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<div align="center">Serving Static Files</div>

As defined in the video Static Routing 1 by Professor Fred Kitner, routing refers to the mechanism of serving the client with content. The client requests information, and the server delivers it. The routing portion of this interaction is the server's actions taken to deliver this content. Static routing is when the server is serving static content. Static refers to constant or unchanging. A static file will be served and remain unmodified from the server's perspective, even if the user interacts with the file. By understanding routing, we can acknowledge how files are served to the client. Once we understand the base process of routing, we simply add the requirement of static files.

File types, or file formats, are standardized naming systems for certain types of files. For example, PNG, GIF, and JPEG are all image file types, but they are not interchangeable. GIF images support animation, PNG images support transparency, and JPEG images have the widest color variation. Understanding various file types will help you serve static files. When creating a server to host these files, you must account for all possible file types that you will intend to serve. As shown in Static Routing 2 by Professor Fred Kitner, a simple Node.js server requires a case for each static file type in a switch statement. If we attempt to serve a CSS, or Cascading Style Sheets, file without first defining the case, it will route incorrectly. Depending on the server design, it will likely return an error. Understanding file types will allow you to account for these possible file types before an error is encountered by the user.

References

Kitner, F. (n.d.). *Static routing 1* [Video].

    http://student.it.pointpark.edu/cmps361Videos/staticrouting1.mp4

Kitner, F. (n.d.). *Static routing 2* [Video].

    http://student.it.pointpark.edu/cmps361Videos/staticrouting2.mp4