In REST architecture, a REST Server simply provides access to resources and REST client accesses and modifies the resources. **Here each resource is identified by URIs/ global IDs.** REST uses various **representation** to **represent a resource like text, JSON, XML.** JSON is the most popular one. It uses HTTP Protocol.

The most popular representations of resources are XML and JSON.

**Here each resource is identified by URIs/ global IDs.**

A resource in REST is a similar Object in Object Oriented Programming or is like an Entity in a Database.

REST architecture treats every content as a resource. These resources can be Text Files, Html Pages, Images, Videos or Dynamic Business Data.

**HTTP methods:**

Following four HTTP methods are commonly used in REST based architecture.

* **GET** − Provides a read only access to a resource.
* **POST** − Used to create a new resource.
* **DELETE** − Used to remove a resource.
* **PUT** − Used to update a existing resource or create a new resource.

## **Creating RESTFul Webservice**

In next chapters, we'll create a webservice say user management with following functionalities −

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sr.No.** | **URI** | **HTTP Method** | **POST body** | **Result** |
| 1 | /UserService/users | GET | empty | Show list of all the users. |
| 2 | /UserService/addUser | POST | JSON String | Add details of new user. |
| 3 | /UserService/getUser/:id | GET | empty | Show details of a user. |