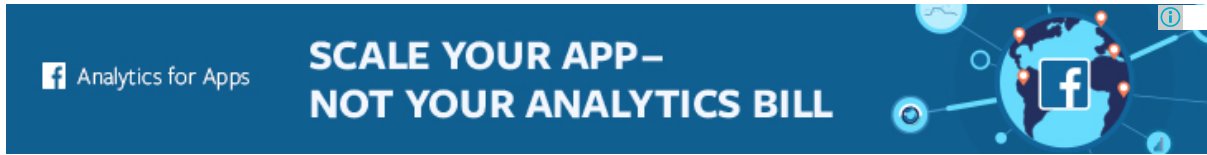




SERVLET TECHNOLOGY



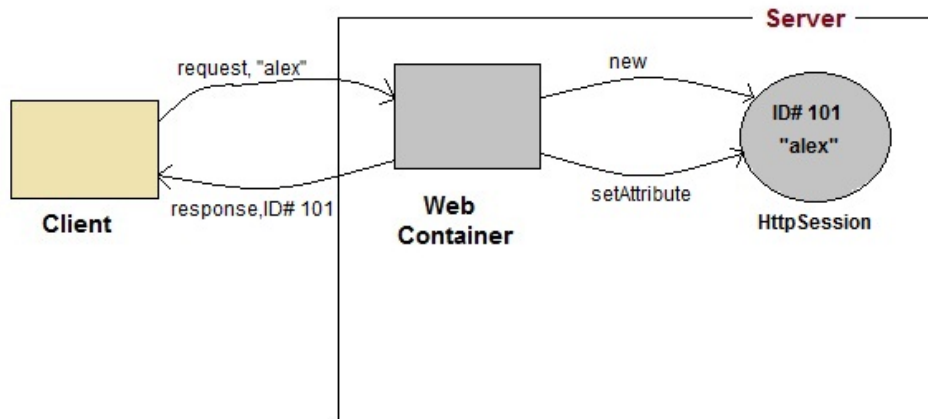
[SEE THE INDEX](#)



What is HttpSession?

HttpSession object is used to store entire session with a specific client. We can store, retrieve and remove attribute from **HttpSession** object. Any servlet can have access to **HttpSession** object throughout the `getSession()` method of the **HttpServletRequest** object.

How HttpSession works



1. On client's first request, the **Web Container** generates a unique session ID and gives it back to the client with response. This is a temporary session created by web container.
2. The client sends back the session ID with each request. Making it easier for the web container to identify where the request is coming from.
3. The **Web Container** uses this ID, finds the matching session with the ID and associates the session with the request.

HttpSession Interface

Creating a new session

```
HttpSession session = request.getSession();
```

getSession() method returns a session. If the session already exist, it return the existing session else create a new session

```
HttpSession session = request.getSession(true);
```

getSession(true) always return a new session

Getting a pre-existing session

```
HttpSession session = request.getSession(false);
```

return a pre-existing session

Destroying a session

```
session.invalidate();
```

destroy a session

Some Important Methods of HttpSession

Methods	Description
long <code>getCreationTime()</code>	returns the time when the session was created, measured in milliseconds since midnight January 1, 1970 GMT.
String <code>getId()</code>	returns a string containing the unique identifier assigned to the session.
long <code>getLastAccessedTime()</code>	returns the last time the client sent a request associated with the session
int <code>getMaxInactiveInterval()</code>	returns the maximum time interval, in seconds.
void <code>invalidate()</code>	destroy the session
boolean <code>isNew()</code>	returns true if the session is new else false
void <code>setMaxInactiveInterval(int interval)</code>	Specifies the time, in seconds,after servlet container will invalidate the session.

Complete Example demonstrating usage of HttpSession

All the files mentioned below are required for the example.

index.html

```
<form method="post" action="Validate">
  User: <input type="text" name="user" /><br/>
  Password: <input type="text" name="pass" ><br/>
  <input type="submit" value="submit">
</form>
```

web.xml

```

<web-app..>

    <servlet>
        <servlet-name>Validate</servlet-name>
        <servlet-class>Validate</servlet-class>
    </servlet>
    <servlet>
        <servlet-name>Welcome</servlet-name>
        <servlet-class>Welcome</servlet-class>
    </servlet>

    <servlet-mapping>
        <servlet-name>Validate</servlet-name>
        <url-pattern>/Validate</url-pattern>
    </servlet-mapping>
    <servlet-mapping>
        <servlet-name>Welcome</servlet-name>
        <url-pattern>/Welcome</url-pattern>
    </servlet-mapping>

    <welcome-file-list>
        <welcome-file>index.html</welcome-file>
    </welcome-file-list>

</web-app>

```

Validate.java

```

import java.io.*;
import javax.servlet.*;
import javax.servlet.http.*;

public class Validate extends HttpServlet {

    protected void doPost(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, IOException {
        response.setContentType("text/html;charset=UTF-8");

        String name = request.getParameter("user");
        String pass = request.getParameter("pass");

        if(pass.equals("1234"))
        {
            //creating a session
            HttpSession session = request.getSession();
            session.setAttribute("user", name);
            response.sendRedirect("Welcome");
        }
    }
}

```

Welcome.java

```
import java.io.*;
import javax.servlet.*;
import javax.servlet.http.*;

public class Welcome extends HttpServlet {

    protected void doGet(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, IOException {
        response.setContentType("text/html;charset=UTF-8");
        PrintWriter out = response.getWriter();
        HttpSession session = request.getSession();
        String user = (String)session.getAttribute("user");
        out.println("Hello "+user);
    }
}
```

[← Prev \(session-management.php\)](#)

[Next → \(storing-session-using-cookies.php\)](#)

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