

# CoffeeScript Application Developers Cookbook



**Base64**-encoding allows us to transform binary data into text data. The reasons for this are rooted in the history of network protocols, but it is still a widely-used form of encoding when shipping binary data.

Node provides a string Buffer class that is able to represent text data in a variety of encodings including ASCII, UTF-8 and Base-64. This Buffer class will be the core of our conversion operations.