

Analogy for API:



Client
orderer

API
writer

Kitchen

HTTP: foundation of internet comm.
everytime you load webpage in browser, it's making HTTP req. to server

REST

API

→ (App. Prog. Interface)

Server

- 1) App. itself is the ~~client~~ client on the front-end
- 2) Under the hood, it needs to talk to the server or backend to get or save data.

Client

HTTP

Service

eg: blog post, database

exposed service

- 3) This communication happens using the HTTP protocol (the same protocol that powers our web)
- 4) Most apps these days follow this client-server architecture
- 5) On the server, we expose a bunch of services that are accessible via the HTTP protocol.
- 6) The client can then call the services by sending HTTP req.

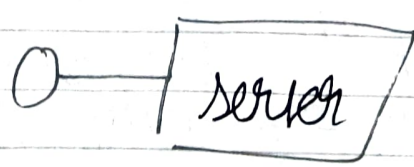
uses
HTTP and
JSON so
can be used
by any
prog. lang.

← REST → Representational State Transfer

- This is basically a convenⁿ for building these HTTP services
- relies on a stateless, client-server protocol, mostly HTTP
- We use simple HTTP protocol principals to provide support to

CRUD
ops.

- Create data
- Read data
- Update data
- Delete data



Ex: - We have a company called VIDLY for renting out movies. We have a client app to manage our customer list. On the server we should expose a service and a service like this:

① http : // vidly.com / api / customers

use https to exchange data on secure channel

domain

not compulsory but a lotta companies

② Client can send HTTP req to this endpt. to talk to ~~the~~ ^{our} service.
 follow this convenⁿ of including api in address to expose their restful service

③ ~~We can~~ /customers : This part like api.vidly.com of address is referred to as RESOURCE
 (can be after domain like here) or a sub-domain

We can expose our resources such as customers, movies, rentals and various endpts. It is our endpt. to work with the customers.

All the ops around customers such as creating a customer, updating a customer etc. would be done by sending an HTTP req. to this endpt.

④ The type of HTTP req. determines the kind of op. Every HTTP req has a verb/method that determines its type or intenⁿ

HTTP meths -
i) GET ^{verb} → getting data. eg: - reading & fetch API
ii) PUT ^{verb} → updating data. eg: - web forms submission (using GET is unsafe)
iii) POST ^{verb} → creating data. eg: -
iv) DELETE ^{verb} → deleting data.
v) HEAD → same as GET but no body returned
vi) OPTIONS → returns supported HTTP meths
vii) PATCH → update specific resource

Endpt. :- URI/URL where ~~API~~ HTTP req are sent to

To get list of all customers, we should send an HTTP get req to this address.

| Method | Inten ⁿ | Req. (sent by us to address endpt.) | Resp. (sent by server) |
|--------|---------------------------|--|--|
| GET | Get list of all customers | GET /api/customers plural, so list of customers | arr. of customer obj. [{id: 1, name: ' '}, {id: 2, name: ' '},] ... |
| | To get single customer | GET /api/customer/1 customer referenced thru id | cust. obj. {id: 1, name: ' '} |
| PUT | To update a cust. | PUT /api/cust/1 specify id of cust. to be updated {name: ' '} cust. obj. included in body of req. with updated properties in cust. obj. | Updates cust. with given id, according to values given {id: 1, name: ' '} |
| DELETE | To delete a cust. | DELETE /api/custs/1 no need to include cust. obj. in req. body cuz all we need to delete cust is an id | |
| POST | To create a cust. | POST /api/custs plural cuz accessing whole cust. list to add new cust to it {name: ' '} | Gets new cust. obj and creates the cust. for us {id: 1, name: ' '} |

The RESTful convenⁿ in short

| | |
|--------|------------------|
| GET | /api/customers |
| GET | /api/customers/1 |
| PUT | /api/customers/1 |
| DELETE | /api/customers/1 |
| POST | /api/customers |

RESOURCE

We expose our custs. using a simple, meaningful address and support various ops. around em. such as creation or updation em. using std. HTTP methods.

What is an API?

- 1) API → Appliⁿ Prog. Interface.
- 2) APIs are everywhere → web apis, ~~api~~ apis in computer, OS, smartphone, some refrigerators etc.
- 3) It is a contract provided by one piece of software to another piece of software.
- 4) Consist of structured req. and resp.
One piece of software says gimme this info formatted in this way, and I'll give you back this fⁿ or data or whatever that resp. may be
- 5)

Orderer
Client

Waiter
API

Kitchen
Server