

Aspect	RequestDispatcher.forward()	response.sendRedirect()
Execution Type	Server-side internal dispatch	Client-side redirection
Where it happens	Inside the servlet container (server)	Browser makes a new request
Request Object	Same request object is reused	New request object is created
Response Object	Same response object	New response cycle
URL in Browser	Does NOT change	Changes to new URL
Request Attributes	Preserved (can pass data using request.setAttribute())	Lost (new request, attributes not available)
Session Attributes	Available	Available (session survives both)
Performance	Faster (no extra network round trip)	Slower (extra HTTP round trip)
HTTP Status Code	200 (normal response)	302 (temporary redirect by default)
Can Redirect Outside Application?	No (only within same web app)	Yes (can redirect to external sites)
Browser Involvement	Browser unaware of forward	Browser fully involved
Use Case	Passing control between servlets/JSP in same application	Redirecting after form submission (PRG pattern)
Security	More secure (internal, user cannot see target resource path change)	Target URL visible to user
Form Resubmission Risk	Refresh may resubmit form	Prevents duplicate form submission (when used after POST)