

As you have seen, every time the client makes an authorization request to the server, the browser displays a login popup, asking for a **username** and **password**.

What happens when we use AJAX?

When we create a **custom*** authorization header in AJAX, then the popup will still show, but only if the user fails to provide the correct details the first time, they submit the form.

This can be annoying, and you may be wondering: "How do we remove it?"

**By custom I mean that we are not passing in the username and password into the `xhr.open()` method. Rather, we set our own custom headers using the `xhr.setRequestHeader()` method.*

By default, you can't remove the popup

The browser's custom login prompt will display when the following two conditions are met:

- The **Response Status** sent back from the server is **401**
- The **WWW-Authenticate** header is present in the response

This means that you can stop the popup from happening if you can control the server response headers. What this means is that you can either (a) manually remove the WWW-Authenticate header from the response, or (b) change the status code, and the browser won't display the login popup.

I don't want this course to get into detailed server-side code, so for now, don't worry about the popup. More important is that you understand how authentication is happening.

Let's get back to our example.

(As you will see in the next lecture when we use the `xhr.open(... username, password)` method, the popup is removed entirely. This is a great benefit to using Basic Authentication with the XHR object instead of setting our headers manually.)

