**What is HTTP?**

[HTTP](https://www.cloudflare.com/learning/ddos/glossary/hypertext-transfer-protocol-http/) stands for hypertext transfer protocol, and it is the basis for almost all web applications. More specifically, HTTP is the method computers and servers use to request and send information. For instance, when someone navigates to cloudflare.com on their laptop, their web browser sends an HTTP request to the Cloudflare servers for the content that appears on the page. Then, Cloudflare servers send HTTP responses with the text, images, and formatting that the browser displays to the user.

**What is HTTP/1.1 and HTTP/2 ?**

The first usable version of HTTP was created in 1997. Because it went through several stages of development, this first **standardized** version of HTTP was called HTTP/1.1. This version is still in use on the web. In 2015, a new version of HTTP called [HTTP/2](https://www.cloudflare.com/website-optimization/http2/what-is-http2/) was created.

**Difference between HTTP/1.1 and HTTP/2:**

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| --- | --- |
| **HTTP/1.1** | **HTTP/2** |
| It works on the textual protocol. | It works on the binary protocol. |
| There is head of line blocking that blocks all the requests behind it until it doesn’t get its all resources. | It allows multiplexing so one TCP connection is required for multiple requests. |
| It uses requests resource Inlining for use getting multiple pages | It uses PUSH frame by server that collects all multiple pages |
| It compresses data by itself. | It uses HPACK for data compression. |

**Why is HTTP/2 faster than HTTP/1.1?**

HTTP/2 solves several problems that the creators of HTTP/1.1 did not anticipate. In particular, HTTP/2 is much faster and more efficient than HTTP/1.1. One of the ways in which HTTP/2 is faster is in how it prioritizes content during the loading process.