

Re: How do I insert a cgi script into Publisher page?

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Publisher/microsoft.public.publisher.webdesign/2009-04/msg00055.html>

- *From:* "DavidF" <Nope@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Thu, 2 Apr 2009 07:26:14 -0800
-

Spike,

Good job. I will try to follow the instructions myself when I have time to see where or if things are unclear to me. A few first impressions though:

Though Publisher uses 'ISP' I think that may be confusing to some as my ISP is not where I host my website. Instead of using just 'ISP', perhaps it would be useful to define 'ISP/website host' at least the first time you use ISP or just use 'website host' instead. Perhaps this is picky as I knew what you meant, but others might not.

You alluded to this several times, but you might be more specific about how different ISPs/Website hosts offer different form handler programs, and that the user should go to their webhost 'help' section, or perhaps 'Support', 'Knowledge Base' or maybe even 'FAQs section' to find what form handler the host supports and the directions for using their form handler. From my experience of going to the various hosts this information can be hard to find sometimes, so I also always look for a search field in the 'help' section and search for 'forms'. That almost always saves me time in finding the information. I am of course not suggesting that you use all these words, but perhaps in your own more succinct style ;-), give the poster a little more direction of how to find what forms their host supports and how to find the directions. Once they do, chances are your directions will be work in general regardless of what forms handler program they have.

You and Don tend to use relative links and paths, but I think that it might be more clear if posters use absolute links/paths in general. For example when you double click the submit button, and then the 'form properties' button, and the 'use a program from my ISP' then this is what is given as the sample link: <http://example.microsoft.com/~user/ispscript.cgi> I guess what I am saying is that people can sometimes understand an absolute link easier than they can a relative one.

I will try your directions to see if I can follow the rest but it looks like good information. I will look forward to trying out your PHP directions too. Thanks for taking the time to write this up. I think helping people move away from FPSE is a good idea...especially since they can use FTP uploading.

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DavidF

"Spike" <zero_spam@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:Om2AXOxsJHA.2532@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

David

I put together a routine that I use with success: Look it over please and see if I make sense. I will do another one for PHP. I am leaning towards PHP more and more as it is somewhat easier if you like modifying scripts.

=====

CGI Mail form

If your ISP supports cgi and has a form handling program then a form created in publisher will function using FTP upload rather than front page server extensions to upload the pages.

You must tell the server what e mail address you want the form results sent to. Some ISP's are different than others. Check with the ISP help section on handling forms for that information.

Locate the cgi form handler file on the server. It is probably in the cgi or cgi-bin folder. Again ISP's are not all the same.

For example, if the form handler is in the cgi folder and it is named myform.cgi then the path for the handler in publisher will be "/cgi/myform.cgi" without the quotes.

In publisher create a page for your form and build the form. In the form properties window select "Use a program from my ISP" In the action section insert the path you discovered above. Example for godaddy.com is "/cgi/gdform.cgi" without the quotes.

From method is Post

In the hidden fields window: enter under Item "subject" no quotes and in the item value for subject enter a subject line that you want on the form when you receive it.

Below the subject enter "redirect" no quotes if you want have a thank you page built and in the item value enter the path to your thank you page

Example: "/thank_you/thankyou.htm" the thankyou.htm file is located in the thank_you folder in the root directory.

The thank you page may have a link back to the page where you came from or any where else you so desire or an auto redirect script with a delay.

The auto redirect script is inserted using the HTML fragment function and

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looks like:

```
<meta http-equiv="Refresh" content="4; url=/index.htm">
```

In this case the time delay is 4 seconds and the page that will come up is the index.htm.

=====

"DavidF" <Nope@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
[news:uq5TZ\\$vsJHA.4968@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:uq5TZ$vsJHA.4968@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)

Spike is the one with the most experience with using something other than FrontPage Server Extensions to power the forms, so hopefully he will jump into this thread and offer some more information. But in the meantime...

I don't think you will have to "name your order form". I think what Spike was suggesting was that the way you wrote the link was incomplete, and that you needed to add the extension. I would just try it and see what happens. One thing to keep in mind is that unless you make that link an absolute link instead of a relative link, it won't work from your local computer. It is looking for the cgi folder on your server when you use the relative link. So you may have to upload your pages in order to test it.

Here is another resource for you that might help explain the forms in Publisher:

Reference: Web forms:

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/publisher/CH063576891033.aspx>

If you test it and it still doesn't work as per Spike's suggestions after uploading the pages, then post back and let us know. Also provide us a link to your host and specifically where on the host website it gives you the instructions for using the forms program in the cgi folder. Then perhaps we can help further.

DavidF

"Monika" <Monika@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:6311AA11-01D7-45E5-97D3-7FE0D0E55A91@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Oh, I did not know that David B has been inactive for some time. But now looking at the date ...

Anyway, yes, I saw Spike's advise and it was very helpful to a certain point (I now know whre to put the command) but did not solve my problem. His

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command was /cgi/myform.cgi. Does this mean that I will have to name my order form. In fact, I inserted this order form by using one of the templates and would not know if this one has a name and were to find it.

Sorry, if I sound a little daft but since this is my very first website, I am a little lost presently :-). Thank you very much for your support.

Monika

"DavidF" wrote:

David Bartosik has been inactive for a number of years now, so I wouldn't hold my breath waiting for an answer from him.

I see that Spike answered your other post. Did that give you enough information?

DavidF

"Monika"

<Monika@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

news:ACBEF744-3AF2-4A31-8BAA-BBF4275791C9@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

David,

I would need some advice about this subject too. Could you explain to me how to find out the URL of the script? Will I have to ask my server or should I be able to find out going into my account with the server?

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Thank you very much.

Monika

"David Bartosik [MSFT MVP]" wrote:

You have to use the form controls under "Insert, Form" to build a form. You then set the form properties (under submit button) to run the host side cgi. You'll see under the form properties the option to "use my ISP's program", you set that option to the URL of the script. Once on your server the form is filled out by the user and the submit button then hands the values of those form

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controls
over to the
cgi script.
After that it
is up to
the
script and
your host
side
programming
to do
whatever.

David
Bartosik –
[MSFT
MVP]
www.publishermvps.com
www.davidbartosik.com

"Randy"
<Randy@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in
message
news:D6FD6E83-C9DB-4AF1-B31D-85FAD833762D@xxxxxxxx

On
my
web
site
<http://www.randypoole.com>
I
have
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so
I
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Do
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can
search
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