

# STREAMS

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In the early days of fetch(), **Streams did not exist**

If you wanted to process a resource (e.g. video, or a text file, etc.), **you would have to download the entire file**, wait for it to be deserialized into a suitable format, then process the entire thing

But with Streams, this all changes

With Streams, you can now **start processing raw data with JavaScript bit by bit** as soon as it is available on the client-side

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Today, `fetch()` gives us the body of the response as a Stream

How do we access and read this Stream?

The `StreamsAPI` is given to us by the browser

The `StreamsAPI` allows us to use JavaScript to access streams / pieces / bits of data received over the network and process them

# SUMMARY

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Streaming involves breaking a resource that you want to receive over a network down into **small chunks**, then processing it bit by bit

The basic usage of Streams hinges around making responses available as streams

We have 2 different streaming modes: **reading** from a stream, and **writing** to a stream

We are more concerned in this course to learn about how to read a stream using AJAX