

RE: Forms authentication vs session variable

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If you are using forms authentication, you would normally attach the user object to the forms authentication ticket in `Application_AuthenticateRequest` (which fires for every page request). This then becomes available on any page in the `User` property; there is no need to store it in `Session`. You can find plenty of good sample code on how to do this including adding the user Roles to the ticket.

— Peter

Site: <http://www.eggheadcafe.com>

UnBlog: <http://petesbloggerama.blogspot.com>

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"Bjorn Sagbakken" wrote:

In a web-application with login creds (user, pwd), these are checked against a user table on a SQL server. On a positive validation I have saved the userID, name, custno and role-settings in a userobject (custom build class) and added this to the session using as session variable like `session["User"]`

For all other pages I have added a small test in the `page_load` event, basically testing if the `session["User"] != null`, but also checking if the User-object contains a `UserID != ""`

Only if these tests are passed, the user gets the page requested, otherwise he is redirected to the login page.

Well, all this works well, and I cannot see any security break here. The only information that passes between the client and the server is the `sessionID`, and this is supposed to be secure.

Still, I have been reading about using forms authentication (Cookie authentication), and this is also easy implemented. The test in each page is somewhat similar. But my question is: Is this actually more secure, or is it just another way to do it?

Bjorn

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