

Services

- web service-is a legacy technology
- newer- wcf is used(uses SOAP and returns data as XML,only supports HTTP protocol)
- newest - web api(HTTP based service and returns JSON or XML data by default)

web api-http based services which can be consumed by browsers,mobile applications,desktop applications,IOTs.

Web Service, WCF and now Web API are used to create distributed applications(service).

The .Net framework has a number of technologies that allow you to create HTTP services such as Web Service, WCF and now Web API.

Web Service

- It is based on SOAP and return data in XML form.
- It support only HTTP protocol.
- It is not open source but can be consumed by any client that understands xml.
- It can be hosted only on IIS.

WCF

- It is also based on SOAP and return data in XML form.
- It is the evolution of the web service(ASMX) and support various protocols like TCP, HTTP, HTTPS, Named Pipes, MSMQ.
- The main issue with WCF is, its tedious and extensive configuration.
- It is not open source but can be consumed by any client that understands xml.
- It can be hosted with in the applicaion or on IIS or using window service.

WCF Rest

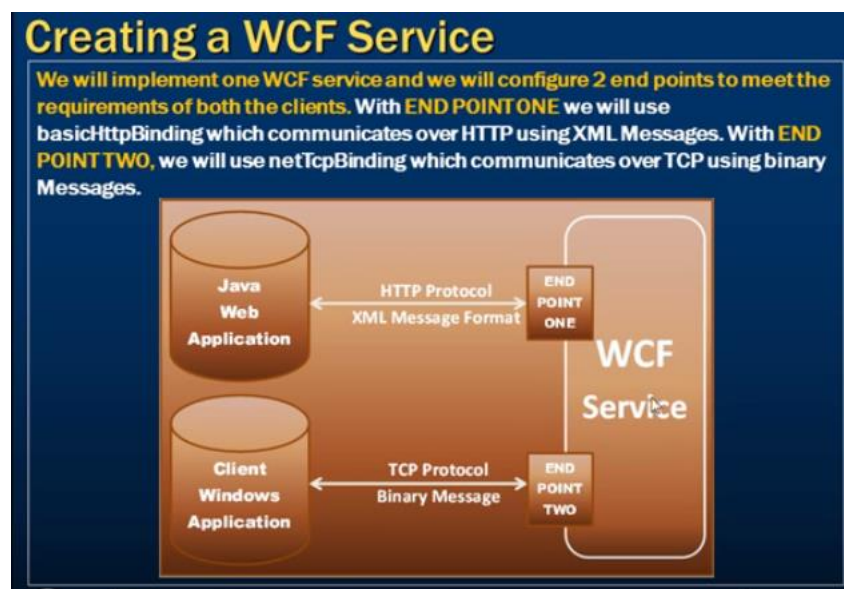
- To use WCF as WCF Rest service you have to enable webHttpBindings.
- It support HTTP GET and POST verbs by [WebGet] and [WebInvoke] attributes respectively.
- To enable other HTTP verbs you have to do some configuration in IIS to accept request of that particular verb on .svc files
- Passing data through parameters using a WebGet needs configuration. The UriTemplate must be specified.
- It support XML, JSON and ATOM data format.
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Web API

- This is the new framework for building HTTP services with easy and simple way.
- Web API is open source an ideal platform for building REST-ful services over the .NET Framework.

- Unlike WCF Rest service, it use the full feature of HTTP (like URIs, request/response headers, caching, versioning, various content formats)
- It also supports the MVC features such as routing, controllers, action results, filter, model binders, IOC container or dependency injection, unit
- testing that makes it more simple and robust.
- It can be hosted with in the application or on IIS.
- It is light weight architecture and good for devices which have limited bandwidth like smart phones.
- Responses are formatted by Web API's MediaTypeFormatter into JSON, XML or whatever format you want to add as a MediaTypeFormatter.

WCF



```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
<configuration>
  <system.serviceModel>
    <services>
      <service name="HelloService.HelloService" behaviorConfiguration="mexBehaviour">
        <endpoint address="HelloService" binding="basicHttpBinding" contract="HelloService.IHelloService" />
        <endpoint address="HelloService" binding="netTcpBinding" contract="HelloService.IHelloService" />
        <endpoint address="mex" binding="mexHttpBinding" contract="IMetadataExchange" />
      </service>
    </services>
    <behaviors>
      <serviceBehaviors>
        <behavior name="mexBehaviour">
          <serviceMetadata httpGetEnabled="true" />
        </behavior>
      </serviceBehaviors>
    </behaviors>
    <host>
      <baseAddresses>
        <add baseAddress="http://localhost:8080/" />
        <add baseAddress="net.tcp://localhost:8090/" />
      </baseAddresses>
    </host>
  </system.serviceModel>
</configuration>
  
```

