## **Issue with Storing Session**

Authored by: ASPHostServer Administrator [asphostserver@gmail.com]

Saved From: http://faq.asphosthelpdesk.com/article.php?id=301

Sometimes, the session on your website can expire earlier than you expect. The followings are the steps you need to check:

- 1. In .Net, you cannot use authentication without session. The session ID can be transmitted with client either in a cookie, or in the page url. There is no need to choose between session and cookie, as the cookie actually holds the session id.
- 2. On the server, session data is stored either in memory (in process or outside process), or in database.
- 3. The cookie is encrypted using a key called the "machine key". By default, everytime the app pool is recycled, a new machine key is created and the session data that is in memory is lost. On a shared server, this results in the end of a session, since the cookie cannot be decrypted anymore.

The solution: Store a static machine key in the web.config of the web application.

Also, storing the session data in the database instead of memory (in proc) can be useful to preserve sessions.