

# HTTP Header Fields

Enjoy this cheat sheet at its fullest within Dash, the macOS documentation browser.

Requests	
Accept	Content types that are acceptable for the response
	<code>Accept: text/plain</code>
Status: Permanent	
Accept-Charset	Character sets that are acceptable
	<code>Accept-Charset: utf-8</code>
Status: Permanent	
Accept-Encoding	List of acceptable encodings
	<code>Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate</code>
Status: Permanent	
Accept-Language	List of acceptable human languages for response
	<code>Accept-Language: en-US</code>
Status: Permanent	
Authorization	Authentication credentials for HTTP authentication
	<code>Authorization: Basic QmxhZGRpbjpvY2VudHNlc2FtZQ==</code>
Status: Permanent	
Cache-Control	Used to specify directives that MUST be obeyed by all caching mechanisms along the request/response chain
	<code>Cache-Control: no-cache</code>
Status: Permanent	
Connection	What type of connection the user-agent would prefer
	<code>Connection: keep-alive</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Length	The length of the request body in octets (8-bit bytes)
	<code>Content-Length: 348</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-MD5	A Base64-encoded binary MD5 sum of the content of the request body
	<code>Content-MD5: Q2h1Y2sgSW50ZWdyYXR5S1Q==</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Type	The MIME type of the body of the request (used with <code>POST</code> and <code>PUT</code> requests)
	<code>Content-Type: application/json</code>
Status: Permanent	
Date	The date and time that the message was sent (in <code>HTTP-date</code> format as defined by RFC 2616)
	<code>Date: Tue, 15 Nov 1994 08:12:31 GMT</code>
Status: Permanent	
Expect	Indicates that particular server behaviors are required by the client
	<code>Expect: 100-continue</code>
Status: Permanent	
From	The email address of the user making the request
	<code>From: user@example.com</code>
Status: Permanent	
Host	The domain name of the server (for virtual hosting), and the TCP port number on which the server is listening. The port number may be omitted if the port is the standard port for the service requested. Mandatory since HTTP/1.1. Although domain name are specified as case-insensitive, it is not specified whether the contents of the Host field should be interpreted in a case-insensitive manner and in practice some implementations of virtual hosting interpret the contents of the Host field in a case-sensitive manner
	<code>Host: en.wikipedia.org</code>
Status: Permanent	
If-Match	Only perform the action if the client supplied entity matches the same entity on the server. This is mainly for methods like <code>PUT</code> to only update a resource if it has not been modified since the user last updated it
	<code>If-Match: "737060cd8c284d8af7ad3082f209582d"</code>
Status: Permanent	
If-Modified-Since	Allows a <code>304 Not Modified</code> to be returned if content is unchanged
	<code>If-Modified-Since: Sat, 29 Oct 1994 19:43:31 GMT</code>
Status: Permanent	
If-None-Match	Allows a <code>304 Not Modified</code> to be returned if content is unchanged
	<code>If-None-Match: "737060cd8c284d8af7ad3082f209582d"</code>
Status: Permanent	
If-Range	If the entity is unchanged, send me the part(s) that I am missing; otherwise, send me the entire new entity
	<code>If-Range: "737060cd8c284d8af7ad3082f209582d"</code>
Status: Permanent	
If-Unmodified-Since	Only send the response if the entity has not been modified since a specific time
	<code>If-Unmodified-Since: Sat, 29 Oct 1994 19:43:31 GMT</code>
Status: Permanent	
Max-Forwards	Limit the number of times the message can be forwarded through proxies or gateways
	<code>Max-Forwards: 10</code>
Status: Permanent	
Pragma	Implementation-specific headers that may have various effects anywhere along the request-response chain
	<code>Pragma: no-cache</code>
Status: Permanent	
Proxy-Authorization	Authorization credentials for connecting to a proxy
	<code>Proxy-Authorization: Basic QmxhZGRpbjpvY2VudHNlc2FtZQ==</code>
Status: Permanent	
Range	Request only part of an entity. Bytes are numbered from 0
	<code>Range: bytes=500-999</code>
Status: Permanent	
Referer	This is the address of the previous web page from which a link to the currently requested page was followed. The word "referrer" is misspelled in the RFC as well as in most implementations
	<code>Referer: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page</code>
Status: Permanent	
TE	The transfer encodings the user agent is willing to accept: the same values as for the response header <code>Transfer-Encoding</code> can be used, plus the <code>trailers</code> value (related to the <code>chunked</code> transfer method) to notify the server it expects to receive additional headers (the trailers) after the last, zero-sized, chunk
	<code>TE: trailers, deflate</code>
Status: Permanent	
User-Agent	The user agent string of the user agent
	<code>User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_8_5) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko) Chrome/34.0.1847.116 Safari/537.36</code>
Status: Permanent	
Via	Informs the server of proxies through which the request was sent
	<code>Via: 1.0 fred, 1.1 example.com (Apache/1.1)</code>
Status: Permanent	
Warning	A general warning about possible problems with the entity body
	<code>Warning: 199 Miscellaneous warning</code>
Status: Permanent	
Cookie	An HTTP cookie previously sent by the server with <code>Set-Cookie</code>
	<code>Cookie: \$Version=1; \$k1n=new;</code>
Status: Permanent - Standard	
Origin	Initiates a request for cross-origin resource sharing (asks server for an <code>Access-Control-Allow-Origin</code> response header)
	<code>Origin: http://www.example-social-network.com</code>
Status: Permanent - Standard	
Accept-Datetime	Acceptable version in time
	<code>Accept-Datetime: Thu, 31 May 2007 20:35:00 GMT</code>
Status: Provisional	

Common Non-Standard Request Headers	
X-Requested-With	Mainly used to identify Ajax requests. Some JavaScript frameworks send this field with value of <code>XMLHttpRequest</code> , such as jQuery.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><code>XMLHttpRequest</code> - Ajax request</li></ul> <code>X-Requested-With: XMLHttpRequest</code>

Responses	
Accept	Content-Types that are acceptable for the response
	<code>Accept: text/plain</code>
Status: Permanent	
Access-Control-Allow-Origin	Specifying which web sites can participate in cross-origin resource sharing
	<code>Access-Control-Allow-Origin: *</code>
Status: Provisional	
Refresh	Used in redirection, or when a new resource has been created. This refresh redirects after 5 seconds:
	<code>Refresh: 5; url=http://www.w3.org/pub/WWW/People.html</code>
Status: Proprietary/non-standard: a header extension introduced by Netscape and supported by most web browsers	
Expires	Gives the date/time after which the response is considered stale
	<code>Expires: Thu, 01 Dec 1994 16:00:00 GMT</code>
Status: Permanent - Standard	
Set-Cookie	An HTTP cookie
	<code>Set-Cookie: UserID=JohnDoe; Max-Age=3600; Version=</code>
Status: Permanent - Standard	
Strict-Transport-Security	A HSTS Policy informing the HTTP client how long to cache the HTTP/5 only policy and whether this applies to subdomains
	<code>Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=16078400; includeSubDomains</code>
Status: Permanent - Standard	
Accept-Patch	Specifies which patch document formats this server supports
	<code>Accept-Patch: text/example; charset=utf-8</code>
Status: Permanent	
Accept-Ranges	What partial content range types this server supports
	<code>Accept-Ranges: bytes</code>
Status: Permanent	
Age	The age the object has been in a proxy cache in seconds
	<code>Age: 12</code>
Status: Permanent	
Allow	Valid actions for a specified resource. To be used for a 405 Method not allowed
	<code>Allow: GET, HEAD</code>
Status: Permanent	
Cache-Control	Tells all caching mechanisms from server to client whether they may cache this object. It is measured in seconds
	<code>Cache-Control: max-age=3600</code>
Status: Permanent	
Connection	Options that are desired for the connection
	<code>Connection: close</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Encoding	The type of encoding used on the data
	<code>Content-Encoding: gzip</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Language	The language the content is in
	<code>Content-Language: da</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Length	The length of the response body in octets (8-bit bytes)
	<code>Content-Length: 348</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Location	An alternate location for the returned data
	<code>Content-Location: /index.htm</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-MD5	A Base64-encoded binary MD5 sum of the content of the response
	<code>Content-MD5: Q2h1Y2sgSW50ZWdyYXR5S1Q==</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Disposition	An opportunity to raise a "File Download" dialogue box for a known MIME type with binary format or suggest a filename for dynamic content. Quotes are necessary with special characters
	<code>Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="fname.ext"</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Range	Where in a full body message this partial message belongs
	<code>Content-Range: bytes 21010-47021/47022</code>
Status: Permanent	
Content-Type	The MIME type of this content
	<code>Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8</code>
Status: Permanent	
Date	The date and time that the message was sent (in <code>HTTP-date</code> format as defined by RFC 2616)
	<code>Date: Tue, 15 Nov 1994 08:12:31 GMT</code>
Status: Permanent	
ETag	An identifier for a specific version of a resource, often a message digest
	<code>ETag: "737060cd8c284d8af7ad3082f209582d"</code>
Status: Permanent	
Last-Modified	The last modified date for the requested object (in <code>HTTP-date</code> format as defined by RFC 2616)
	<code>Last-Modified: Tue, 15 Nov 1994 12:45:26 GMT</code>
Status: Permanent	
Link	Used to express a typed relationship with another resource, where the relation type is defined by RFC 5988
	<code>Link: &lt;/feed&gt;; rel="alternate"</code>
Status: Permanent	
Location	Used in redirection, or when a new resource has been created
	<code>Location: http://www.w3.org/pub/WWW/People.html</code>
Status: Permanent	
P3P	This header is supposed to set P3P policy, in the form of <code>P3P: CP="your_compact_policy"</code> . However, P3P did not take off, most browsers have never fully implemented it, a lot of websites set this header with fake policy text, that was enough to fool browsers the existence of P3P policy and grant permissions for third party cookies
	<code>P3P: CP="This is not a P3P policy! See http://www.google.com/support/accounts/bin/answer.py?hl=en&amp;answer=151657 for more info."</code>
Status: Permanent	
Pragma	Implementation-specific headers that may have various effects anywhere along the request-response chain
	<code>Pragma: no-cache</code>
Status: Permanent	
Proxy-Authenticate	Request authentication to access the proxy
	<code>Proxy-Authenticate: Basic</code>
Status: Permanent	
Retry-After	If an entity is temporarily unavailable, this instructs the client to try again later. Value could be a specified period of time (in seconds) or a HTTP-date
	<code>Retry-After: 120; Retry-After: Fri, 07 Nov 2014 23:59:59 GMT</code>
Status: Permanent	
Server	A name for the server
	<code>Server: Apache/2.4.1 (Unix)</code>
Status: Permanent	
Trailer	The Trailer general field value indicates that the given set of header fields is present in the trailer of a message encoded with chunked transfer-coding
	<code>Trailer: Max-Forwards</code>
Status: Permanent	
Transfer-Encoding	The form of encoding used to safely transfer the entity to the user. Currently defined methods are: chunked, compress, deflate, gzip, identity
	<code>Transfer-Encoding: chunked</code>
Status: Permanent	
Upgrade	Ask the server to upgrade to another protocol
	<code>Upgrade: HTTP/2.0, SHHTTP/1.3, IRC/6.9, RTA/x11</code>
Status: Permanent	
Vary	Tells downstream proxies how to match future request headers to decide whether the cached response can be used rather than requesting a fresh one from the origin server
	<code>Vary: *</code>
Status: Permanent	
Warning	A general warning about possible problems with the entity body
	<code>Warning: 199 Miscellaneous warning</code>
Status: Permanent	
WWW-Authenticate	Indicates the authentication scheme that should be used to access the requested entity
	<code>WWW-Authenticate: Basic</code>
Status: Permanent	
Status	The HTTP status of the response
	<code>Status: 200 OK</code>

Common Non-Standard Response Headers	
X-Frame-Options	Clickjacking protection:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><code>deny</code> - no rendering within a frame</li><li><code>sameorigin</code> - no rendering if origin mismatch</li></ul> <code>X-Frame-Options: deny</code>
X-XSS-Protection	Cross-site scripting (XSS) filter
	<code>X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block</code>
Content-Security-Policy, X-Content-Security-Policy, X-WebKit-CSP	Content Security Policy definition
<code>X-WebKit-CSP: default-src 'self'</code>	
X-Content-Type-Options	The only defined value, <code>nosniff</code> , prevents Internet Explorer from MIME-sniffing a response away from the declared content-type. This also applies to Google Chrome, when downloading extensions
	<code>X-Content-Type-Options: nosniff</code>
X-Powered-By	Specifies the technology (e.g. ASP.NET, PHP, JBoss) supporting the web application (version details are often in X-Runtime, X-Version, or X-AspNet-Version)
	<code>X-Powered-By: PHP/5.4.0</code>
X-UA-Compatible	Recommends the preferred rendering engine (often a backward-compatibility mode) to use to display the content. Also used to activate Chrome Frame in Internet Explorer
	<code>X-UA-Compatible: IE=EmulateIE7; X-UA-Compatible: IE=edge; X-UA-Compatible: Chrome=1</code>