



# Making a GET Request In Your Browser



3 min to complete · By Ryan Desmond, Jared Larsen

## Contents

- Introduction
- What is a GET Request?
- How to Make a GET Request
- Summary: Making a GET Request in the Browser

With this newfound knowledge of APIs and endpoints, you can start to use APIs and the services they represent to your advantage. This lesson will show you how to make a GET request using your browser.

## What is a GET Request?

A GET request is the most common type of request. These requests primarily return data, and under normal best practices, should not affect the state of the web service in any way. You'll commonly see these methods described as "idempotent".

You've made thousands and thousands of GET requests across all your devices. This may be surprising, but once you realize that every time you hit enter to open a web page, click a button to redirect, or open a link, you're making a GET request this number actually seems low.

Most requests are GET requests. It makes sense. Do you post more on Facebook than you view? Do you write more articles than you read? Do you delete more than you access? Most people "get" more than they do other tasks.

# How to Make a GET Request

The following exercise will reinforce the above prediction. Enter the following URL into a tab in your browser and hit enter:

[http://demo.codingnomads.co:8080/tasks\\_api/tasks](http://demo.codingnomads.co:8080/tasks_api/tasks)

Hopefully, the JSON returned by the demo server is formatted nicely by your browser extension. Take a look and explore the data.



Try to figure out what the POJO on the server side might look like based on the JSON fields. In the next section, you'll map JSON data to Java objects just like this!

Once you've found a task you like, add the ID to the end of the URL in the following format:

[http://demo.codingnomads.co:8080/tasks\\_api/tasks/{ID}](http://demo.codingnomads.co:8080/tasks_api/tasks/{ID})

The server should then only return that specific task. Easy!

## Learn by Doing



**Location:** [http://demo.codingnomads.co:8080/tasks\\_api/tasks](http://demo.codingnomads.co:8080/tasks_api/tasks)

The server accepts two URL query parameters for this endpoint:

- int `userId`
- boolean `complete`

Try submitting requests adding each (and both) of these query parameters to the URL.

## Summary: Making a GET Request in the Browser

You've now made your first conscious GET request, the first step to fully utilizing the internet and the APIs available there.

Good work!

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