

# A-Z

## API

Application Program Interfaces are methods for programs to exchange data without the involvement of humans. APIs often involve a schematic description of how the data looks like and where it needs to be sent. Today many APIs are based on [HTTP](#).

## HTTP

The Hypertext Transfer Protocol is the protocol that powers the world wide web allowing for the easy up- and download of data. With HTTP each file (resource) has a unique URL on a server and can be linked.

## Rack

A closet with standardized mounts for servers.

## Router

A network device that forwards layer 3 (IP) packets between separate networks.

## Switch

A network device that forwards Ethernet frames (packets) between devices. It does not perform layer 3 (IP) routing.