

HTTP Parameters

In this lesson, we will go through the various types of HTTP parameters.

We'll cover the following

- What are HTTP parameters?
 - Query parameter
 - Path parameter
 - Form parameter

What are **HTTP** parameters?

When a client uses the **HTTP GET** method to request a certain resource from the web server, the client may also send certain parameters through the requested URL in the form of a *query parameter*, *path parameter*, or a *form parameter*.

Query parameter

The *query parameter* is a name-value pair and is the part of a requested **GET** URL. Have a look at the example below:

For the **GET** call, the client sends a query parameter in the form of a name-value pair (`page=2`) and requests the web server for all the users on the '2' listing page.

```
curl -X GET https://reqres.in/api/users?page=2
```

Terminal

Path parameter

The *path parameter* is part of a requested **GET** URL path. Have a look at the example below:

For this **GET** call, the client sends a *path parameter* and requests the web server for details of the user whose id is '2'.

```
curl -X GET https://reqres.in/api/users/2
```

Form parameter

In an **HTTP POST** request, a certain piece of information is sent as a *form parameter* in the form of a name-value pair.

The client sends the form parameters in the requested body in the format that the **Content-Type** header field specifies. For example:

- **Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded**
- **Content-Type: multipart/form-data** – if you use file uploads
- But the content type could be anything, ranging from **text/plain**, **application/json**, etc

Let's take a look at the example below to understand more about it:

```
echo "This is some text" > sample.txt
curl -iX POST --form "note=test" --form upfile=@sample.txt "content-type: multipart/form-data" https://cgi-lib.berkeley.edu/ex/fup.cgi
```

Here, the client is making an **HTTP POST** request and sending a file using **form** parameter (**upfile=@sample.txt**). The request *content-type* is (**content-type: multipart/form-data**).

The **HTTP** response contains the headers and the file content in the **HTML** format.

Let's wrap up this chapter by answering a quiz in the upcoming lesson.