**AppCache** is the acronym for **Application Cache**. As the name suggests AppCache is **a technique for implementing offline HTML5** web applications.

Well, you might think that it is a contradiction to the traditional web app concept because web pages are always downloaded and served to the users. So, how can you load pages if you are offline? The answer is no, we can’t. But **pages can be downloaded when the user is online and then cached for subsequent usage in offline mode**.

This is how AppCache works. When you go to **a web page that is offline enabled**, your **browser downloads and caches the page in the background**. **Later on when you try to access the page in offline mode, the browser retrieves the page from its cache and loads for you.**

**A Cache Manifest file stores all the resources that need to be downloaded and cached for offline access**. The file should end with an extension .manifest but you are free to choose the extension of your choice.

**In order to start the process of caching** you just need to point the browser to this manifest file. How is it done? **Simply add an attribute called manifest to the <html>tag in the web page that needs to be cached.**