

Use of # Character in Blackboard Items

The # character when used as part of the label to identify an item such as an assignment or test has proven to be problematic in Blackboard. Additionally, the # character used within the **filename** of an attached file can also be susceptible to problems; especially when downloading a batch of grades from the Grade Center.

This following scenario represents a sample activity of downloading grades for a Grade Center item... in this case an item named with the # character.

In the [screen reader view](#), the table is static and grades may be entered on the Grade Details page accessed by selecting the table cell for the grade. In the interactive view of the Grade Center, grades can be typed directly in the cells. Use the arrow keys or the tab key to navigate through the Grade Center and the Enter key to submit a grade.

Create Column Create Calculated Column Manage Reports Work Offline

Current View: Full Grade Center Set as Default Sort Columns By: Layout Position Order: ▲Ascending

Grade Information Bar

Last Name	First Name	Assign #2	Example #3 - Int
User	Student	-	

Selected Rows: 0

Move To Top Email

Icon Legend

Quick Column Information

Edit Column Information

Column Statistics

Set as External Grade

Assignment File Cleanup

Assignment File Download


Clear Attempts for All Users

Sort Ascending

Sort Descending

Hide Column

Evaluation > Grade Center > **Download Assignment: Example #3 - Interactive Assignment**

 **Download Assignment: Example #3 - Interactive Assignment**

The assignments have been packaged. [Download assignments now. \(9 KB\)](#)

Tuesday, November 17, 2009 3:35:39 PM EST

The following is the error message for this event. (The solution is to rename the item without the # character and it will download successfully.)

HTTP Status 404 - /courses/1/A-New-Course-by-JW/gradebook/Example%20

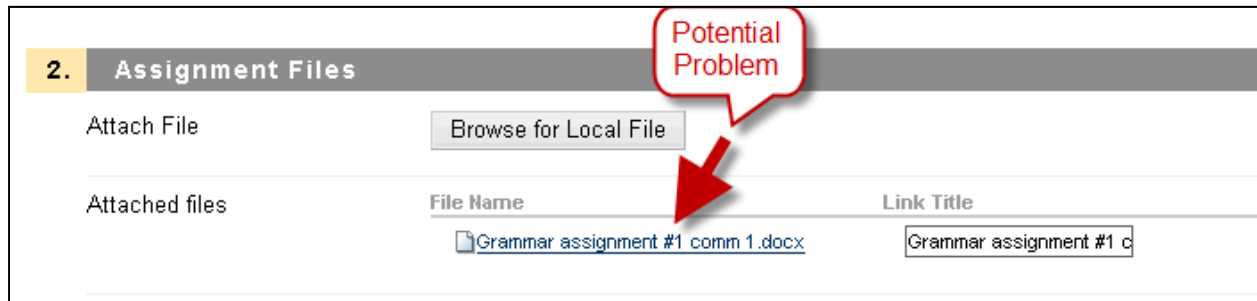
type Status report

message /courses/1/A-New-Course-by-JW/gradebook/Example%20

description The requested resource (/courses/1/A-New-Course-by-JW/gradebook/Example%20) is not available.

Apache Tomcat/6.0.18

The following is a screen shot of an assignment file named with the # character as part of the name. If there is a problem with using this file it should be deleted from the Blackboard item, renamed, and reattached.



Whether the Blackboard item is the **name** of the item or the **filename** attached to that item; use of the # character should be avoided.

