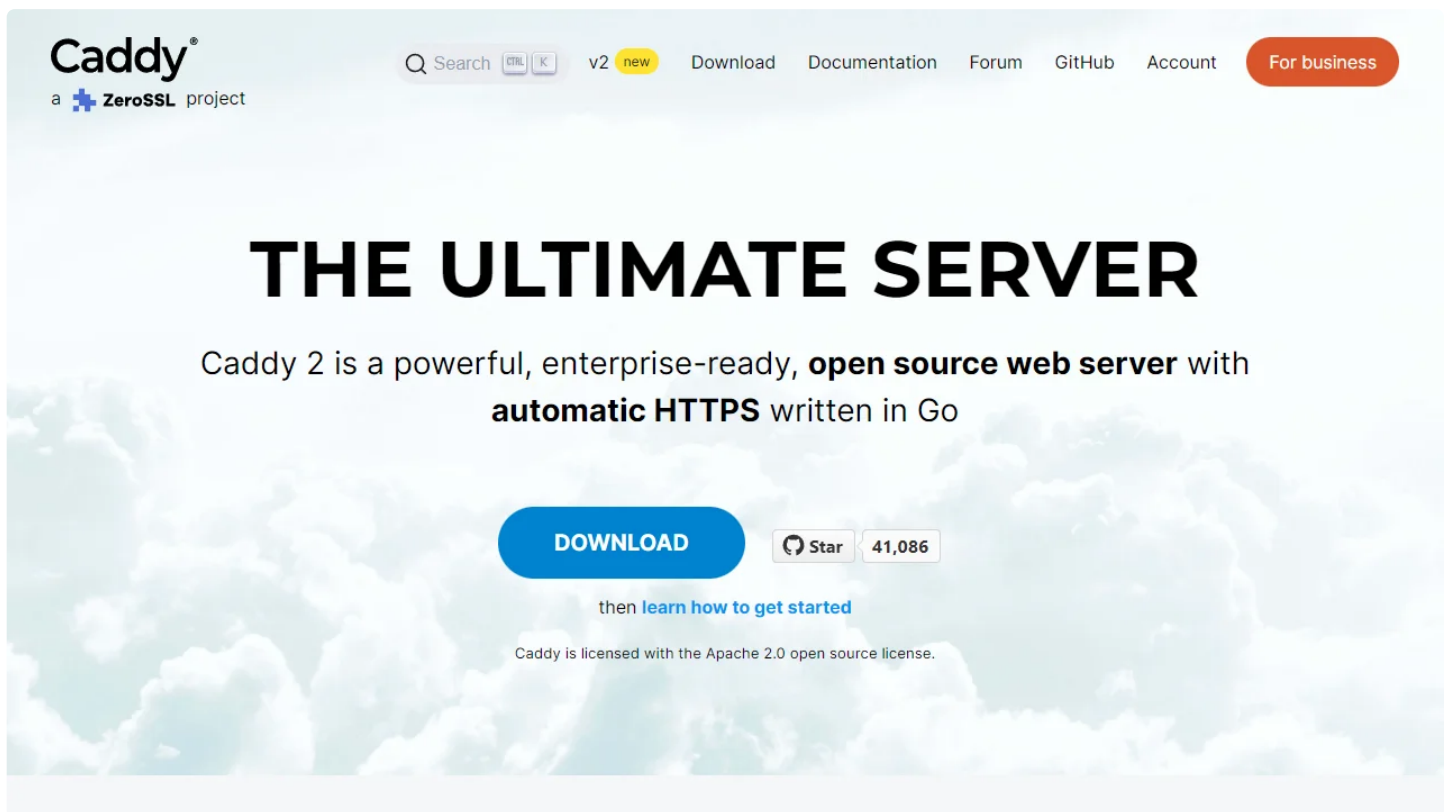


Coding

Webdev

# Caddy configuration for Django with some sensible defaults

Caddy is a great web server with sensible defaults but there a few things that I need to configure to have perfect synergy with Django.

The image is a screenshot of the Caddy website homepage. At the top left is the Caddy logo, a blue plus sign, and the text "Caddy" followed by "a ZeroSSL project". To the right of the logo is a search bar with "Q Search" and "CTRL K" icons. Further right are navigation links: "v2 new", "Download", "Documentation", "Forum", "GitHub", and "Account". On the far right is a red button that says "For business". The main content area has a light blue background with a cloud pattern. The headline "THE ULTIMATE SERVER" is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, the text reads "Caddy 2 is a powerful, enterprise-ready, open source web server with automatic HTTPS written in Go". There is a prominent blue "DOWNLOAD" button. To its right is a GitHub Star icon with the number "41,086". Below the download button, it says "then learn how to get started" with a link. At the bottom of the main content area, it states "Caddy is licensed with the Apache 2.0 open source license."

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Caddy has become my favorite web server with it's great default configuration and even better performance. I try to setup Django with as much security and performance as possible but there are a few things that I need to offload to my web server such as serving

media files. So my default configuration has settled in around something like this.

```
1 (common) {
2   header /* {
3     X-XSS-Protection "1; mode=block"
4     X-Content-Type-Options nosniff
5     -Server
6   }
7
8   header /media/* {
9     Cache-Control "public, max-age=315360000"
10  }
11
12  encode zstd gzip
13 }
14
15 blog.example.com {
16   handle /media/* {
17     uri strip_prefix /media
18     file_server {
19       root /srv/data/blog/media
20     }
21   }
22
23   reverse_proxy localhost:8000
24
25   import common
26 }
```

As an explanation this Caddyfile will do a few things, starting from the top:

- Create a (common) configuration to import into all my domains
- XSS protection header
- Content sniffing protection header
- Caching with a max age of two months

- Encoding starting with the better zstd and falling back to the widely supported gzip
- Handling for serving my media files such as images and documents
- And finally a reverse\_proxy to my gunicorn server

Caddy will by default create and enable HTTPS which is a huge benefit, I don't even have to consider security on that front. From here Django handles everything else such as setting cookie security and HSTS headers.

For more information Caddy and more settings check out [Caddy's website](#).

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