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Seasoned IT Dude – MCSE, MCSA, MCTS: SharePoint 2010, MCP

- [Home](#)
- [Tech Series](#)
- [Useful Links](#)
- [About JPPinto](#)

For a list of all the ways technology has failed to improve the quality of life, please press three. ~Alice Kahn














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## Categories

- [Active Directory \(4\)](#)
- [Amazon Cloud Services \(1\)](#)
- [C# \(C-Sharp\) \(2\)](#)
- [General \(5\)](#)
- [IIS 6.0 \(4\)](#)
- [IIS 7.0 \(10\)](#)
  - [How to Configure IIS SMTP Server to forward emails using a Gmail account](#)
  - [Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7 using URL Rewrite 2.0](#)
  - [URL Rewrite 2.0 Installation](#)
  - [Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS using ASP](#)
  - [Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7](#)
  - [Moving an SSL certificate from Windows 2003 Server to Windows Server 2008](#)
  - [Install CDONTS mail component and SMTP on Windows Server 2008](#)

-  [Install and Configure FastCGI & PHP 5.2.9 on \(IIS 7\) Windows Server 2008](#)
-  [Server Error in '/' Application on IIS 7 \(allowDefinition='MachineToApplication'\)](#)
-  [Installing IIS 7.0 with SMTP on Windows Server 2008](#)
-  [MSDN/TechNet \(4\)](#)
-  [MySQL \(1\)](#)
-  [Office 2010 \(1\)](#)
-  [PHP \(1\)](#)
-  [Reporting Services \(1\)](#)
-  [SharePoint 2007 \(8\)](#)
-  [SharePoint 2010 \(21\)](#)
-  [SMTP \(4\)](#)
-  [SQL Server 2008 \(2\)](#)
-  [SQL Server 2008 R2 \(1\)](#)
-  [Uncategorized \(1\)](#)
-  [URL Rewrite \(2\)](#)
-  [Windows 2003 \(9\)](#)
-  [Windows 2008 \(18\)](#)
-  [Windows 7 \(3\)](#)
-  [Windows Firewall \(1\)](#)
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# Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7 using URL Rewrite 2.0

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[Hyper-V Installation on Windows Server 2008](#) »

## Series: Redirecting HTTP to HTTPS

- [Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 6](#)
- [Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7](#)
- [Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS using ASP](#)
- Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7 using URL Rewrite 2.0

## Series: URL Rewrite

- [URL Rewrite 2.0 Installation](#)
- Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7 using URL Rewrite 2.0

In a previous article I covered the installation URL Rewrite 2.0 for IIS 7. This is a plug-in for IIS 7 that allows you to manipulate URL's.

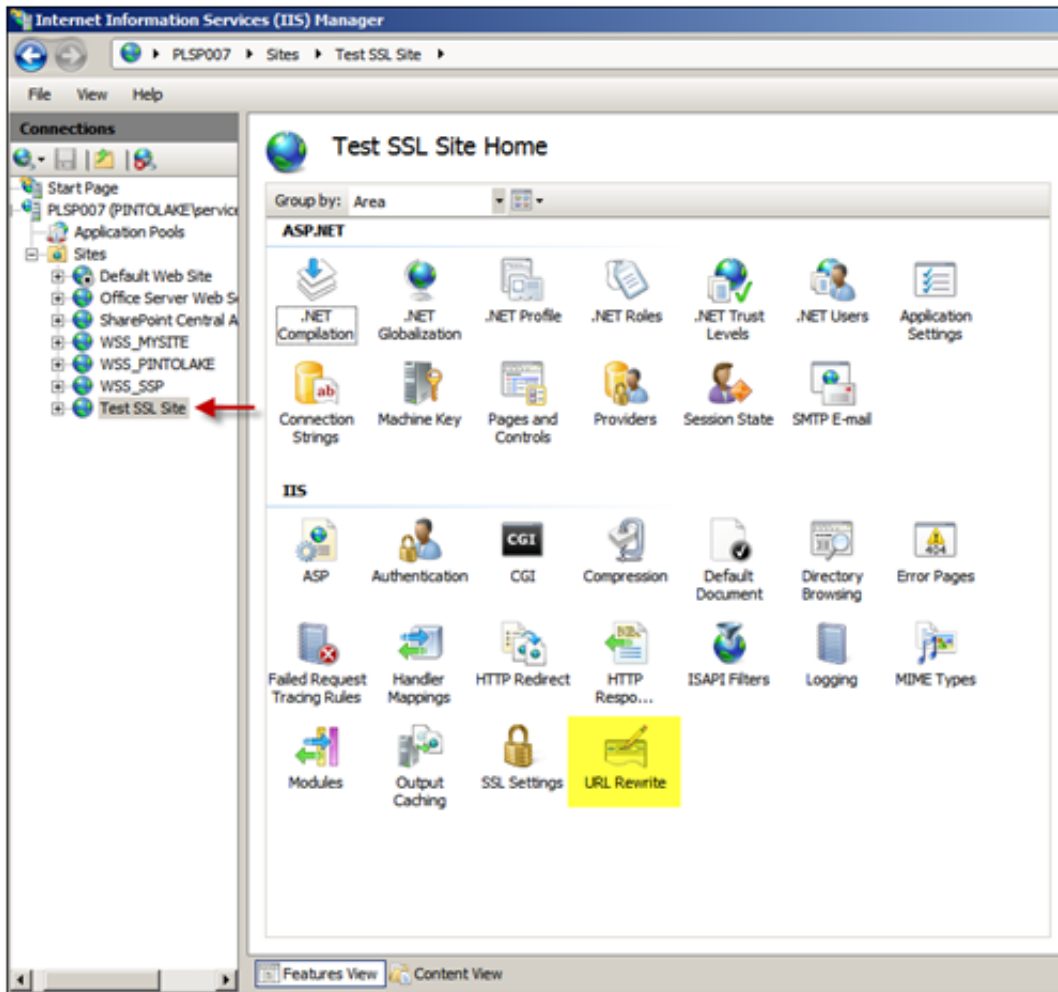
URL Rewrite has a GUI to allow you to enter rules within IIS 7; in the background all this does is edit the web.config file of the site. I will show you how to create a rule both ways.

In the following example we will redirect HTTP to HTTPS using URL Rewrite. You will need the following items completed in order for this to work correctly.

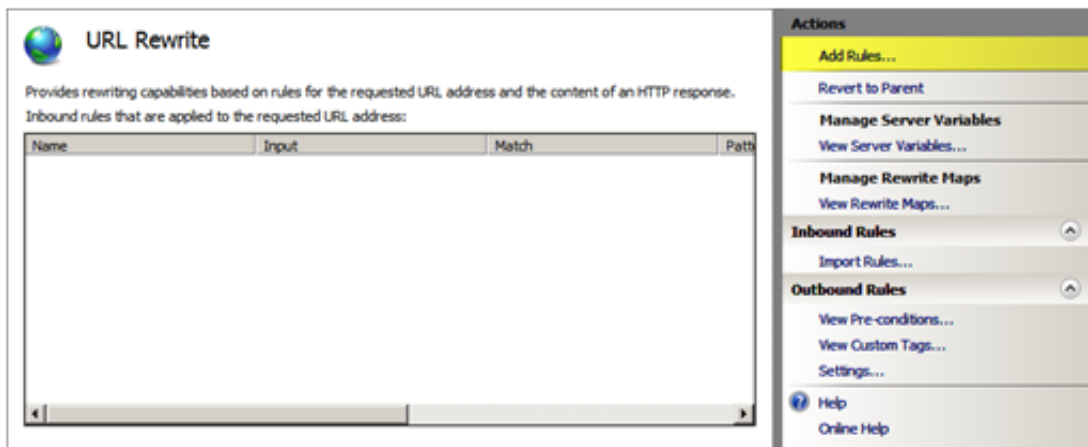
- SSL Certificate for site installed in IIS.
- Site properly installed and configured for SSL (site set up and binding in IIS configured).
- URL Rewrite 2.0 is installed on the sever.

## GUI Version

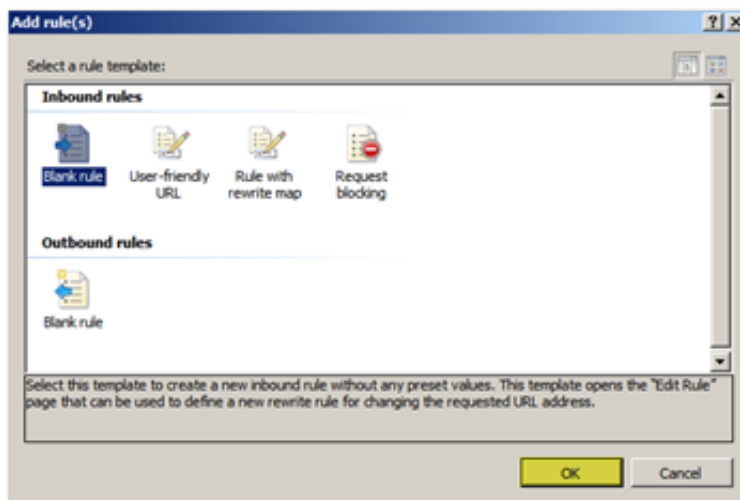
- Select the website you wish to configure
- In the "Features View" panel, double click URL Rewrite



You will notice there are currently no rules configured for this site. Click “Add Rules...” in the Actions menu to the right of the “Features View” panel

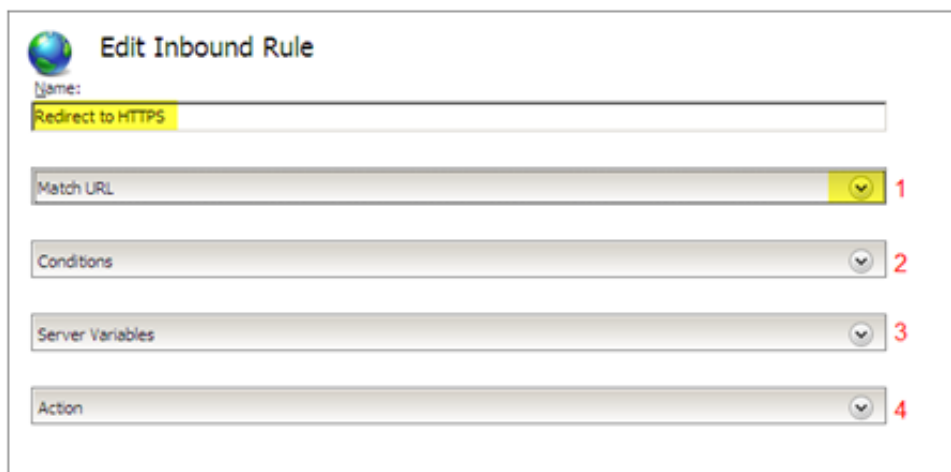


Use the default “Blank rule” and press “OK”.



When editing a rule there are the “Name” field and 4 configuration pull down boxes.

- Enter “Redirect to HTTPS” in the name field.
- Next we will configure the first configuration pull down box called “Match URL”, on the right side of “Match URL” press the down arrow to expand the box.



Within the “Match URL” configuration box we will set the following settings:

**Requested URL:** Matches the Pattern

**Using:** Regular Expressions

**Pattern:** (.\*)

**Edit Inbound Rule**

Name: Redirect to HTTPS

Match URL

Requested URL: Matches the Pattern Using: Regular Expressions

Pattern: (.\*) Test pattern...

Ignore case

We can now edit the next configuration pull down box which is “Conditions”, Press “Add...” to add a new condition to the configuration.

**Edit Inbound Rule**

Name: Redirect to HTTPS

Match URL

Conditions

Logical grouping: Match All

Input	Type	Pattern

Buttons: Add..., Edit..., Remove, Move Up, Move Down

Track capture groups across conditions

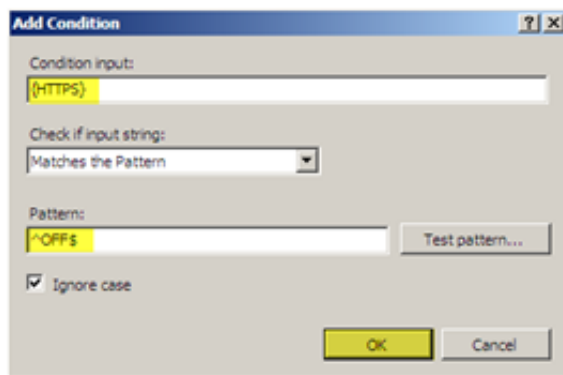
We will configure the condition with the following settings:

**Condition Input:** {HTTPS}

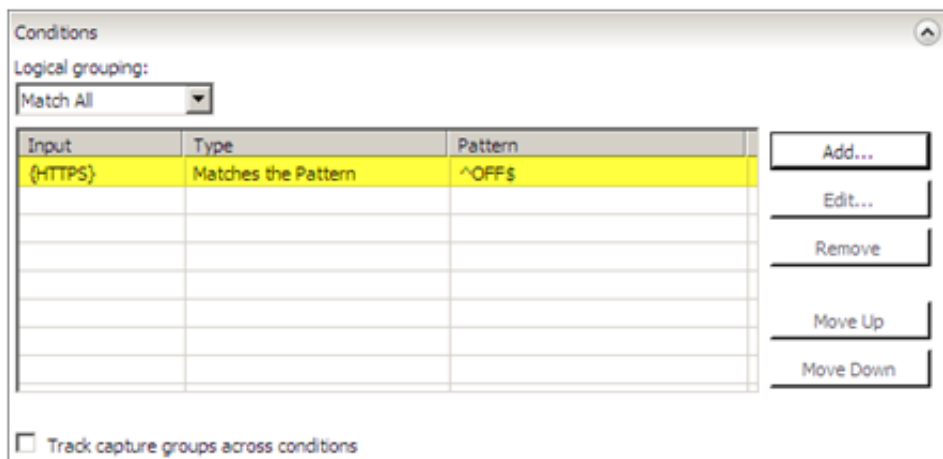
**Check if input string:** Matches the Pattern

**Pattern:** ^OFF\$

Press “OK”



You should see your condition in the list of conditions.



For this setting we do not need to configure the “Server Variables” pull down box. Continue onto the “Action” configuration box and pull down the box by selecting the arrow on the right. We will configure the following settings for the “Action” configuration:

**Action Type:** Redirect

**Redirect URL:** [https://{HTTP\\_HOST}/{R:1}](https://{HTTP_HOST}/{R:1}) }

**Redirect Type:** See Other (303)



**Edit Inbound Rule**

Name: Redirect to HTTPS

Match URL

Conditions

Server Variables

**Action**

Action Type: Redirect

Action Properties

Redirect URL: https://{HTTP\_HOST}/{R:1}

Append query string

Redirect type: See Other (303)

Press “Apply” then press “Back to Rules”

**Actions**

Apply

Cancel

Back to Rules

You should now see the rule configured on the main screen of the URL Rewrite module.

**URL Rewrite**

Provides rewriting capabilities based on rules for the requested URL address and the content of an HTTP response.

Inbound rules that are applied to the requested URL address:

Name	Input	Match	Pattern
Redirect to HTTPS	URL path after '/'	Matches	(.*)
	{HTTPS}	Matches the Pattern	^OFF\$

Test your site, it should now redirect from HTTP to HTTPS.

If we exam the web.config file we can see where the rule was entered. If we entered the rule directly into the web.config file it would show up in the GUI.

```

web.config - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<configuration>
  <system.webServer>
    <defaultDocument>
      <files>
        <clear />
        <add value="index.php" />
        <add value="default.asp" />
      </files>
    </defaultDocument>
    <rewrite>
      <rules>
        <rule name="Redirect to HTTPS" stopProcessing="true">
          <match url="(.*)" />
          <conditions>
            <add input="{HTTPS}" pattern="^OFF$" />
          </conditions>
          <action type="Redirect" url="https://{HTTP_HOST}/{R:1}" redirectType="SeeOther" />
        </rule>
      </rules>
    </rewrite>
  </system.webServer>
  <system.web>
    <authentication mode="Forms" />
  </system.web>
</configuration>

```

## Web.Config Rule

You can also edit the web.config file of the site directly and you will be able to see the rule in the GUI. You will need to enter the following within the <system.webServer> </system.webServer> elements.

```

1 <rule name="Redirect to HTTPS" stopProcessing="true">
2 <match url="(.*)" />
3 <conditions><add input="{HTTPS}" pattern="^OFF$" />
4 </conditions>
5 <action type="Redirect" url="https://{HTTP_HOST}/{R:1}" redirectType='
6 </rule>

```

When implementing this solution you need to make sure to use relative paths for all references on your page because there is a possibility you will get a warning asking you if you want to display secure and insecure items. For example, if you have a logo on your page and the URL to this logo is http://domain/images/logo.jpg, do not use the whole path because including the http:// will hard code this image to use http and not https. Instead use /images/logo.jpg.

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## [URL Rewrite 2.0 Installation](#)

This entry was posted on Wednesday, March 10th, 2010 at 3:52 pm and is filed under [IIS 7.0](#), [URL Rewrite](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#) feed. You can [leave a response](#), or [trackback](#) from your own site.

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[John](#) · 165 weeks ago

+3

Hi.

First i must thank you for this site it is very useful. Now i have problems with using Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7 using URL Rewrite 2.0

This solution is not working for me. I tried a solution with file, but is not working. I dont' know what i am doing wrong.

I have Default Web Site with one test virtual with name 'virtual' directory like this: C:\inetpub\wwwroot\Test - this is location of real folder. In this folder i have one test page.

I made a rule like you, but still i am getting the error HTTP Error 403.4 - Forbidden

The page you are trying to access is secured with Secure Sockets Layer (SSL).

Please help me.

[Reply](#) [2 replies](#) · active less than 1 minute ago

[Report](#)



[Bastiaan](#) · 164 weeks ago

+1

Doesn't work here either. I have tried so many different URL redirect tips but none seems to work...

I have an exchange sever: exchange.domain.com and simple want to redirect HTTPS and still be able to access /OWA sites.

WSRV2008 R2 X64 with URL rewrite 2.0

[Reply](#) [1 reply](#) · active less than 1 minute ago

[Report](#)



[Michael](#) · 152 weeks ago

0

I used HTTP redirect and redirected my website to HTTPS://DNSNAME/application then checked the "redirect all requests to exact destination" check box.

Works like a charm.

[Reply](#)

[Report](#)



Helder Conde · 146 weeks ago

0

Hi,

I did everything the article mentioned and I'm able to use the HTTP to HTTPS redirection when I try to open the site from within the server where it is hosted.

However, when I try this from the "outside world", the redirection does not work. I can access it via HTTPS, but if I try with HTTP (which should be redirected to HTTPS), the site never shows up.

Any ideas?

Thanks in advance,

Helder Conde

Reply [1 reply](#) · active less than 1 minute ago

[Report](#)



mag · 140 weeks ago

+2

hi,

If "Require SSL" setting is disabled that means users making http requests to the server via code will succeed. is there a way to work around it with IIS 7 without using an asp/html page?

Thanks

Mag

Reply

[Report](#)

### [Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7 | JPPinto.com - Tech Blog](#)

[...] Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7Automatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS using ASPAutomatically Redirect HTTP requests to HTTPS on IIS 7 using URL Rewrite 2.0Please Note: This does NOT work on IIS 7.5. You will get a LOCK VIOLATION due to changes in security [...]



Dan · 129 weeks ago

+3

This is working in IIS 7.5 just that in my scenario I had to:

1. Set up the default document.
2. Replace the Redirect URL `https://{HTTP_HOST}/{R:1}` with `https://{HTTP_HOST}{REQUEST_URI}`

Reply

[Report](#)



[Ryker Abel](#) · 126 weeks ago

0

Please help, nothing happens.

- 1. installed from <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/en/details.asp...>
- 2. created web.config with following:
- 3. restarted... everything
- 4. no one is redirected to https, neither local nor remote.

Thank you,

Ryker Abel

Reply

[Report](#)



Seth · 125 weeks ago

0

What would I need to do to make this rule bypass requests on localhost? (I want to redirect all requests to HTTPS except for requests to localhost)

Reply

[Report](#)



Seth · 125 weeks ago

0

Figured it out:

Added at Condition: (Does not match)

{URL}

(?:localhost)?

Reply

[Report](#)



Seth · 125 weeks ago

0

I think I spoke too soon. I can't seem to figure out a rule that will redirect everything but localhost to HTTPS. Any ideas?

Reply

[Report](#)



Patty · 122 weeks ago

0

I have two IIS7 web servers behind a load balancer. The URL Rewrite 2.0 module is installed on both servers and I have an "Enforce canonical hostname" rule in place. If I modify my local hosts file to point to only one of the servers and I then view <http://mydomain.com> in my browser, it redirects correctly to <http://www.mydomain.com>. However, when I change my hosts file back so that my browser brings up my site from the load balancer and I try to navigate to <http://mydomain.com>, my web browser hangs indefinitely. I suspect the load-balancer is affecting the way URL Rewrite works, but I don't know how, why, or what a workaround/alternate solution would be.

Any help would be much appreciated, thanks!

[Reply](#)[Report](#)

Clemilton · 122 weeks ago

0

GREAT !!! GREAT !!! GREAT !!!!  
=D

[Reply](#)[Report](#)

Kimala · 120 weeks ago

0

Works like a charm  
Thankyou

[Reply](#)[Report](#)

Ivaylo · 119 weeks ago

+3

These instructions were accurate and very useful. In my case, I had to setup a CA (certificate authority) web enrollment site which required HTTP requests to be redirected from [HTTP://Site-name.domain-name.something](http://Site-name.domain-name.something) to [HTTPS://Site-name.domain-name.something/CertSrv](https://Site-name.domain-name.something/CertSrv). I did follow the instructions and I added the ""/CertSrv"" into the Redirect URL section of the Action block. It looks like -> `https://{HTTP_HOST}/CertSrv {R:1}` It is working without problems. Thank You

[Reply](#)[Report](#)

Adam · 118 weeks ago

0

You rock, this was a great tutorial

[Reply](#)[Report](#)

ravindrav · 116 weeks ago

0

hi,

Recently i migrated a site from http to https(i taken port number as 4431.I knew the default port no:443 for https.But my client want https for 4431 port).Now my site URL is `https://moss:4431/law/uca/` .Here moss is the server name.

Now my question is i want my site to be accessed even client Request from `http://moss:4431/law/uca/` .Please help how to do it using URL Rewrite in IIS7.

Thanks in advance.

[Reply](#)[Report](#)



Tom · 115 weeks ago

0

Worked perfectly, Thanks.

Reply

[Report](#)



tnk · 112 weeks ago

0

Would not work for me until I set redirectType to Permanent.

Reply

[Report](#)



Shane · 112 weeks ago

0

Also, give this a shot if you are trying to forward OWA  
<http://briandesmond.com/blog/redirecting-owa-urls...>

Reply

[Report](#)



THOMAS · 111 weeks ago

0

this worked great....THANK YOU!

Reply

[Report](#)



Tusar · 110 weeks ago

0

Hi,  
I need to redirect the first url(ShowItem.aspx) to second url(DocIdRedir.aspx) with the unique id(ID=12345)  
The ShowItem.aspx is inside folder1, where the DocIdRedir.aspx is just in layouts.

1)  
`https://....._layouts/folder1/ShowItem.aspx?ID=12345`

2)  
`https://....._layouts/DocIdRedir.aspx?ID=12345`

My basic objective is to show the document with unique id=12345 in DocIdRedir.aspx, instead of ShowItem.aspx.

Need suggestion to resolve this.

Reply

[Report](#)



Brandon · 107 weeks ago

0

Thank You. Works like a charm

Reply

[Report](#)



acoder · 104 weeks ago

+3

Ok, Maybe this will help someone. In trying this instructions myself I had better luck with {REQUEST\_URI} instead of {R:1} but most significantly, I turned off the "require https". I guess the require https blocks the non-https request before it can even get to the redirection rule.

Reply

[Report](#)



[MDC](#) · 99 weeks ago

+1

Thank you.. Worked like a charm !!!!

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