

# WHAT IS AJAX?

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Is AJAX ...

a programming language?

a software platform?

a web application?

a third party library?

a technology?

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# WHAT IS AJAX?

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AJAX is only a **term**

It describes the process of the browser and server exchanging data asynchronously through JavaScript



This is **AJAX**

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AJAX's core function is to update web content asynchronously (the "A" of AJAX)

AJAX is used to update things like status and notification bars, online forms, comments sections, and surveys and polls

But what exactly does the J and X mean in AJAX?

# WHAT IS AJAX?

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## AJAX - JavaScript

JavaScript is a fully fledged programming language, built automatically into browsers

**Bottom line:** You have to write JavaScript to create an AJAX request

# WHAT IS AJAX?

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AJAX - XML

XML is used to transfer data

Individual computer systems are often incompatible with one another and can't understand or interact with data formatted by a different system

XML allows developers to bypass this obstacle by storing data in plain text format between XML tags

# WHAT IS AJAX?

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AJAX - XML

**Bottom line:** XML offers a way of storing, moving, and sharing data that isn't dependent on a particular software or hardware system

# SUMMARY

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AJAX is nothing scary

AJAX is just a **term** to describe how the browser and server exchange data between each other

JavaScript and XML are used together to create an AJAX request



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more common today to use JSON

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JavaScript does this by using an object called **XMLHttpRequest**