's encoding which 4Webcheck will distinguish.

The server will return a specific error message if it is unable to process the page request normally:

204 The server has completed the request, but doesn't need to return any data

301 Moved

302 Moved temporarily

400 Bad request

401 Request requires authentication

404 Not found

408 Time out

500 Server error

505 HTTP version not supported

601 Server did not respond before connection timed out

Control Keys

^B Check page

^C Verify customer site

^D Check site

^H Server page header

^J Header cookies

^L Links all

^P Preferences

^R Referrer verify distinct

^S Verify site to folder

^V Verify page

Function keys

F2 Find customer.

F3 Add customer.

F4 Amend customer

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