

Service Worker Lifecycle

A service worker progresses through three key phases in its lifecycle:

1. Registration
2. Installation
3. Activation

Registration

Registration is the initial step where you inform the browser about your service worker. This process tells the browser where to find your service worker file and initiates its background installation. Here's an implementation example:

```
// app.js
if ('serviceWorker' in navigator) {
  navigator.serviceWorker.register('./service-worker.js')
    .then(function(registration) {
      console.log('Service Worker registered successfully with scope:',
registration.scope);
    })
    .catch(function(error) {
      console.log('Service Worker registration failed:', error);
    });
}
```

This code first checks if the browser supports service workers by testing for `navigator.serviceWorker`. It then registers the service worker using `navigator.serviceWorker.register()`, which returns a promise. On successful registration, it logs the scope, which defines which files the service worker can control. If registration fails, the error is logged.

By default, the service worker's scope is its location and all subdirectories. For example, if your service worker is in the root directory, it controls requests for all files on that domain.

You can also specify a custom scope:

```
// app.js
navigator.serviceWorker.register('./service-worker.js', {
  scope: '/pages/'
});
```

Installation

When a service worker is registered, it triggers an installation event. You can listen for this event to perform tasks during installation, such as precaching resources for offline use:

```
// service-worker.js
self.addEventListener('install', function(event) {
  // Perform installation tasks
});
```

During installation, service workers often cache essential files to enable offline functionality and improve loading performance on subsequent visits.

Activation

After successful installation, the service worker enters the activation phase. If any pages are still controlled by a previous service worker, the new one enters a waiting state. It only activates when all pages using the old service worker are closed. This ensures only one service worker version runs at a time.

```
// service-worker.js
self.addEventListener('activate', function(event) {
  // Perform activation tasks like clearing old caches
});
```

Code

// service-worker.js

```
const cacheName = 'expense-tracker-v1';
const filesToCache = [
  '/',
  '/index.html',
  '/styles.css',
  '/app.js',
  '/manifest.json',
  '/icons/icon-192.png',
  '/icons/icon-512.png'
];

// Install service worker
self.addEventListener('install', (e) => {
  e.waitUntil(
    caches.open(cacheName).then((cache) => {
      return cache.addAll(filesToCache);
    })
  );
});

// Activate service worker
self.addEventListener('activate', (e) => {
  console.log('Service Worker activated');
});

// Fetch data
```

```
self.addEventListener('fetch', (e) => {
  e.respondWith(
    caches.match(e.request).then((response) => {
      return response || fetch(e.request);
    })
  );
});
```

Output

The screenshot displays a web browser with the URL `127.0.0.1:5500/contact.html`. The page content includes a blue header for "Service Worker Demo" with links to Home, About, and Contact. Below this is a "Contact Page" section with the text "Contact information would go here."

The DevTools interface is open, showing the "Application" panel. The left sidebar lists various storage and background services, including "Service workers". The main panel displays two registered service workers for the origin `http://127.0.0.1:5500/`. Each worker is in a "trying to install" state. The first worker has 42 clients, and the second has 43. Both workers show a "Push" message input field with the text "Test push message from DevTools." and buttons for "Push", "Sync", and "Periodic sync". The "Update Cycle" section for each worker includes tabs for "Version", "Update Activity", and "Timeline".

Service Worker Demo

[Home](#) [About](#) [Contact](#)

Welcome to the Home Page

This page demonstrates service worker functionality.

Application

- Manifest
- Service workers
- Storage

Storage

- Local storage
- Session storage
- Extension storage
- IndexedDB
- Cookies
 - http://127.0.0.1:5500
- Private state tokens
- Interest groups
- Shared storage
- Cache storage
 - pwa-cache-v1 - htt...
- Storage buckets

Background services

- Back/forward cache
- Background fetch
- Background sync
- Bounce tracking miti...
- Notifications
- Payment handler
- Periodic background ...
- Speculative loads

http://127.0.0.1:5500

Origin http://127.0.0.1:5500

Bucket name default

Is persistent No

Durability relaxed

Quota 0 B

Expiration None

#	Name	Response...	Content-T...	Content-L...	Time Cach...	Vary Header
0	/	basic	text/html	2,248	3/19/2025...	Origin
1	/about.html	basic	text/html	2,249	3/19/2025...	Origin
2	/contact.html	basic	text/html	2,228	3/19/2025...	Origin
3	/index.html	basic	text/html	2,248	3/19/2025...	Origin
4	/offline.html	basic	text/html	1,970	3/19/2025...	Origin
5	/scripts/app.js	basic	applicatio...	497	3/19/2025...	Origin
6	/styles/main.css	basic	text/css	468	3/19/2025...	Origin

No cache entry selected

Select a cache entry above to preview

Total entries: 7