

Password Hashing and User Authentication

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Thanks for your time.

When a hashed password is stored in a db – how should it appear in the table?

In the MySQL table I'm using to store username and passwords, it appears as system.byte[]. The data type is defined as varchar(16), binary. The field is not behaving as it should during authentication – as long as I enter a valid username, the system authenticates me despite a correct or incorrect password value. Below is the code I'm using to hash the password and save the password to the MySQL table:

```
Dim md5Hasher As New MD5CryptoServiceProvider
Dim hashedBytes As Byte()
Dim encoder As New UTF8Encoding

hashedBytes = md5Hasher.ComputeHash(encoder.GetBytes(txtPwd.Text))
```

```
With da.InsertCommand

.Connection = sqlconStBarts
.Parameters.Item("usr").Value = txtUsr.Text
.Parameters.Item("pwd").Value = hashedBytes

db.Open()
.ExecuteNonQuery()
db.Close()
```

End With

Below is the code i'm using for authentication:

```
Dim md5Hasher As New MD5CryptoServiceProvider
Dim hashedBytes As Byte()
Dim encoder As New UTF8Encoding

hashedBytes =
md5Hasher.ComputeHash(encoder.GetBytes(txtPassword.Text))
```

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```
With sqldaSecurity.SelectCommand  
.Connection = sqlcon  
.Parameters.Item("user").Value = txtUser.Text  
.Parameters.Item("pwd").Value = hashedBytes  
sqlcon.Open()  
  
If sqldaSecurity.SelectCommand.ExecuteScalar() = "true" Then  
sqlcon.Close()  
Session.Add("ip_address", Request.UserHostAddress)  
Session.Add("user_id", txtUser.Text)  
Response.Redirect("AdminDefault.aspx")  
Else  
lblErr.Visible = True  
sqlcon.Close()  
End If  
  
End With
```

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