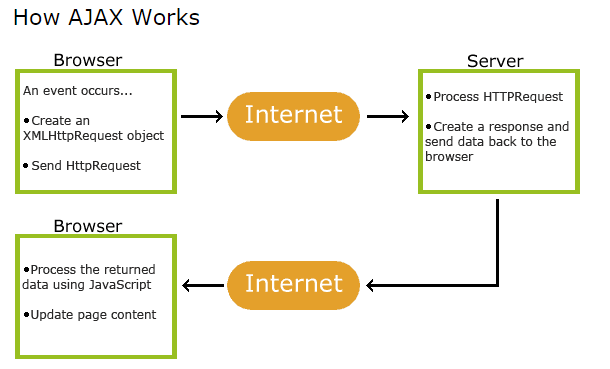
**AJAX** – Asynchronous Javascript and XML (**NOT** A PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE)

* Exchanging data with a server, and updating parts of a web page, without refreshing the browser
* A technique for creating fast and dynamic web pages



* **Google Suggest** uses AJAX to load the dynamic web page as you type in the search engine. The letters you type are captured by the JavaScript on the page and sent off to a server to return list of suggestions.
  + Can be used to pre-fill customer’s name as the user enters it, to see if we have customer information already
    - [**http://www.w3schools.com/ajax/ajax\_aspphp.asp**](http://www.w3schools.com/ajax/ajax_aspphp.asp)
* Can query database
  + [**http://www.w3schools.com/ajax/ajax\_database.asp**](http://www.w3schools.com/ajax/ajax_database.asp)
* Application and browser independent
* The XMLHttpRequest object is a key component to AJAX. This object is used to interact with the server behind the scenes
  + New versions of browsers have a built-in XMLHttpRequest object
  + Older versions use an ActiveX object
* **When to use GET or POST?**
  + **GET** – displays form data entered in browser URL. For example, action\_page.php?firstname=Mickey&lastname=Mouse
  + Best suited for small amounts of non-sensitive data, since a URL is limited in how long it can be
  + **POST** – if the form is updating data, or includes sensitive information, offers better security since the data is not visible in browser.
* Each input field of a form must have a name attribute