

## Setting up your nrs-projects web directory

We have the access to create web pages on `nrs-projects` that you should be able to access from the web. This walks through the basics for setting this up.

### Fun facts, part 1

- `nrs-projects` is set up so that individual users may put files they'd like accessible from the web into a subdirectory, in their home directory, whose name is **public\_html**
- For the web server process to access a file, it must be:
  - in this `public_html` directory or in a subdirectory of `public_html`
  - at least **world-readable**
  - in a subdirectory such that EVERY directory in its path is at least **world-executable**

### Set up your `public_html` directory

To start, make sure that you have a `public_html` directory in the right location, set up with appropriate permissions. The following steps should make sure this is the case:

- Use `ssh` to connect to your account on `nrs-projects-ssh.humboldt.edu`
- Make sure that your **home directory** is world-executable. (`~` is a nickname for your home directory.):
  - `ls -ld ~`
    - IF the permissions you see end in `--x` (for example, `drwx--x--x`) **or** `r-x`, then you are fine.
    - IF **NOT**, use this command to make your home directory **world-executable**:  
`chmod 711 ~`
    - Now verify that your home directory's permissions end in `--x`:  
`ls -ld ~`
- See if you have a `public_html` directory. To see if you have this directory, use the command:  
`ls -ld ~/public_html`
  - IF you get a message back complaining that "`ls: cannot access public_html: No such file or directory`", then you need to create this directory. Do so using this command:  
`mkdir ~/public_html`
  - Now verify that it has been created:  
`ls -ld ~/public_html`

- When you just tried:

```
ls -ld ~/public_html
```

... CHECK to see if IT is world-executable -- that is, check that its permissions end in either `--x` (for example, `drwx--x--x`) **or** `r-x`

- IF they don't, make it world-executable with the command:

```
chmod 711 ~/public_html
```

- Now again do:

```
ls -ld ~/public_html
```

...and verify that it is now world-executable (that its permissions end in `--x`)

## Fun Facts, part 2

- IN GENERAL: Say that there is an nrs-projects user whose username is *ab123*.

When a URL (Uniform Resource Locator) **starts** with:

```
https://nrs-projects.humboldt.edu/~ab123
```

...then nrs-projects' web server process looks inside *ab123*'s `public_html` directory for a file.

- WHICH file? That depends on what follows!

- if NOTHING follows -- if the URL is indeed JUST

```
https://nrs-projects.humboldt.edu/~ab123
```

- ...then the web server process looks for a file with the special name **index.html** (or `index.php`) within *ab123*'s `public_html` directory, and tries to send that as its result.
- NOTE that `index.html` must be world-readable! You can make it so using:

```
cd ~/public_html          # make sure you are in public_html
chmod 644 index.html
```

- if a plain file name follows -- if the URL is something like:

```
https://nrs-projects.humboldt.edu/~ab123/desired_file.html
```

- ...then the web server process looks for a file named *desired\_file.html* within *ab123*'s `public_html` directory, and tries to send that as its result.
- NOTE that *desired\_file.html* must be world-readable! You can make it so using:

```
cd ~/public_html          # make sure you are in public_html
chmod 644 desired_file.html
```

- if a SUBDIRECTORY path name follows -- if the URL is something like:

```
https://nrs-projects.humboldt.edu/~ab123/subdir1/subdir2
```

- ...then the web server process looks for a file with the special name `index.html` (or `index.php`) within *ab123*'s `public_html/subdir1/subdir2`, and tries to send that as its result.

- NOTE that *subdir1* must be world-executable,

*subdir2* must be world-executable, AND

`index.html` within *subdir2* must be world-readable! You can make these so using:

```
cd ~/public_html      # make sure you are in public_html
chmod 711 subdir1     # make subdir1 (within public_html) world-executable
cd subdir1            # change directory to subdir1 (under public_html)
chmod 711 subdir2     # make subdir2 (within subdir1) world-executable
cd subdir2            # change directory to subdir2 (within subdir1)
chmod 644 index.html  # make index.html (within subdir2) world-readable
```

- if a relative path name for a plain file follows -- if the URL is something like:

**`https://nrs-projects.humboldt.edu/~ab123/subdir1/subdir2/looky.html`**

- ...then the web server process looks for a file named *looky.html* within *ab123*'s `public_html/subdir1/subdir2`, and tries to send that as its result.

- NOTE that *subdir1* must be world-executable,

*subdir2* must be world-executable, AND

*looky.html* within *subdir2* must be world-readable! You can make these so using:

```
cd ~/public_html      # make sure you are in public_html
chmod 711 subdir1     # make subdir1 (within public_html) world-executable
cd subdir1            # change directory to subdir1 (under public_html)
chmod 711 subdir2     # make subdir2 (within subdir1) world-executable
cd subdir2            # change directory to subdir2 (within subdir1)
chmod 644 looky.html  # make looky.html (within subdir2) world-readable
```