

Kashyap Sayani Module – 6

Understanding HTTP Verbs

The HTTP verbs comprise a major portion of our "uniform interface" constraint and provide us the action counterpart to the noun-based resource. The primary or most-commonly-used HTTP verbs (or methods, as they are properly called) are POST, GET, PUT, PATCH, and DELETE. These correspond to create, read, update, and delete (or CRUD) operations, respectively. There are a number of other verbs, too, but are utilized less frequently. Of those less-frequent methods, OPTIONS and HEAD are used more often than others.

Below is a table summarizing recommended return values of the primary HTTP methods in combination with the resource URIs:

HTTP Verb	CRUD	Entire Collection (e.g. /customers)	Specific Item (e.g. /customers/{id})
POST	Create	201 (Created), 'Location' header with link to /customers/{id} containing new ID.	404 (Not Found), 409 (Conflict) if resource already exists
GET	Read	200 (OK), list of customers. Use pagination, sorting and filtering to navigate big lists.	200 (OK), single customer. 404 (Not Found), if ID not found or invalid.
PUT	Update/Replace	405 (Method Not Allowed), unless you want to update/replace every resource in the entire collection.	200 (OK) or 204 (No Content). 404 (Not Found), if ID not found or invalid.
PATCH	Update/Modify	405 (Method Not Allowed), unless you want to modify the collection itself.	200 (OK) or 204 (No Content). 404 (Not Found), if ID not found or invalid.
DELETE	Delete	405 (Method Not Allowed), unless you want to delete the whole collection—not often desirable.	200 (OK). 404 (Not Found), if ID not found or invalid.

Understanding JSON Structure

JSON stands for JavaScript Object Notation

JSON is a text format for storing and transporting data

JSON is "self-describing" and easy to understand

This example is a JSON string:

```
'{"name":"John", "age":30, "car":null}'
```

It defines an object with 3 properties:

- name
- age
- car

Each property has a value.

If you parse the JSON string with a JavaScript program, you can access the data as an object:

```
let personName = obj.name;
let personAge = obj.age;
```

What is JSON?

- JSON stands for JavaScript Object Notation
- JSON is a lightweight data-interchange format
- JSON is plain text written in JavaScript object notation
- JSON is used to send data between computers
- JSON is language independent *

Why Use JSON?

The JSON format is syntactically similar to the code for creating JavaScript objects. Because of this, a JavaScript program can easily convert JSON data into JavaScript objects.

Since the format is text only, JSON data can easily be sent between computers, and used by any programming language.

JavaScript has a built in function for converting JSON strings into JavaScript objects:

JSON.parse()

JavaScript also has a built in function for converting an object into a JSON string:

JSON.stringify()