

REST API Cheat Sheet



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Versioning		Status Codes	
MAJOR.MINOR.PATCH Versioning in URL: https://api.example.com/v1/books/1 Versioning in HTTP Header: Accept: application/json; version=1		1xx- Informational Request. 2xx- Request was successful. 3xx- Request was Redirected. Rarely used. 4xx- Client Errors (often codes like 401, 404) 5xx- Server problem (most often 500).	
Consistent URI		Code	English Meaning
Simple is better Plural for resources, noun based		200	Okay. Resource in body.
Get all books: GET: /v1/books Get specific book: GET: /v1/books/1		201	Created. Should return created resource in body.
Methods		202	Accepted. Not always used.
GET to retrieve a resource; PUT to change the state of or update a resource, which can be an object, file or block; POST to create that resource; and PATCH – update/modify DELETE to remove it.		203	Normally used for caching.
VERB	Standard Return Codes	400	Bad request.
GET	200, 401, 403, 404	401	Unauthorized/Invalid Token or API key.
POST	200 (should be 201), 201, 401, 403, 404, 422	402	Payment Required.
PUT	200, 401, 403, 404, 422	403	You don't have access to resource.
PATCH	200, 401, 403, 404, 422	404	Not found. Resource is missing.
DELETE	204, 401, 403, 404, 422	405	Method not allowed.
		422	Unprocessable entity. Missing fields OR invalid XML or JSON.
		429	Too many requests. Rate limiting.
		500	Internal Server Error
Errors		Authentication/Authorization	
Always Respond in same format as HTTP Accept Request HTTP/1.1 401 Unauthorized Content-Type: application/json { "errorCode": "401" "message": "Unauthorized. You are not logged in." }		Basic: username + password encoded as base64 Authorization: "Basic YnJpYW5QHNzd29yZDEq" Bearer/token: tokens called bearer tokens. Often JWT Authorization: Bearer someCrypticString API keys: unique value used only by one customer Often done as query string. Not very secure when in query string.	