

Exercise: Looking at a Real HTTP Request

In this lesson, you will be looking at real HTTP messages right from your browser!

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING

- Open up the Developer Tools on Your Browser
- Go to the Network Tab
- Click on Any Entry
- An Example of an Entry

Open up the Developer Tools on Your Browser

Have a look at this GIF. We were on **Firefox** here.

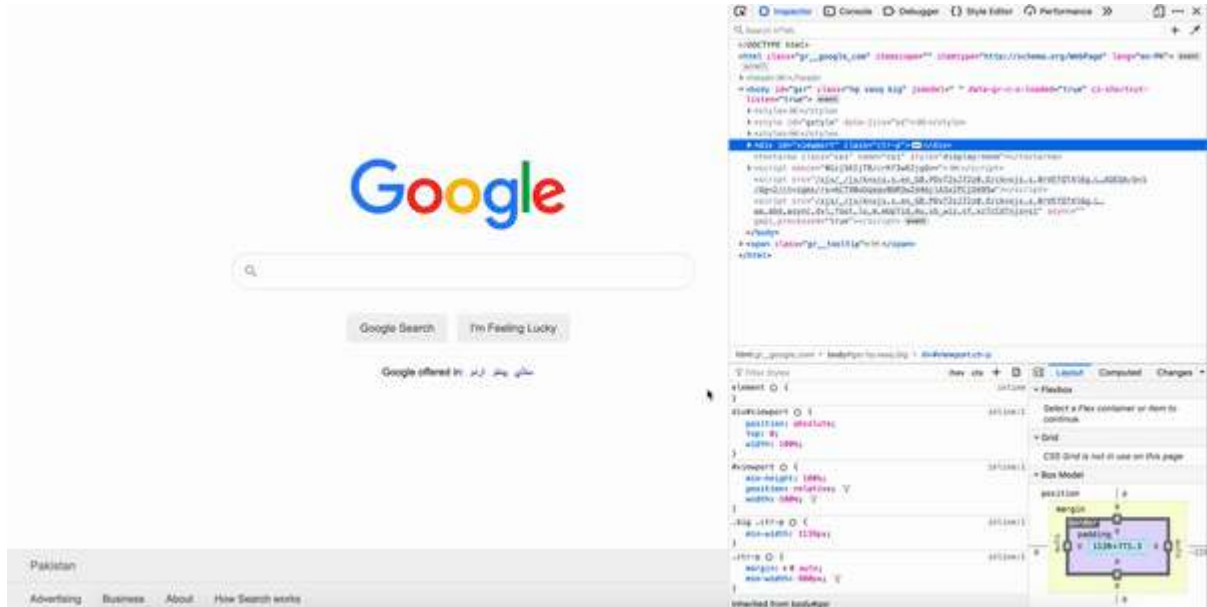
1. Navigate to any website. We picked [google.com](https://www.google.com).
2. Right-click anywhere.
3. Click on 'inspector tools' in the drop-down menu.

The process should be similar for other browsers.



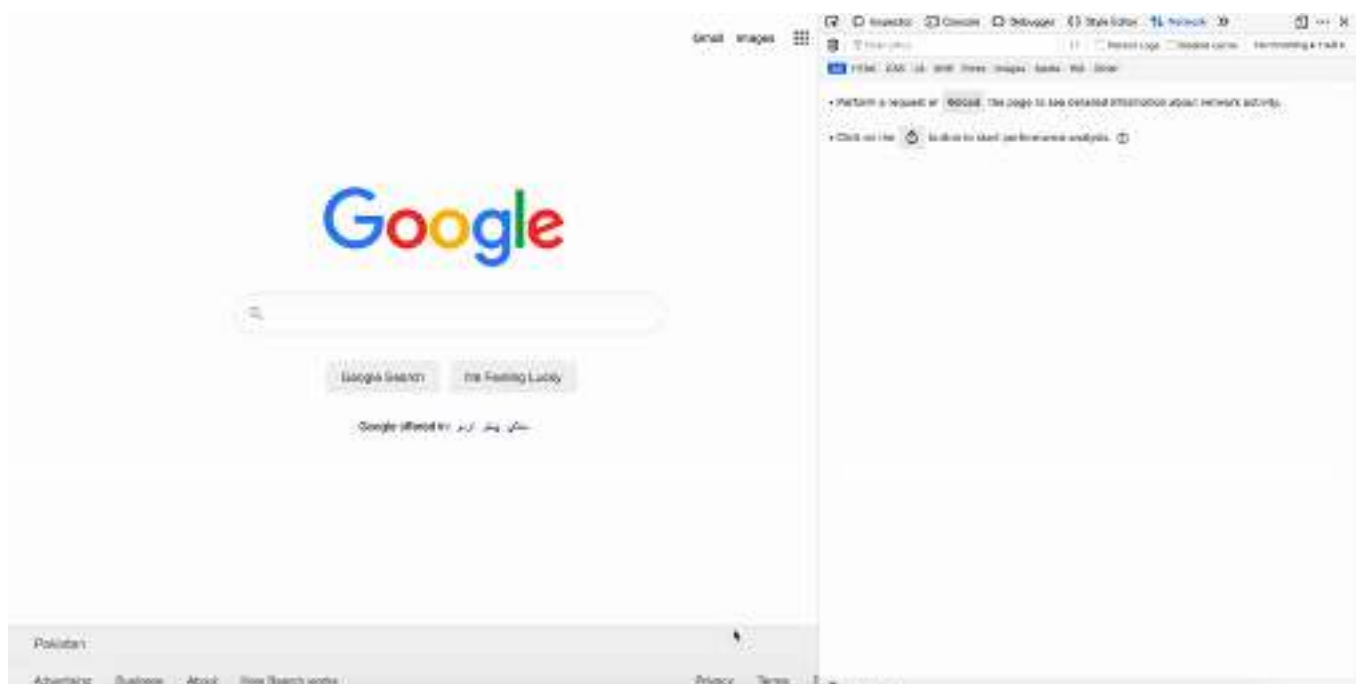
Go to the Network Tab

1. The network tab should be one of the tabs on the top-bar (or sidebar in some browsers).
2. Find it and click on it.
3. There may be a chance that your browser hasn't logged any network calls. In that case, just reload the page.



Click on Any Entry

1. You'll see a bunch of calls. Click on any one of them.
2. You'll see details about the HTTP message including the request headers, the kind of request, and the headers. We encourage you to spend some time exploring this.



An Example of an Entry

The screenshot shows the 'Headers' tab of a web browser's developer tools. The request is to `https://www.google.com/` using the `GET` method. The remote address is `172.217.19.164:443`, with a note that 443 is reserved for HTTPS. The status code is `200 OK`, with a note that 200 OK means the resource was found. The version is `HTTP/2.0`. Below the request details is a button labeled 'Edit and Resend'.

The response headers section shows the following details:

- Response headers (645 B)
- Raw headers (toggle)
- HTTP/2.0 200 OK
- date: Mon, 23 Sep 2019 05:15:01 GMT
- expires: -1
- cache-control: private, max-age=0
- content-type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
- strict-transport-security: max-age=31536000
- content-encoding: br
- server: gws
- content-length: 60432
- x-xss-protection: 0
- x-frame-options: SAMEORIGIN
- set-cookie: 1P_JAR=2019-09-23-05; expires=Wed, 23-Oct-2019 05:15:01 GMT; path=/;
- set-cookie: SIDCC=AN0-TYtW6jZBB-jHA24xjV8ayjZVFUZHv1_2hu58SsLTaC6yrAkkCAF_b1A2e
- alt-svc: quic=":443"; ma=2592000; v="46,43,39"
- X-Firefox-Spdy: h2

The request headers section shows the following details:

- Request headers (0.985 KB)
- Raw headers (toggle)
- Host: www.google.com
- User-Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10.14; rv:68.0) Gecko/20100101
- Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,*/*;q=0.8
- Accept-Language: en-US,en;q=0.5
- Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
- DNT: 1
- Connection: keep-alive
- Cookie: NID=somehiddenstring
- Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
- Cache-Control: max-age=0
- TE: Trailers

A note next to the request headers section says: 'The response headers. Try tallying each with what we learned in the last lesson.'

Now that we have a clear idea of what HTTP request messages look like, let's study the response messages in the next lesson.