**Java Servlet Questions**

## How do I support both GET and POST protocol from the same Servlet?

**Answer:**

The easy way is, just support POST, then have your doGet method call your doPost method:

[view source](http://www.javacodegeeks.com/2013/09/top-100-java-servlet-questions.html#viewSource)

[print](http://www.javacodegeeks.com/2013/09/top-100-java-servlet-questions.html#printSource)[?](http://www.javacodegeeks.com/2013/09/top-100-java-servlet-questions.html#about)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | public void doGet(HttpServletRequest req, HttpServletResponse res) | |
| 2 | throws ServletException, IOException |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 3 | { |
| 4 | doPost(req, res); | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 5 | } |

## How can my application get to know when a HttpSession is removed (when it time-outs)?

**Answer:**

Define a class, say SessionTimeoutNotifier, that implements javax.servlet.http.HttpSessionBindingListener. Create a SessionTimeoutNotifier object and add it to the user session. When the session is removed, SessionTimeoutNotifier.valueUnbound() will be called by the servlet engine. You can implement valueUnbound() to do whatever you want.

## How much data we can store in a session object?

**Answer:**

Any amount of data can be stored there because the session is kept on the server side.

The only limitation is sessionId length, which shouldn’t exceed ~4000 bytes – this limitation is implied by HTTP header length limitation to 4Kb since sessionId may be stored in the cookie or encoded in URL (using “**URL rewriting**“) and the cookie specification says the size of cookie as well as HTTP request (e.g. GET /document.html\n) cannot be longer then 4kb.

## What is the difference between encodeRedirectUrl and encodeURL?

**Answer:**

encodeURL and encodeRedirectURL are methods of the HttpResponse object. Both rewrite a raw URL to include session data if necessary. (If cookies are on, both are no-ops.)

encodeURL is for normal links inside your HTML pages.

encodeRedirectURL is for a link you’re passing to response.sendRedirect(). It has slightly different syntax requirements too gory to get into here.

## Can I use System.exit() in servlets?

**Answer:**

Gack! No no no no no…

At best, you’ll get a security exception. At worst, you’ll make the servlet engine, or maybe the entire web server, quit. You don’t really