

Validating an Uploaded CSV File

Validate the upload before reading its rows.

```
$file = $_FILES["dataset"] ?? null;
$errors = [];

if (!$file || $file["error"] !== UPLOAD_ERR_OK) {
    $errors[] = "Choose a CSV file that uploaded successfully.";
}

if ($file && $file["size"] > 2 * 1024 * 1024) {
    $errors[] = "The file must be 2 MB or smaller.";
}

$extension = $file ? strtolower(pathinfo($file["name"], PATHINFO_EXTENSION)) : "";
if ($extension !== "csv") {
    $errors[] = "The file must use the .csv extension.";
}
```

A filename or MIME type alone can be misleading. Combine upload status, size, extension, readable content, header and row validation.

Never use the original filename as a server path. Process the temporary upload and store only what the application requires.

Check

Test missing files, oversized files, wrong extensions, empty files and malformed content. Every failure should produce a clear message and must not partially import data.

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