

Exercise 1: Find and study two web application frameworks that offer protection mechanisms against Cross-Site Request Forging (CSRF) and compare the CSRF protection features of these frameworks against each other.

	Java GWT / Spring?	Ruby on Rails
Website		www.rubyonrails.org
Synchronizer Token Pattern Add a generated session-unique token to requests (via previous GET request)	Yes, disabled by default (since Django 1.2)	Yes, enabled by default (since Rails 2.0, before with Plugin CSRF Killer)
- POST/PUT/DELETE/GET	Yes/Yes/Yes/No	Yes/Yes/Yes/No
- Protected request types	HTML, AJAX, others unknown	HTML, AJAX, others manually
- What happens on CSRF?	HTTP 403 Forbidden is send to user	Exception ActionController::InvalidAuthenticityToken is thrown
- RFC 2616 -Compliant regarding un/safe operations	Yes	Yes
Double submitted cookies Send a secure value via header <u>and</u> form and verify match on server	No	No
Non-working/weak protections:		
- Checks referrer on retrieval Referrers can easily be faked (HTTP)	Yes, only for HTTPS	No
- Using a Secret Cookie Cookies are always send and thus easily available	No	No
- Only Accepting POST Requests POST requests can easily be faked	No	No
- Multi-Step Transactions If attacker may predict the transaction steps CSRF is still possible	No	No

Sources:

- <http://archives.rvandaigle.com/articles/2007/9/24/what-s-new-in-edge-rails-better-cross-site-request-forging-prevention>
- [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery_\(CSRF\)_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery_(CSRF)_Prevention_Cheat_Sheet)
- [https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery_\(CSRF\)](https://www.owasp.org/index.php/Cross-Site_Request_Forgery_(CSRF))
- <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/dev/ref/contrib/csrf/>
- <http://guides.rubyonrails.org/security.html>