RUNNING HEAD : HTTP IS?

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RESUMING THE ARTICLE ABOUT HTTP

CHRISTENSSON P.

Stands for "Hypertext Transfer Protocol." HTTP is the [protocol](https://techterms.com/definition/protocol) used to transfer data over the [web](https://techterms.com/definition/www). It is part of the [Internet protocol](https://techterms.com/definition/ip) suite and defines commands and services used for transmitting [webpage](https://techterms.com/definition/webpage) data.

HTTP uses a server-client model. A [client](https://techterms.com/definition/client), for example, may be a home computer, laptop, or mobile device. The HTTP [server](https://techterms.com/definition/server) is typically a [web host](https://techterms.com/definition/webhost) running web server software, such as [Apache](https://techterms.com/definition/apache) or [IIS](https://techterms.com/definition/iis). When you access a website, your [browser](https://techterms.com/definition/web_browser) sends a request to the corresponding web server and it responds with an HTTP status code. If the [URL](https://techterms.com/definition/url) is valid and the connection is granted, the server will send your browser the webpage and related files.

Some common HTTP status codes include:

1. 200 - successful request (the webpage exists)
2. 301 - moved permanently (often forwarded to a new URL)
3. 401 - unauthorized request (authorization required)
4. 403 - forbidden (access is not allowed to the page or directory)
5. 500 - internal server error (often caused by an incorrect server configuration)

HTTP also defines commands such as GET and POST, which are used to handle form submissions on websites. The CONNECT command is used to facilitate a secure connection that is [encrypted](https://techterms.com/definition/encryption) using [SSL](https://techterms.com/definition/ssl). Encrypted HTTP connections take place over [HTTPS](https://techterms.com/definition/https), an extension of HTTP designed for secure data transmissions.

NOTE: URLs that begin with "http://" are accessed over the standard [hypertext](https://techterms.com/definition/hypertext) transfer protocol and use [port](https://techterms.com/definition/port) 80 by default. URLs that start with "https://" are accessed over a secure HTTPS connection and often use port 443.

Christensson, P. (2015, May 28). HTTP Definition. Retrieved 2017, Feb 28, from <https://techterms.com>