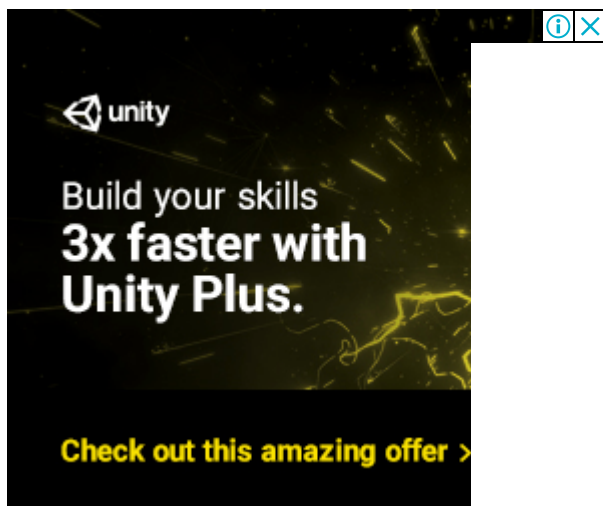# SOAP vs REST Web Services

There are many differences between SOAP and REST web services. The important 10 differences between SOAP and REST are given below:

No.	SOAP	REST
1)	SOAP is a **protocol**.	REST is an **architectural style**.
2)	SOAP stands for **Simple Object Access Protocol**.	REST stands for **REpresentational State Transfer**.
3)	SOAP **can't use REST** because it is a protocol.	REST **can use SOAP** web services because it is a concept and can use any protocol like HTTP, SOAP.
4)	SOAP **uses services interfaces to expose the business logic**.	REST **uses URI to expose business logic**.
5)	**JAX-WS** is the java API for SOAP web services.	**JAX-RS** is the java API for RESTful web services.
6)	SOAP **defines standards** to be strictly followed.	REST does not define too much standards like SOAP.
7)	SOAP **requires more bandwidth** and resource than REST.	REST **requires less bandwidth** and resource than SOAP.
8)	SOAP **defines its own security**.	RESTful web services **inherits security measures** from the underlying transport.

9)	SOAP **permits XML** data format only.	REST **permits different** data format such as Plain text, HTML, XML, JSON etc.
10)	SOAP is **less preferred** than REST.	REST **more preferred** than SOAP.

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