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## ← NGINX Web Server Deep Dive

### Lecture: HTTP/2



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One of the ways that we can get more performance out of NGINX is by enabling HTTP/2 (H2). There are quite a few performance benefits to using HTTP/2, and it is HTTP 1.1 compatible, so there isn't a downside to enabling it.

*Note:* the commands in this video are run as the `root` user.

#### Documentation For This Video

- [NGINX http\\_v2 module](#)

#### Benefits of HTTP/2

HTTP/2 is an advancement in the HTTP protocol that provides (or will provide) the following benefits:

1. Improved encryption of HTTP 1.1
2. Multiplexed Streams - single TCP connection simultaneously requesting multiple resources
3. HTTP/2 Server Push - send resources to the client before they're requested (not in NGINX stable yet)
4. Header compression - prevent sending duplicate header information from the server to the client

All of these benefits can be summed up result in improved performance.

#### Enabling HTTP/2

*Note:* NGINX must have been compiled with `--with-http_v2_module`. The official binary should already have this.

For us to enable HTTP/2 for our server, we need first to make sure that we're using SSL. Once we've forced traffic over HTTPS instead of standard HTTP we can enable HTTP/2 for the server by adding the `http2` parameter to the `listen` directive for the server. Here's what it would look like to enable HTTP/2 for our default server configuration since we're already forcing all traffic over HTTPS:

*/etc/nginx/conf.d/default.conf (partial)*

```
listen 443 ssl http2 default_server;
```



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