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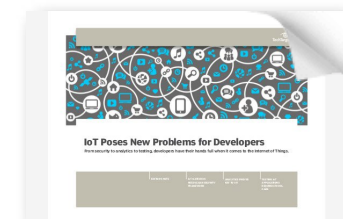
HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol)

Posted by: **Margaret Rouse** WhatIs.com

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HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) is the set of rules for transferring files (text, graphic images, sound, video, and other multimedia files) on the World Wide Web. As soon as a Web user opens their Web browser, the user is indirectly making use of HTTP. HTTP is an application protocol that runs on top of the TCP/IP suite of protocols (the foundation protocols for the Internet).

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HTTP concepts include (as the Hypertext part of the name implies) the idea that files can contain references to other files whose selection will elicit additional transfer requests. Any <u>Web server</u> machine contains, in addition to the Web page files it can serve, an HTTP <u>daemon</u>, a program that is designed to wait for HTTP requests and handle them when they arrive. Your Web <u>browser</u> is an HTTP <u>client</u>, sending requests to server machines. When the browser user enters file requests by either "opening" a Web file (typing in a Uniform Resource Locator or URL) or clicking on a <u>hypertext</u> <u>link</u>, the browser builds an HTTP request and sends it to the Internet Protocol address (<u>IP address</u>) indicated by the URL. The HTTP daemon in the destination server machine receives the request and sends back the requested file or files associated with the request. (A Web page often consists of more than one file.)

The latest version of HTTP is <u>HTTP 1.1</u>.

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This was last updated in July 2006

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- ■ The World Wide Web Consortium provides more information about HTTP.

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Yehh basically a beautiful info on the HTTP protocol which is the most important topic to be known in today's world.

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