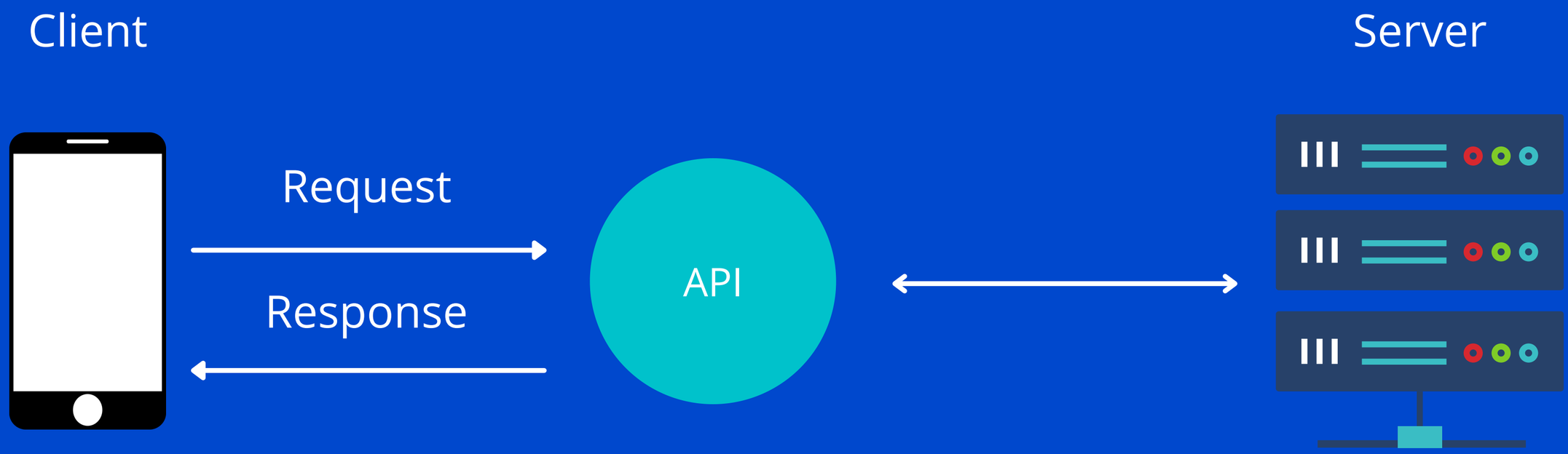
What is an API?


Client
Server
Request
Response
API

API

An API is code which allows two programs to communicate.

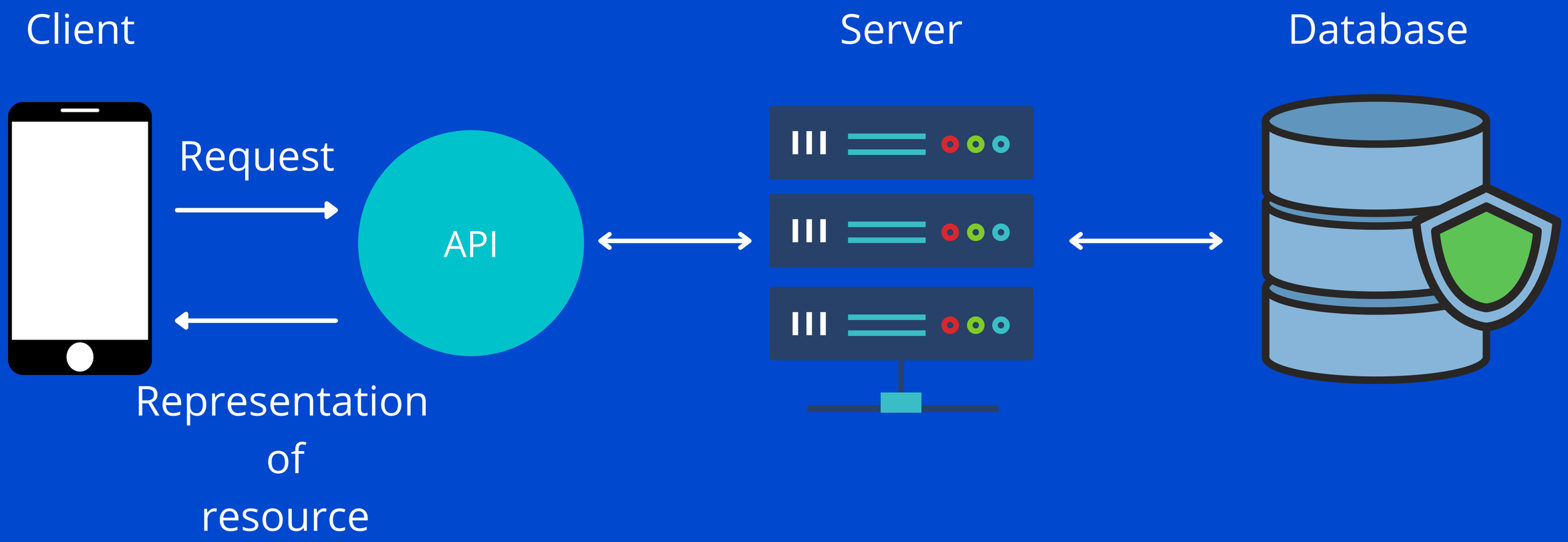
A developer can write a program which can communicate with an API.

A RESTful API is an API that uses HTTP requests to GET, PUT, POST and DELETE data.

REST stands for REpresentational State Transfer.

REST is an architectural style for developing web services.

REpresentational State Transfer



Types Of API Requests

HTTP GET

Used to retrieve resource representation i.e getting data

HTTP POST

Used to create new resources i.e Posting data.

HTTP PUT

Used to updating existing resources. i.e Editing data.

HTTP DELETE

Used to delete resources. i.e Deleting data.

Used to create new resources i.e Posting

How an API request looks like

site-address/movies
site-address/movies/spiderman

How API response looks like


```
{
  "name": "spiderman",
  "duration": 1.6,
  "releaseDate": "2014-06-
25T00:00:00.000Z",
  "rating": 4.5
}
```


The above is a JSON format.