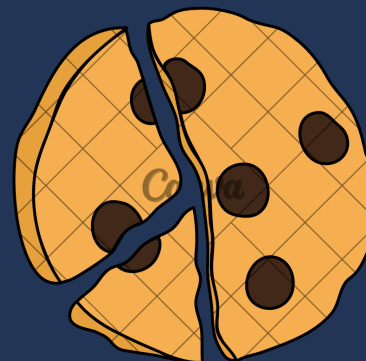


Cache Busting

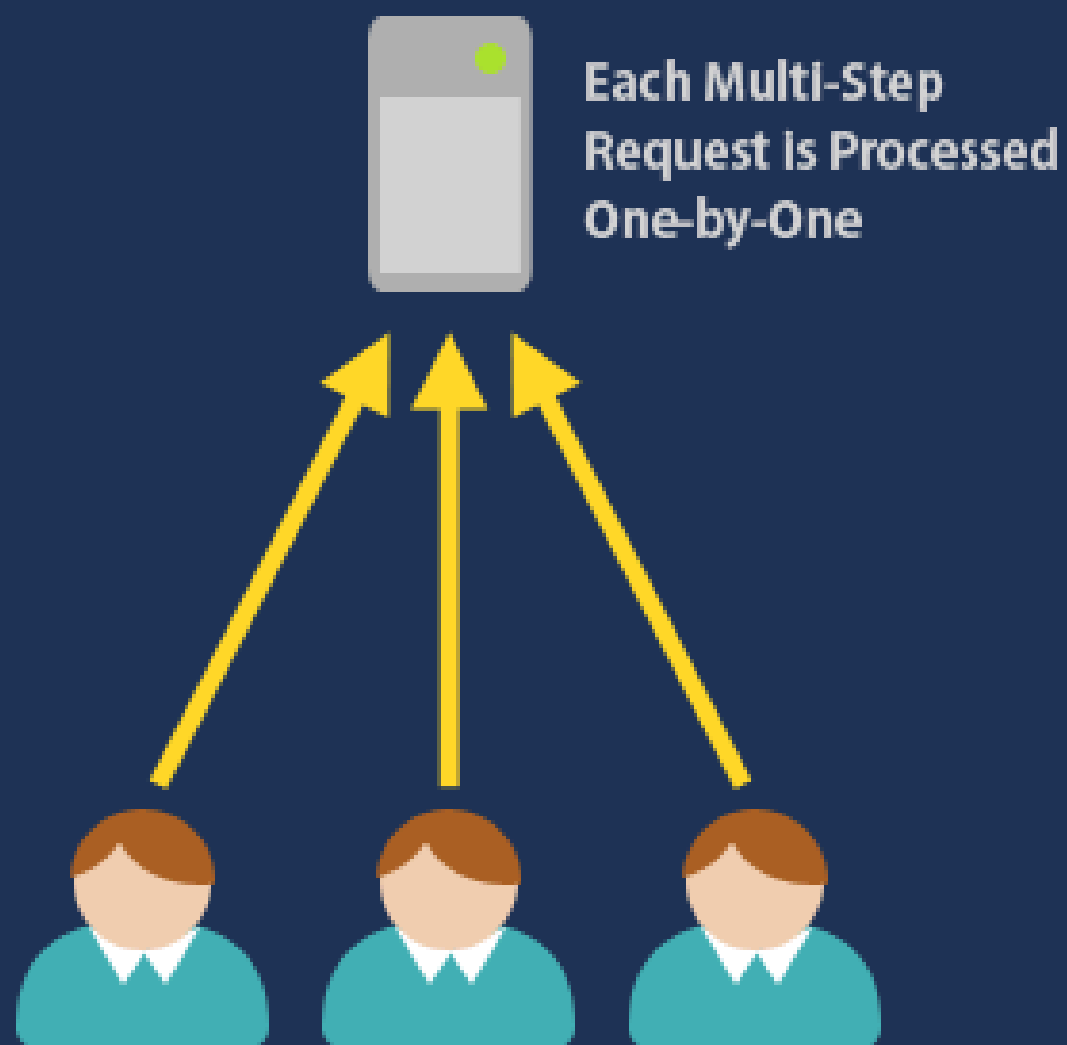


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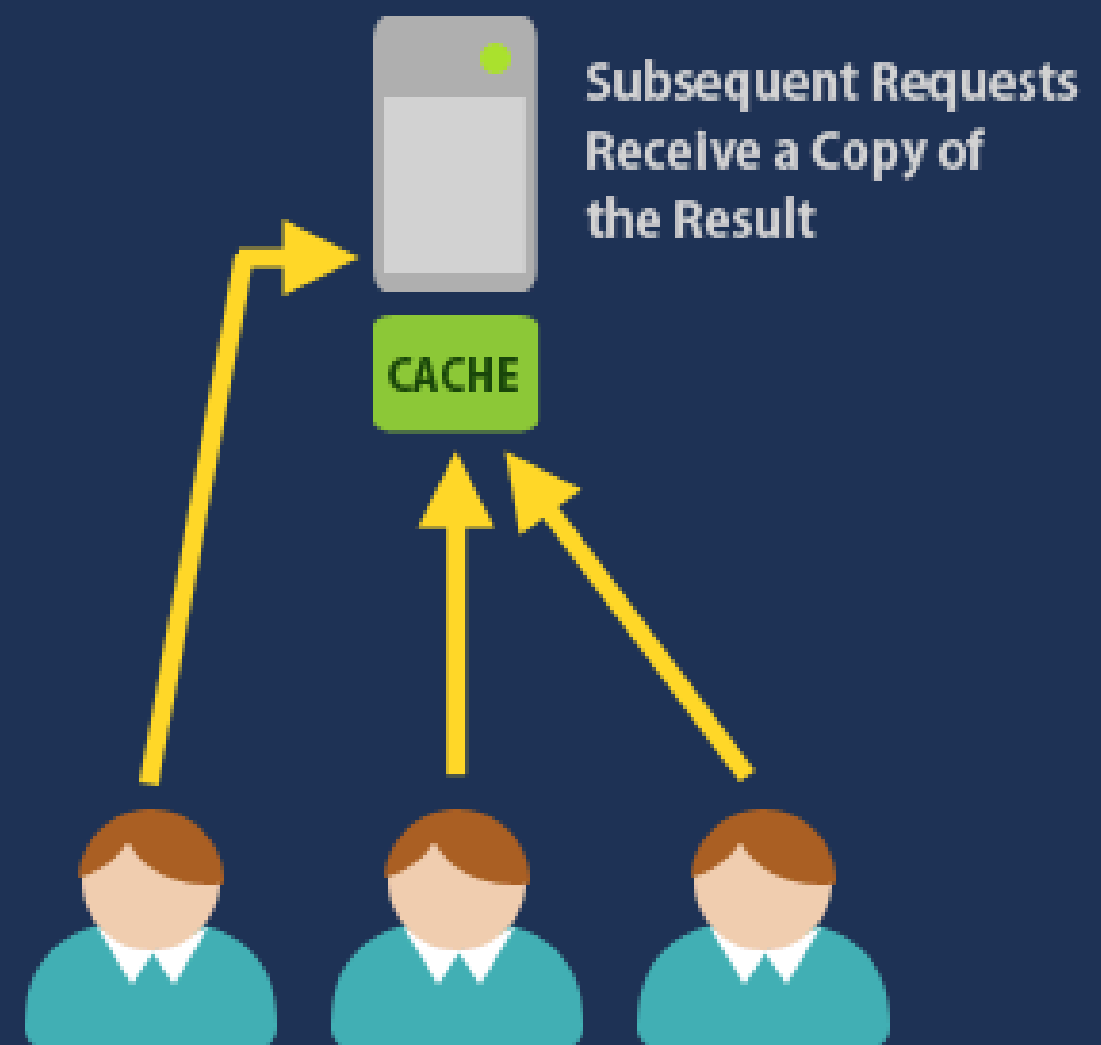
Cache busting is a technique used in web development to force web browsers to load the most recent version of a file (such as CSS, JavaScript, or images) rather than a cached version.

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NO CACHING



CACHING



Browsers store files locally
to reduce server load and
speed up page loading
times, but this can cause
issues when updates to
these files are made and the
browser continues to load
the **outdated versions**.

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Scenario

Imagine you have a website where you frequently update the CSS and JavaScript files to improve design and functionality. However, your **users are complaining** that they don't see the updates. This happens because their browsers are loading the old, cached versions of the files.

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Keywords

Caching: The process of storing copies of files in a cache (temporary storage) for faster access.



Cache Control: HTTP headers used to define caching policies.



Versioning: Appending a version number or hash to the filename to indicate updates.

2.0



Query Strings: Adding parameters to the URL (e.g., `style.css?v=2`).

ETag (Entity Tag): HTTP headers used to validate cached resources.



Max-age: Cache-control directive that specifies the maximum amount of time a resource is considered fresh.



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1.File Versioning

Change the filename whenever the
file is updated:



```
<link rel="stylesheet"  
href="style.v2.css">  
<script src="app.v3.js"></script>
```


2.Query Strings


Add a version number or hash as a query string:



```
<link rel="stylesheet" href="style.css?v=2">  
  <script src="app.js?v=3"></script>
```

3.Webpack Hashing

If you're using a build tool like Webpack, it can automatically generate hashed filenames:



```
module.exports = {  
  output: {  
    filename: '[name].[contenthash].js',  
  },  
};
```

4.HTTP Headers

Use cache control headers to specify how long a browser should cache a resource:



```
<FilesMatch "\.(css|js)$">  
  Header set Cache-Control "max-age=31536000,  
public"</FilesMatch>
```