

# Send a simple request

At a high level, you use Volley by creating a `RequestQueue` and passing it `Request` objects. The `RequestQueue` manages worker threads for running the network operations, reading from and writing to the cache, and parsing responses. Requests do the parsing of raw responses and Volley takes care of dispatching the parsed response back to the main thread for delivery.

This lesson describes how to send a request using the `Volley.newRequestQueue` convenience method, which sets up a `RequestQueue` for you. See the next lesson, [Setting Up a RequestQueue](/training/volley/requestqueue.html) (</training/volley/requestqueue.html>), for information on how to set up a `RequestQueue` yourself.

This lesson also describes how to add a request to a `RequestQueue` and cancel a request.

## Add the INTERNET permission

To use Volley, you must add the `android.permission.INTERNET` (</reference/android/Manifest.permission.html#INTERNET>) permission to your app's manifest. Without this, your app won't be able to connect to the network.

## Use newRequestQueue

Volley provides a convenience method `Volley.newRequestQueue` that sets up a `RequestQueue` for you, using default values, and starts the queue. For example:

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```
final TextView textView = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.text);  
// ...
```

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```
// Request a string response from the provided URL.
StringRequest stringRequest = new StringRequest(Request.Method.GET,
    new Response.Listener<String>() {
        @Override
        public void onResponse(String response) {
            // Display the first 500 characters of the response string.
            textView.setText("Response is: " + response.substring(0,500))
        }
    }, new Response.ErrorListener() {
        @Override
        public void onErrorResponse(VolleyError error) {
            textView.setText("That didn't work!");
        }
    });

// Add the request to the RequestQueue.
queue.add(stringRequest);
```

Volley always delivers parsed responses on the main thread. Running on the main thread is convenient for populating UI controls with received data, as you can freely modify UI controls directly from your response handler, but it's especially critical to many of the important semantics provided by the library, particularly related to canceling requests.

See [Setting Up a RequestQueue](/training/volley/requestqueue.html) (/training/volley/requestqueue.html) for a description of how to set up a `RequestQueue` yourself, instead of using the `Volley.newRequestQueue` convenience method.

## Send a request

To send a request, you simply construct one and add it to the `RequestQueue` with `add()`, as shown above. Once you add the request it moves through the pipeline, gets serviced, and has its raw response parsed and delivered.

When you call `add()`, Volley runs one cache processing thread and a pool of network dispatch threads. When you add a request to the queue, it is picked up by the cache thread and triaged: if the request can be serviced from cache, the cached response is parsed on the cache thread and the parsed response is

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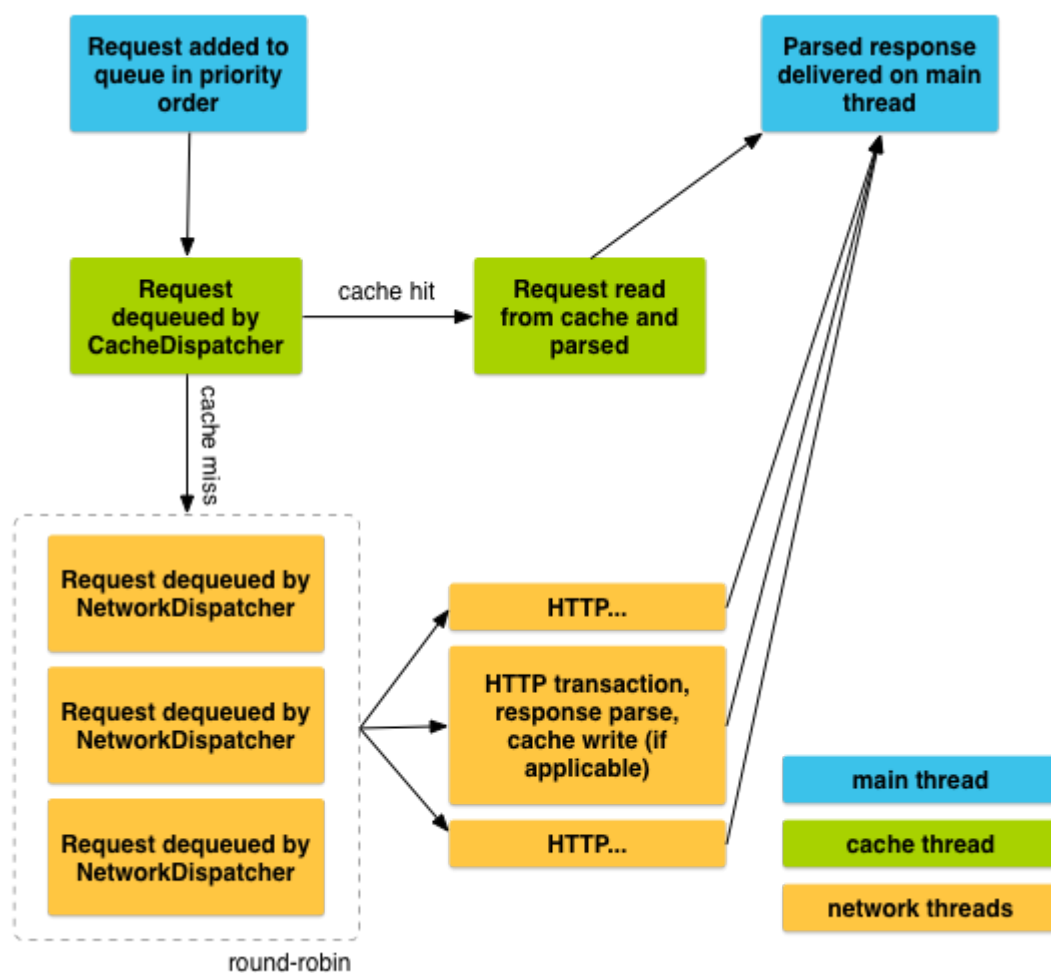
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the worker thread, writes the response to cache, and posts the parsed response back to the main thread for delivery.

Note that expensive operations like blocking I/O and parsing/decoding are done on worker threads. You can add a request from any thread, but responses are always delivered on the main thread.

Figure 1 illustrates the life of a request:



**Figure 1.** Life of a request.

## Cancel a request

To cancel a request, call `cancel()` on your `Request` object. Once cancelled, Volley guarantees that your response handler will never be called. What this

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`null`, whether `onSaveInstanceState()` has been called already, or other defensive boilerplate.

To take advantage of this behavior, you would typically have to track all in-flight requests in order to be able to cancel them at the appropriate time. There is an easier way: you can associate a tag object with each request. You can then use this tag to provide a scope of requests to cancel. For example, you can tag all of your requests with the [Activity](/reference/android/app/Activity.html) they are being made on behalf of, and call `requestQueue.cancelAll(this)` from [`onStop\(\)`](/reference/android/app/Activity.html#onStop()). Similarly, you could tag all thumbnail image requests in a [ViewPager](/reference/androidx/viewpager/widget/ViewPager.html) tab with their respective tabs and cancel on swipe to make sure that the new tab isn't being held up by requests from another one.

Here is an example that uses a string value for the tag:

1. Define your tag and add it to your requests.

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```
public static final String TAG = "MyTag";
StringRequest stringRequest; // Assume this exists.
RequestQueue requestQueue; // Assume this exists.

// Set the tag on the request.
stringRequest.setTag(TAG);

// Add the request to the RequestQueue.
requestQueue.add(stringRequest);
```

2. In your activity's [`onStop\(\)`](/reference/android/app/Activity.html#onStop()) method, cancel all requests that have this tag.

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@Override

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```
}  
}
```

Take care when canceling requests. If you are depending on your response handler to advance a state or kick off another process, you need to account for this. Again, the response handler will not be called.

[Next](#)  
[Set up RequestQueue](#) (/training/volley/requestqueue) →

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