

Problems with the Assignment tool in Blackboard?

The complaints can be either the student cannot **Attach** a document, or **Submit** the Assignment; or the Instructor cannot **Save** the graded submission in the Assignment Dropbox.

This problem happens when an Assignment's instructions are copied from a previously existing assignment using either the Preview or Student view of the Assignment. When copying is done in either of these views, extra code is also copied and transferred with the copied instructions to the newly created assignment.

The images below show an Assignment with the "extra code" and a properly created assignment.

Extra code creates a box within a box as shown in this example

Assignment Submission: Sample2

Instructions

Notice the box within a box

Attachments:

Most Recent Comment:

None

Submission:

Add Attachments

Submit Cancel Save as Draft

Notice in the properly created assignment there is a single box.

Assignment Submission: Sample

Instructions

Notice "no" box within a box

Attachments:

Most Recent Comment:

None

Submission:

Add Attachments

Submit Cancel Save as Draft

There are a couple of solutions to this problem.

- Delete the Assignment and create new.
(It is possible to copy the instructions of pre-existing, functioning assignments. Make sure to do so by using the Edit Properties, Enabled Html Creator, copy instructions and paste; or just copy the code without Enabling the HTML Creator and paste the code into the new assignments Disabled HTML Creator's box making sure to check the Use HTML box.)
- If you cannot delete due to having students' submissions, then you will need to **Edit the properties** of the assignment. Follow these steps to correct the problem.
 1. **Build tab**
 2. **Assignments**
 3. **Actionlink** of the Assignment with the problem
 4. **Edit Properties**
 5. **Enable the HTML creator**
 6. **Copy** all of the text in the Instruction box
 7. **Open Notepad** or (Mac users -**Text Editor**) where you will **paste** the text.
(Pasting the text to Notepad will eliminate the extra code. If you paste to a Word document the extra code lingers.)
 8. **Copy** the text from Notepad
 9. Make sure everything is **deleted** in the Instruction box of the Assignment
 10. **Paste** the text from Notepad into the Instruction box.
 11. Format as you desire
 12. **Save.**
(If the closing date has past, you will need to edit this before the Assignment will let you save.)

When you go to **Student view** and see the single Instruction box, you will know you fixed the problem.