

# Table of Contents

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- [Load Balancing](#)
  - [Definition and Benefits](#)
  - [Dealing with Redundancy in Load Balancers](#)
  - [Load Balancing Algorithms](#)
    - [Least Connection Method](#)
    - [Least Response Time Method](#)
    - [Least Bandwidth Method](#)
    - [Round Robin Method](#)
    - [Weighted Round Robin](#)
    - [IP Hash](#)
    - [Consistent Hashing](#)

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## Load Balancing

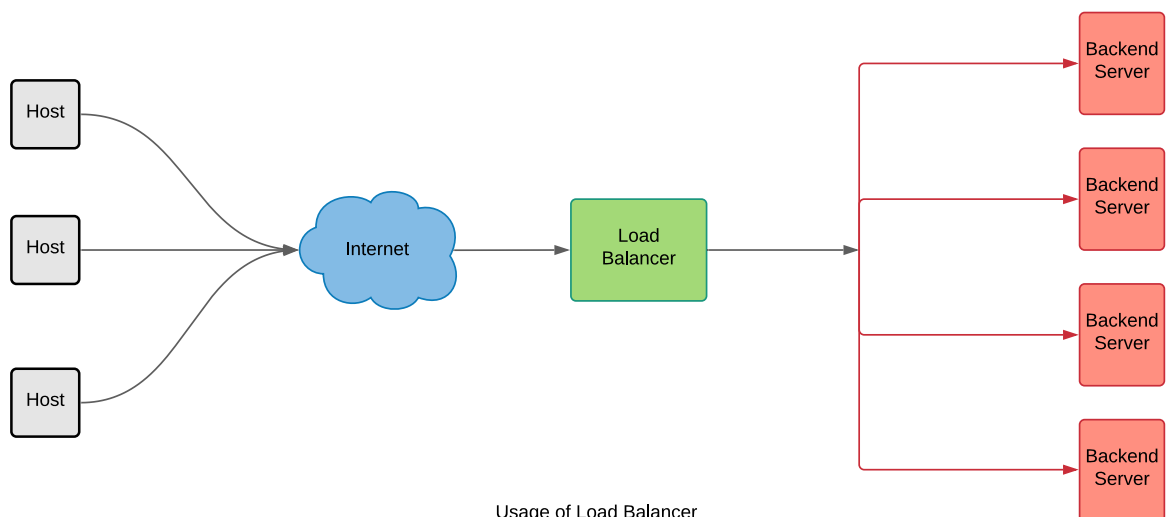
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### Definition and benefits

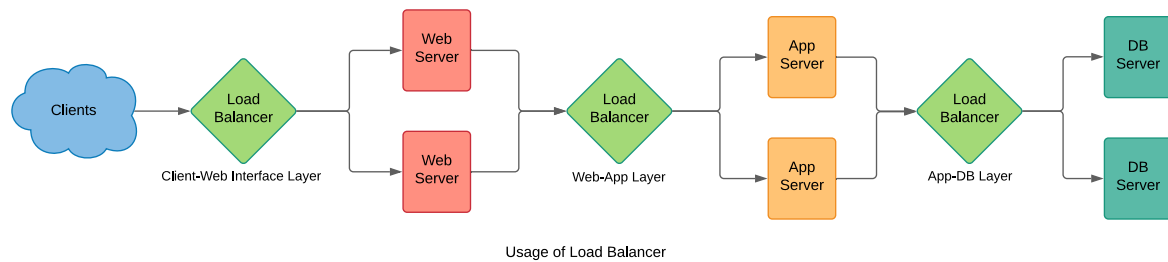
The process of balancing load evenly on  $N$  servers is **Load Balancing**.

A properly implemented **load balancer** helps in the following ways:

1. It helps spread traffic across a cluster of servers to improve responsiveness and availability of applications, websites or databases.
2. Keeps track of statuses of all the resources while distributing requests.
3. Avoids re-routing requests to a server which has the following issues:
  - elevated rate of errors,
  - non-responsiveness, and;
  - request overload.
4. Prevents single point of failure and increases, availability and responsiveness.



The following diagram explains where are all the places where Load Balancers, can be placed to utilize full scalability and reliability.



## Dealing with Redundancy in Load Balancers

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### Load Balancing Algorithms

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**Least Connection Method**

**Least Response Time Method**

**Least Bandwidth Method**

**Round Robin Method**

**Weighted Round Robin**

**IP Hash**

**Consistent Hashing**