



NodeJS Course

Session 2 - request types



When does a request happen?

- Every time some resource is needed
 - initial request to get the HTML page
 - css files
 - images
 - ...

GET



- Most common request type
- Standard type, if no request type is given

Idea:

- Retrieve ("get") data or files
- Does not modify any data

Note:

- Can be cached!

POST



- Post some data to the server
- Usually if you submit a form
- Data is modified

Note:

- Gives a strange message, if you reload the page
- Get-after-post pattern!

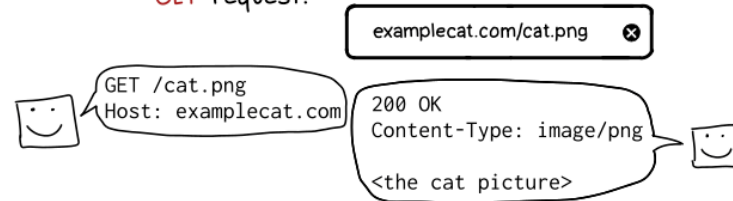
request methods

Every HTTP request has a method. It's the first thing in the first line:

this means it's a GET request
GET /cat.png HTTP/1.1

There are 9 methods in the HTTP standard. 80% of the time you'll only use 2 (GET and POST).

GET When you type an URL into your browser, that's a **GET** request.

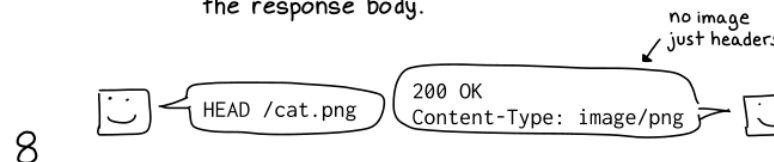


POST When you hit submit on a form, that's (usually) a **POST** request.



The big difference between **GET** and **POST** is that **GET**s are never supposed to change anything on the server.

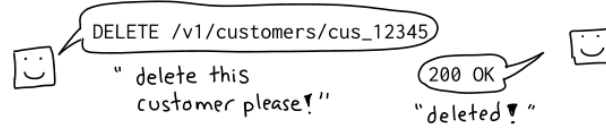
HEAD Returns the same result as GET, but without the response body.





OPTIONS OPTIONS is mostly used for CORS requests.
The CORS page has more about that.
It also tells you which methods are available.

DELETE Used in many APIs (like the Stripe API) to delete resources.



PUT Used in some APIs (like the S3 API) to create or update resources. PUT /cat/1234 lets you GET /cat/1234 later.

PATCH Used in some APIs for partial updates to a resource ("just change this 1 field").

TRACE I've never seen a server that supports this, you probably don't need to know about it.

CONNECT Different from all the others: instead of making a request to a server directly, it asks for a proxy to open a connection.
If you set the HTTPS_PROXY environment variable to a proxy server, many HTTP libraries will use this protocol to proxy your requests.



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Thank you



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