**Curl Command Practice**

**curl is a tool for transferring data from or to a server using URLs. It supports these protocols: DICT, FILE, FTP, FTPS, GOPHER, GOPHERS, HTTP, HTTPS, IMAP, IMAPS, LDAP, LDAPS, MQTT, POP3, POP3S, RTMP, RTMPS, RTSP, SCP, SFTP, SMB, SMBS, SMTP, SMTPS, TELNET, TFTP, WS and WSS.**

**Create a simple HTML file**

**mkdir ~/webserver**

**cd ~/webserver**

**nano index.html**

**<!DOCTYPE html>**

**<html>**

**<head>**

**<title>Test Page</title>**

**</head>**

**<body>**

**<h1>Hello from your local web server!</h1>**

**</body>**

**</html>**

**Start a local web server**

**python3 -m http.server 8000**

**Practice curl**

**curl** [**http://localhost:8000**](http://localhost:8000)

**Save HTML to a file**

**curl http://localhost:8000 -o test.html**

**View headers only**

**curl -I** [**http://localhost:8000**](http://localhost:8000)

**Public API for HTTP request testing**

**Listed using** [**https://httpbin.org**](https://httpbin.org) **— it's *specifically designed* for testing HTTP requests.**

**Download a file**

**curl -O** [**https://httpbin.org/image/png**](https://httpbin.org/image/png)

**Downloads an image file named png to your current directory**

**POST form data**

**curl -X POST -d "username=user&password=pass"** [**https://httpbin.org/post**](https://httpbin.org/post)

**Sends application/x-www-form-urlencoded data.**

**Sends form data**

**-X POST sets the HTTP method to POST.**

**Send JSON data**

**curl -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/json" \**

**-d '{"name":"Ashan"}'** [**https://httpbin.org/post**](https://httpbin.org/post)

**Sends JSON to the server.**

**Sends JSON data in the POST body.**

**Send custom headers**

**curl -H "Authorization: Bearer YOUR\_TOKEN"** [**https://httpbin.org/get**](https://httpbin.org/get)

**view custom header in the "headers" section of the JSON response.**

**Sends a custom Authorization header.**

**Often used in APIs that require a token.**

**httpbin echoes back the headers, so you can verify the token was sent.**

**See IP**

**curl** [**https://httpbin.org/ip**](https://httpbin.org/ip)

**Returns public IP address as seen by httpbin.**

**See full request details**

**curl** [**https://httpbin.org/anything**](https://httpbin.org/anything)

**This echoes back everything send: headers, method, data — great for debugging.**

**Add verbosity**

**curl -v** [**https://httpbin.org/get**](https://httpbin.org/get)

**Shows request and response headers.**

**Shows:**

* **DNS lookup**
* **Connection process**
* **Full request headers**
* **Full response headers**

**Helpful for understanding how curl makes HTTP requests.**