

Apache Module mod_dav

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Description: | Distributed Authoring and Versioning (WebDAV ¹) functionality |
| Status: | Extension |
| Module Identifier: | dav_module |
| Source File: | mod_dav.c |

Summary

This module provides class 1 and class 2 WebDAV² ('Web-based Distributed Authoring and Versioning') functionality for Apache. This extension to the HTTP protocol allows creating, moving, copying, and deleting resources and collections on a remote web server.

Topics

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Enabling WebDAV | 1 |
| URI References | 3 |

Directives

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Dav | 2 |
| DavDepthInfinity | 2 |
| DavMinTimeout | 3 |

See also

- [DavLockDB](#)
- [LimitXMLRequestBody](#)
- [WebDAV Resources²](#)

Enabling WebDAV

To enable `mod_dav`, add the following to a container in your `httpd.conf` file:

```
Dav On
```

This enables the DAV file system provider, which is implemented by the `mod_dav_fs` module. Therefore that module has to be compiled into the server or has to be loaded at runtime using the `LoadModule` directive.

In order to make it work you have to specify a web-server writable filename for the DAV lock database by adding the following to the global section in your `httpd.conf` file:

```
DavLockDB /tmp/DavLock
```

You may wish to add a `<Limit>` clause inside the `<Location>` directive to limit access to DAV-enabled locations. If you want to set the maximum amount of bytes that a DAV client can send at one request, you have to use the `LimitXMLRequestBody` directive. The "normal" `LimitRequestBody` directive has no effect on DAV requests.

Full Example

```
DavLockDB /tmp/DavLock

<Location /foo>
```

Apache Module mod_dav

```
Dav On

AuthType Basic
AuthName DAV
AuthUserFile user.passwd

<LimitExcept GET HEAD OPTIONS>
  require user admin
</LimitExcept>
</Location>
```

Security

The use of HTTP Basic Authentication is not recommended. You should use at least HTTP Digest Authentication, which is provided by the `mod_auth_digest` module. Nearly all WebDAV clients support this authentication method. Of course, Basic Authentication over an SSL³ enabled connection is secure, too.

Dav Directive

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Description: | Enable WebDAV HTTP methods |
| Syntax: | Dav On Off <i>provider-name</i> |
| Default: | Dav Off |
| Context: | directory |
| Status: | Extension |
| Module: | mod_dav |

Use the `Dav` directive to enable the WebDAV HTTP methods for the given container:

```
<Location /foo>
  Dav On
</Location>
```

The value `On` is actually an alias for the default provider `filesystem` which is served by the `mod_dav_fs` module. Note, that once you have DAV enabled for some location, it *cannot* be disabled for sublocations. For a complete configuration example have a look at the section above.

Do not enable WebDAV until you have secured your server. Otherwise everyone will be able to distribute files on your system.

DavDepthInfinity Directive

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Description: | Allow PROPFIND, Depth: Infinity requests |
| Syntax: | DavDepthInfinity on off |
| Default: | DavDepthInfinity off |
| Context: | server config, virtual host, directory |
| Status: | Extension |
| Module: | mod_dav |

Use the `DavDepthInfinity` directive to allow the processing of PROPFIND requests containing the header 'Depth: Infinity'. Because this type of request could constitute a denial-of-service attack, by default it is not allowed.

DavMinTimeout Directive

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Description: | Minimum amount of time the server holds a lock on a DAV resource |
| Syntax: | <code>DavMinTimeout</code> <i>seconds</i> |
| Default: | <code>DavMinTimeout</code> 0 |
| Context: | server config, virtual host, directory |
| Status: | Extension |
| Module: | mod_dav |

When a client requests a DAV resource lock, it can also specify a time when the lock will be automatically removed by the server. This value is only a request, and the server can ignore it or inform the client of an arbitrary value.

Use the `DavMinTimeout` directive to specify, in seconds, the minimum lock timeout to return to a client. Microsoft Web Folders defaults to a timeout of 120 seconds; the `DavMinTimeout` can override this to a higher value (like 600 seconds) to reduce the chance of the client losing the lock due to network latency.

Example

```
<Location /MSWord>
  DavMinTimeout 600
</Location>
```

URI References

- [1] <http://www.webdav.org/>
- [2] <http://www.webdav.org>
- [3] <http://httpd.apache.org/docs-2.1/ssl/>