**Servlets**

**What are servlets?**

Servlet can be described in many ways, depending on the context.

* Servlet is a technology i.e. used to create web application.
* Servlet is an API that provides many interfaces and classes including documentations.
* Servlet is an interface that must be implemented for creating any servlet.
* Servlet is a class that extend the capabilities of the servers and respond to the incoming request. It can respond to any type of requests.
* Servlet is a web component that is deployed on the server to create dynamic web page.

(JavaTpoint)

**From Lynda.com**

What is a Java servlet?…Essentially, a servlet is a Java applet that's designed to…run on a server, rather than on a web browser.…They're commonly use to extend the capabilities of a server.…For instance, a servlet might act as an interface to run a database query.…It might hold and manage additional…information alongside a stateless HTTP protocol.…Or it might convert input from an HTML…form into a format more useful to the server.…In their function, servlets can be thought of as…the Java counterparts to other technologies like PHP and ASP.NET.…

The main model for a servlet is request-response.…Applications or users interact with the servlet by sending…a request, perhaps for a certain piece of data.…The servlet then takes that request and translates it…into a series of operations on the server itself.…The results from the server are translated back…into a response that the user can readily understand.…In this sense then, a servlet is just a…translator between the user interface and the server behind it.…Technically speaking, an application is only a servlet if it implements the Java…

**From tutorials point.com**

Java Servlets are programs that run on a Web or Application server and act as a middle layer between a request coming from a Web browser or other HTTP client and databases or applications on the HTTP server.

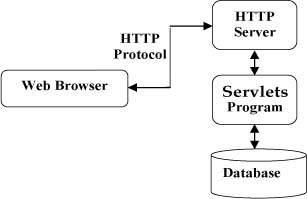
Using Servlets, you can collect input from users through web page forms, present records from a database or another source, and create web pages dynamically.

Java Servlets often serve the same purpose as programs implemented using the Common Gateway Interface (CGI). But Servlets offer several advantages in comparison with the CGI.

* Performance is significantly better.
* Servlets execute within the address space of a Web server. It is not necessary to create a separate process to handle each client request.
* Servlets are platform-independent because they are written in Java.
* Java security manager on the server enforces a set of restrictions to protect the resources on a server machine. So, servlets are trusted.
* The full functionality of the Java class libraries is available to a servlet. It can communicate with applets, databases, or other software via the sockets and RMI mechanisms that you have seen already.

## Servlets Architecture:

Following diagram shows the position of Servlets in a Web Application.



Work Cited

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