



Author of  
*Apache Server Unleashed*  
*Apache Administrator's Handbook*  
*Apache Cookbook*

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## The Definitive Guide to Apache mod\_rewrite

Dear Reader,

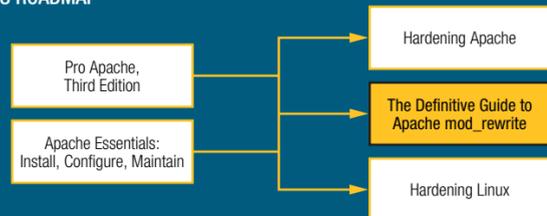
Having spent entirely too much time on IRC answering questions about mod\_rewrite, one of the most powerful—and most misunderstood—modules that comes with the Apache web server, it became increasingly obvious that there needed to be a book that could answer some of the frequently asked questions and explain some of the darker corners of the module. In addition to contributing to the mod\_rewrite documentation, this book is my attempt to dispel confusion surrounding the module.

The book begins with an overview of the mod\_rewrite installation process and a summary of regular expression concepts crucial to URL rewriting, setting the stage for the introduction to key mod\_rewrite syntax in later chapters. Within these chapters, you'll learn how to use mod\_rewrite to conditionally rewrite URLs, restrict access to portions of your website, dynamically create virtual hosts, load balance server traffic, and much more. Additionally, because mod\_rewrite isn't always the most efficient solution to every URL-related task, I'll occasionally point out more suitable alternatives.

I hope that you will find mod\_rewrite to be a useful tool, and that it will enable you to make your website's primary interface—the URL—more usable to your users.

Rich Bowen

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The Definitive Guide to Apache mod\_rewrite

Bowen

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# The Definitive Guide to Apache mod\_rewrite

*Make your website URLs more usable with mod\_rewrite, the URL rewriting power tool.*

Rich Bowen

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