

[Project #8]

Download

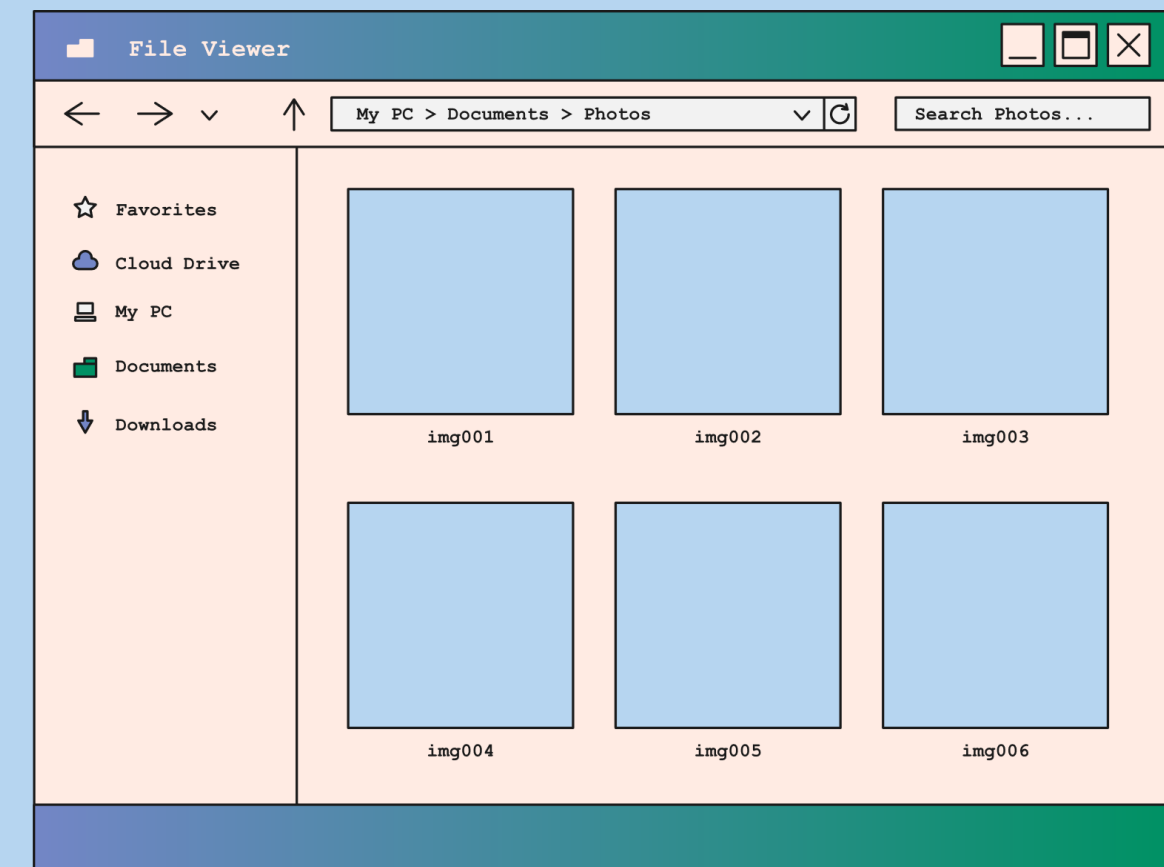
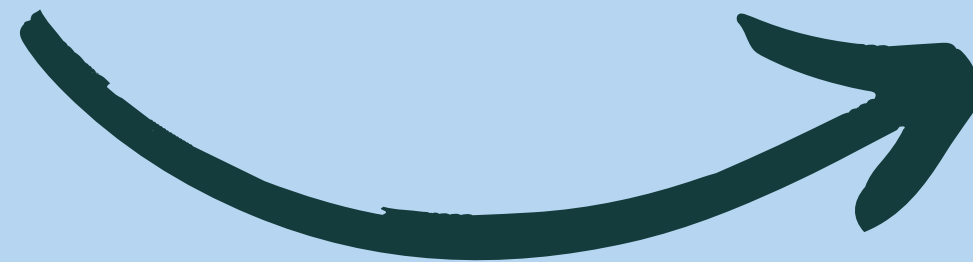
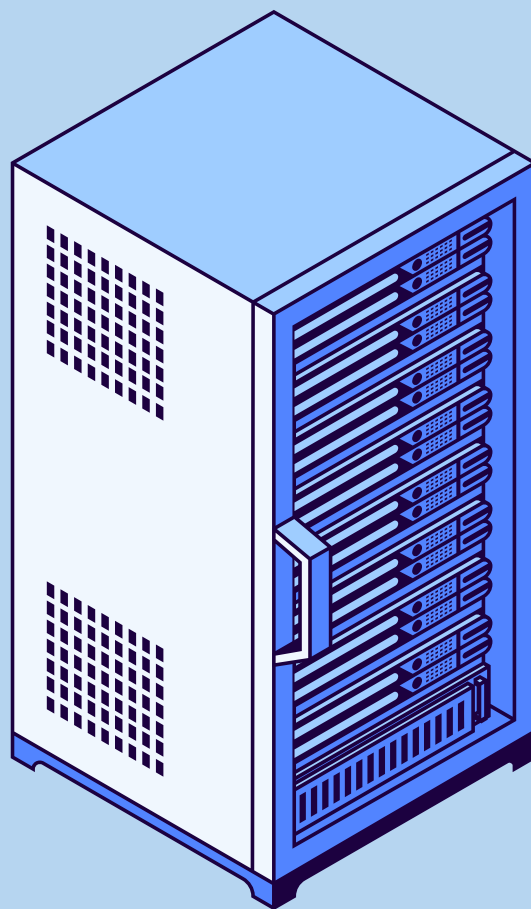
PDF File

Headers



Headers

Headers are used in HTTP responses to provide additional information about the content being sent from the server to the client (usually a web browser).



In the context of file downloads, these headers serve specific purposes:

1. Content-Disposition

2. Content-Type

3. Content-Description

4. Content-Length

These headers collectively ensure that the browser understands how to handle the response as a file download, including specifying the filename, type, size, and presentation style. This helps provide a smooth and intuitive download experience for the user.

Content-Disposition

```
header("Content-Disposition: attachment; filename=" . urlencode($file));
```

This header tells the browser to treat the response as a file download and specifies the filename.

- This header specifies the presentation style of the response (inline or attachment) and provides a filename for the downloaded file.
- **Content-Disposition: attachment** indicates that the browser should prompt the user to save the file as a download rather than displaying it in the browser window.
- **filename=** specifies the name of the file to be saved. In this case, **urlencode(\$file)** ensures that the filename is properly encoded, especially if it contains special characters.

Content-Type

```
header("Content-Type: application/octet-stream");
```

This header indicates that the content type is a binary file.

- This header indicates the media type (MIME type) of the response content.
- `application/octet-stream` is a generic binary file type. It tells the browser that the content is binary data and should be treated as a file.

A MIME type or media type is a form of identification for file formats and contents transmitted over the internet. It is useful to specify the data identification label of a file to allow software to properly interpret and render the data.

Content-Description

This header provides a description of the content being transferred. It's not commonly used, but in this case, it helps describe the nature of the content as a file transfer.

Content-Length

- **This header specifies the size of the content being transferred in bytes.**
- **`filesize($filePath)` retrieves the size of the file in bytes, and it's appended to the header to inform the client about the total size of the file being downloaded.**