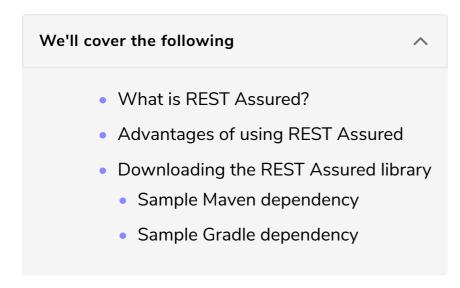# What is a Rest Assured Library?

In this lesson, we will learn about REST Assured, its advantages and usage.

We'll cover the following ⌃

- What is REST Assured?
- Advantages of using REST Assured
- Downloading the REST Assured library
  - Sample Maven dependency
  - Sample Gradle dependency

What is `REST Assured`?

`REST Assured` is a Java Domain Specific Language (DSL) API used for writing automated tests for RESTful APIs. It is used to invoke REST web services for POST, GET, PUT, DELETE, OPTIONS, PATCH, and HEAD requests and validate the response.

Advantages of using `REST Assured`

- It provides a lot of helper methods and abstraction layers that remove the need for writing a lot of boilerplate code for connections, sending a request, and parsing a response.

- The DSL provided by it, increases the readability of the code.

- Since it's a Java library, there is a seamless integration with testing frameworks like Junit or TestNG and other continuous integration tools.

Downloading the `REST Assured` library

You can download the `Rest Assured` library here.

The dependency below also includes JsonPath and XmlPath.

> JsonPath and XmlPath are the query languages which help to extract data

from the JSON and XML document. In test automation, these libraries are used to parse server response for validation.

Sample Maven dependency #

```xml
<dependency>
    <groupId>io.rest-assured</groupId>
    <artifactId>rest-assured</artifactId>
    <version>4.3.0</version>
</dependency>
```

Sample Gradle dependency #

```
compile group: 'io.rest-assured', name: 'rest-assured', version: '4.3.0'
```

In the next lesson, we will learn more about building a request using the Rest Assured library.