## **Http Connections**

Using Http Connections is an easy way for developers to interact with web servers, it is also common used for Android development. The HttpURLConnection class can only be used for Http protocol (use HttpsURLConnection if needing to use the https protocol).

The Http Connection class supports two different type of connections:

- Get
- Post

Either one can be used, just depends on how your web server is configured to accept connections.

Here are the steps for using the HttpURLConnection class:

- 1. Obtain a new HttpURLConnection by calling URL.openConnection() and casting the result to HttpURLConnection.
- 2. Prepare the request. This would include setting the URL and possibly the request headers if they are required.
- 3. Transmit data by writing to the stream returned by getOutputStream().
- 4. Read the response. Response headers include important website information like metadata, content type and length, modified dates, and session cookies. The response body may read from the stream returned by getInputStream().
- 5. Disconnect. Once the input or output streams are complete, the HttpURLConnection should be closed by calling the disconnect() method.