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HTTP Request Methods

What is HTTP?

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Example: A client (browser) sends an HTTP request to the server; then the server returns a response to the client. The response contains status

HTTP works as a request-response protocol between a client and server.

GET

HEAD DELETE

- **PATCH** OPTIONS
- CONNECT TRACE
- The two most common HTTP methods are: GET and POST.
- The GET Method

- The POST Method
- POST is used to send data to a server to create/update a resource.
- Some notes on POST requests:

POST /test/demo_form.php HTTP/1.1

POST requests have no restrictions on data length

POST requests cannot be bookmarked

The following table compares the two HTTP methods: GET and POST.

Compare GET vs. POST

BACK Harmless Data will be rebutton/Reload submitted (the browser

to be re-submitted) **Bookmarked** Can be bookmarked Cannot be bookmarked Not cached Cached Can be cached Encoding type application/y-www-form application/v-www-form

HEAD is almost identical to GET, but without the response body. In other words, if GET /users returns a list of users, then HEAD /users will

The HEAD Method

The DELETE Method The DELETE method deletes the specified resource.

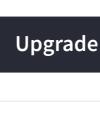
The OPTIONS method describes the communication options for the target resource.

The OPTIONS Method

The CONNECT Method The CONNECT method is used to start a two-way communications (a tunnel)

the path for the target resource (useful for debugging purposes).

Spaces



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The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is designed to enable communications between clients and servers.

information about the request and may also contain the requested content.

HTTP Methods

POST PUT

GET is used to request data from a specified resource. request:

HTTP request:

Host: w3schools.com

name1=value1&name2=value2

The data sent to the server with POST is stored in the request body of the

 POST requests are never cached POST requests do not remain in the browser history

POST

should alert the user

that the data are about

GET

Encoding type	application/x-www-form- urlencoded	application/x-www-form- urlencoded or multipart/form-data. Use multipart encoding for binary data
History	Parameters remain in browser history	Parameters are not saved in browser history
Restrictions on data length	Yes, when sending data, the GET method adds the data to the URL; and the length of a URL is limited (maximum URL length is 2048 characters)	No restrictions
Restrictions on data type	Only ASCII characters allowed	No restrictions. Binary data is also allowed
Security	GET is less secure compared to POST because data sent is part of the URL Never use GET when sending passwords or other sensitive information!	POST is a little safer than GET because the parameters are not stored in browser history or in web server logs
Visibility	Data is visible to everyone in the URL	Data is not displayed in the URL
The PUT Method		
PUT is used to send data to a server to create/update a resource.		
The difference between POST and PUT is that PUT requests are idempotent. That is, calling the same PUT request multiple times will always produce the same result. In contrast, calling a POST request repeatedly have side effects of creating the same resource multiple times.		

make the same request but will not return the list of users. HEAD requests are useful for checking what a GET request will return before actually making a GET request - like before downloading a large file or

response body.

The PATCH Method

The PATCH method is used to apply partial modifications to a resource.

with the requested resource.

The TRACE Method

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Report Error

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The TRACE method is used to perform a message loop-back test that tests



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Note that the query string (name/value pairs) is sent in the URL of a GET /test/demo_form.php?name1=value1&name2=value2 Some notes on GET requests: GET requests can be cached GET requests remain in the browser history GET requests can be bookmarked GET requests should never be used when dealing with sensitive data GET requests have length restrictions GET requests are only used to request data (not modify)