

Next 5 Minutes

1. Basic authentication
2. API Key Authentication

All about Basic Authentication

1. **Basic authentication** is a simple authentication scheme built into the HTTP protocol.
2. The client sends HTTP requests with the **Authorization** header that contains the word **Basic** word followed by a space and a base64-encoded string **username:password**.

The screenshot shows a web client interface with tabs for Params, Authorization, Headers (1), Body, Pre-request Script, Tests, and Settings. The Authorization tab is selected. On the left, under 'TYPE', 'Basic Auth' is selected and circled in red. Below it, text states: 'The authorization header will be automatically generated when you send the request. [Learn more about authorization](#)'. A 'Preview Request' button is at the bottom left. On the right, a warning message says: 'Heads up! These parameters hold sensitive data. To keep this data secure while working in a collaborative environment, we recommend using variables. [Learn more about variables](#)'. Below the warning, a red box highlights the 'Username' and 'Password' input fields, along with a 'Show Password' checkbox.

API Key

Some APIs use API keys for authorization. An API key is a token that a client provides when making API calls. The key can be sent in the query string:

1. GET /something?api_key=abcdef12345