REST API (Introduction)

**RE**presentational **S**tate **T**ransfer (REST) is an architectural style that defines a set of constraints to be used for creating web services. **REST API** is a way of accessing the web services in a simple and flexible way without having any processing.

**REST** technology is generally preferred to the more robust Simple Object Access Protocol (**SOAP**) technology because REST uses the less bandwidth, simple and flexible making it more suitable for internet usage. It’s used to fetch or give some information from a web services.

All communication done via REST API used only HTTP request.

In **HTTP** there are five methods which are commonly used in a REST based Architecture i.e., POST, GET, PUT, **PATCH**, and DELETE.

| "GET" ; Section [9.3](https://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616/rfc2616-sec9.html#sec9.3)

| "HEAD" ; Section [9.4](https://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616/rfc2616-sec9.html#sec9.4)

| "POST" ; Section [9.5](https://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616/rfc2616-sec9.html#sec9.5)

| "PUT" ; Section [9.6](https://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616/rfc2616-sec9.html#sec9.6)

| "DELETE" ; Section [9.7](https://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616/rfc2616-sec9.html#sec9.7)

| "**TRACE**" ; Section [9.8](https://www.w3.org/Protocols/rfc2616/rfc2616-sec9.html#sec9.8)

| "**CONNECT**"