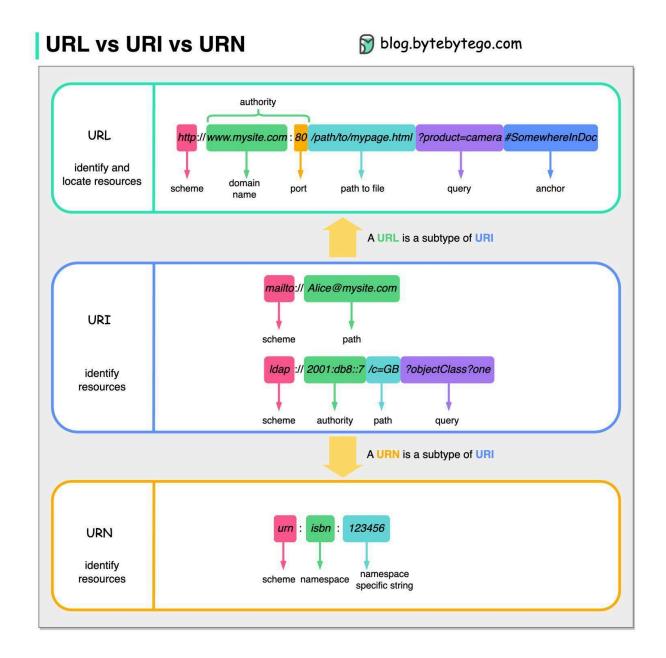
URL, URI, URN - Do you know the differences?

The diagram below shows a comparison of URL, URI, and URN.



♦ URI

URI stands for Uniform Resource Identifier. It identifies a logical or physical resource on the web. URL and URN are subtypes of URI. URL locates a resource, while URN names a resource.

A URI is composed of the following parts:

scheme:[//authority]path[?query][#fragment]

♦ URL

URL stands for Uniform Resource Locator, the key concept of HTTP. It is the address of a unique resource on the web. It can be used with other protocols like FTP and JDBC.

♦ URN

URN stands for Uniform Resource Name. It uses the urn scheme. URNs cannot be used to locate a resource. A simple example given in the diagram is composed of a namespace and a namespace-specific string.

If you would like to learn more detail on the subject, I would recommend W3C's clarification.