JavaScript Security: Same Origin

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- Developers
- Store
- Support
- Products

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The	Same	Origin	Policy

Go

## Page Maintained by Jesse Ruderman (mailto:jruderman@hmc.edu)

The same origin policy prevents document or script loaded from one origin from getting or setting properties of a document from a different origin. The policy dates from Netscape Navigator 2.0.

Mozilla considers two pages to have the same origin if the protocol, port (if given), and host are the same for both pages. To illustrate, this table gives examples of origin comparisons to the URL http://store.company.com/dir/page.html.

URL	Outcome	Reason
http://store.company.com/dir2/other.html	Success	
http://store.company.com/dir/inner/another.html	Success	
https://store.company.com/secure.html	Failure	Different protocol
http://store.company.com:81/dir/etc.html	Failure	Different port
http://news.company.com/dir/other.html	Failure	Different host

There is one exception to the same origin rule. A script can set the value of document.domain to a suffix of the current domain. If it does so, the shorter domain is used for subsequent origin checks. For example, assume a script in the document at http://store.company.com/dir/other.html executes this statement:

3/13/2015

Find authenticated court documents without watermarks at docketalarm.com.

3/13/2015

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document.domain = "company.com";

After execution of that statement, the page would pass the origin check with http://company.com/dir/page.html.

However, using the same reasoning, company.com could NOT set document.domain to othercompany.com.

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