

## **API Consumption with curl**

### **What is curl?**

curl is a command-line tool that allows you to transfer data to or from a server using various protocols (HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, etc.). It is commonly used to test and interact with APIs.

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### **Commands Used**

1. Check curl version

```
curl - -version
```

Displays the installed version of curl and supported protocols.

2. Fetch a web page

```
curl http://example.com
```

Shows the HTML content of the page.

3. Fetch data from an API

```
curl https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts
```

Returns a JSON array of posts from the public API JSONPlaceholder.

4. Fetch only headers

```
curl -I https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts
```

Displays only the HTTP headers of the response (status, content-type, etc.).

5. Make a POST request

```
curl -X POST -d "title=foo&body=bar&userId=1"  
https://jsonplaceholder.typicode.com/posts
```

Sends data to the API to create a new post. The response simulates the creation and returns a new post with id 101.

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### **Definitions:**

- **Header:** Extra information sent with HTTP requests or responses (like Content-Type, Status).
- **POST:** HTTP method used to send data to a server to create or update a resource.

- **GET:** HTTP method used to request data from a server.
  - **JSON:** JavaScript Object Notation, a format for structuring data, commonly used in APIs.
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### Example Output

Example response from the POST request:

json

```
{
  "title": "foo",
  "body": "bar",
  "userId": "1",
  "id": 101
}
```

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### What I learned

- How to install and check curl on my system.
- How to use curl to make GET and POST requests to an API.
- How to view HTTP headers using the -I option.
- The difference between GET and POST requests.
- How to interpret JSON responses from an API.