

HTTP Status Code Comparison: 102 Processing vs 202 Accepted

1. Overview

Both **102 Processing** and **202 Accepted** are HTTP status codes indicating that a request has been received, but their usage and implications differ significantly. Here's a breakdown of the differences.

2. 102 Processing (WebDAV)

- **Meaning:** The server has received and is currently processing the request, but no final response is available yet.
- **Status Type:** *Interim response* (1xx series).
- **Typical Use Case:** Used with **WebDAV** for long-running operations like copying or moving large files.
- **Purpose:** Informs the client to keep the connection alive and prevents timeouts.
- **Behavior:**
 - Not a final status code.
 - A final response (like 200, 207, etc.) will follow.

Example Scenario: Client issues a WebDAV `COPY` request to copy a large directory. Server responds with **102 Processing** while the operation continues.

3. 202 Accepted

- **Meaning:** The request has been accepted for processing, but the processing has not been completed yet.
- **Status Type:** *Final response* (2xx series).
- **Typical Use Case:** Used for **asynchronous processing** like submitting a job or task to a queue.
- **Purpose:** Indicates the server has received the request and will process it later.
- **Behavior:**
 - No immediate result available.
 - Client needs to query or get notified of the outcome later (polling or callbacks).

Example Scenario: Client submits a video to an encoding service. Server replies with **202 Accepted**, meaning the video is in a processing queue.

4. Comparison Table

Feature	102 Processing	202 Accepted
Type	Interim response	Final response
HTTP Series	1xx	2xx

Feature	102 Processing	202 Accepted
Use Case	WebDAV, long tasks	Async APIs, job queues
Processing Status	Ongoing	Scheduled for later
Client Action	Wait for final response	Check later or get notified
Follow-up Needed?	Yes, expect final status	Yes, but not provided by default

5. Summary

- Use `102 Processing` to keep the client informed during ongoing processing within the same connection.
 - Use `202 Accepted` when the processing is offloaded or asynchronous, and the response will not contain the final result.
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Let us know if you need real API examples or implementation tips!