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Django DisallowedHost, CSRF failed and missing static files: the fixes

Node.js, Python & Docker

CODE

RLX-MZ-KB-1101

VERSION

v2026.10.10

COUNTRY · LANGUAGE

Mozambique · English

MozOut Mozambique

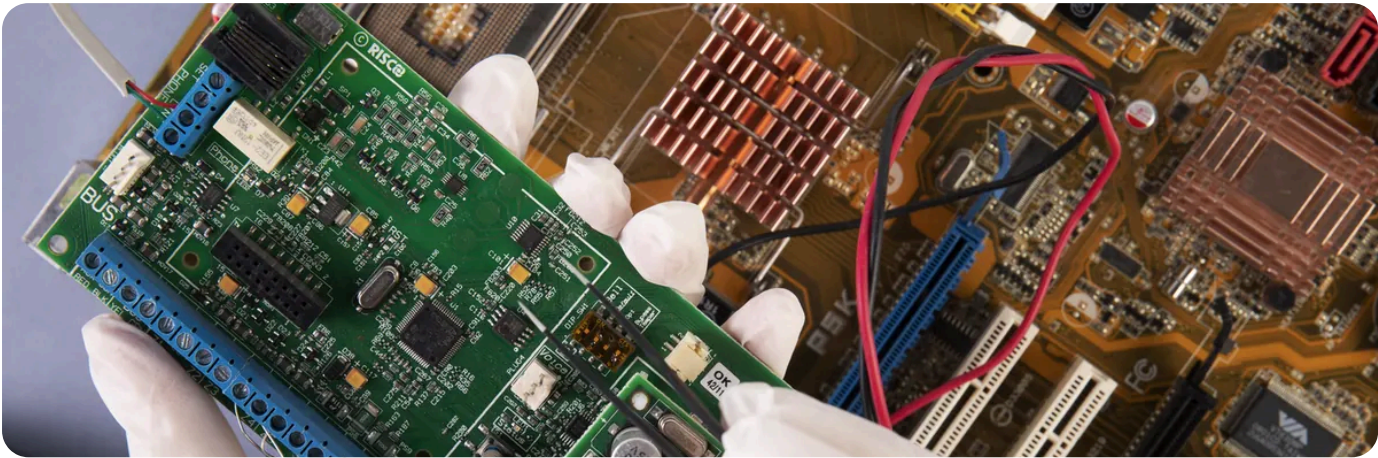
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Django DisallowedHost, CSRF failed and missing static files: the fixes

Node.js, Python & Docker Created on **October 10, 2026** 2 min read



You put Django online and three errors show up that nearly everyone meets: **DisallowedHost**, **CSRF verification failed** and the page with no styles (static files give a 404). They have one thing in common: on your computer it worked because `DEBUG` was on and the address was `localhost`. **The short answer:** they are three `settings.py` values that have to know the real domain. To get Django running in the first place, see **the base article** first.

The three errors, one line each

Error	Cause	Fix in settings.py
DisallowedHost: Invalid HTTP_HOST header	The domain you opened the site with is not in the list of allowed hosts.	<code>ALLOWED_HOSTS = ["asuaempresa.co.mz", "www.asuaempresa.co.mz"]</code> . Include every name the site opens with.
CSRF verification failed (403) when submitting a form	Behind HTTPS, Django does not trust the form's origin.	<code>CSRF_TRUSTED_ORIGINS = ["https://asuaempresa.co.mz", "https://www.asuaempresa.co.mz"]</code> . Since Django 4.0 it must include the protocol.
Page with no styles; files under /static/ give a 404	With <code>DEBUG = False</code> Django stops serving static files.	Set <code>STATIC_ROOT</code> , run <code>python manage.py collectstatic</code> and serve that folder through the web server (see below).

Static files, step by step

1 Set the two lines in settings.py:

```
STATIC_URL = "/static/"  
STATIC_ROOT = BASE_DIR / "staticfiles"
```

2 Gather everything in one folder, inside the application's environment:

```
python manage.py collectstatic
```

Repeat after every update that touches static files.

3 Make the web server serve that folder. In cPanel, the simple way is to copy (or link) the contents of `staticfiles` to a folder inside the domain's public folder, at the path `STATIC_URL` gives. On a VPS, nginx serves it with a `location /static/` block and an `alias`.

4 Restart the application and reload without cache (Ctrl+F5).

There is an alternative that skips step 3: the `whitenoise` package, which lets Django itself serve static files efficiently. Follow its documentation: you install it with pip and add it to `MIDDLEWARE`.



Do not fix it by leaving `DEBUG = True` on.

With it on, any error shows visitors your paths, settings and sometimes credentials. Django requires `ALLOWED_HOSTS` precisely when `DEBUG` is off. And never use `ALLOWED_HOSTS = ["*"]` in production.



Behind an HTTPS proxy

(nginx on a VPS), tell Django the original request was secure, or CSRF and redirects fail: `SECURE_PROXY_SSL_HEADER = ("HTTP_X_FORWARDED_PROTO", "https")`, and only if the proxy sends that header and clears it on requests coming from outside. See [gunicorn and systemd on a VPS](#). For passwords and the secret key: [environment variables and secrets](#).

NEED A HAND?

Adjusted settings.py and the error is still there? Send us the domain and the last lines of the application log.

 [Open a support ticket](#) →

SEE ALSO

Getting a Django application running



Environment variables and secrets for your application



Where console.log and print output goes, and how to read your app logs



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