**Apache InterView Question**

1. How to stop/start Apache Web Server?

# service httpd start/stop/restart

2. What is the default port for HTTP and HTTPS?

HTTP port no. 80

HTTPS port no. 443.

3. Can you tell me the important configuration file name?

/etc/httpd/conf/httpd.conf

4. What is location of log files for Apache server ?

/var/log/http

5. How to check the version of running Apache Web Server?

# httpd –v OR

# rpm -qa |grep httpd

6. How to know if web server running?

# ps -ef |grep httpd

7. How to install Apache web server?

# yum install httpd

8. How to ensure Apache listen on only one IP address on the server?

Listen 10.10.10.10:80

9. How to ensure Apache process run with non-root/nobody user?

This is doable by adding User & Group directive in httpd.conf file

User apache

Group apache

10. How do I disable directory indexing?

Ex:

<Directory />

       Options -Indexes

</Directory>

11. Can you change the listening port from default to something else?

Yes, it’s possible by specifying the port number in **Listen** directive.

For ex: to make Apache listen on 9000 port to 10.10.10.10 IP address.

Listen 10.10.10.10:9000

12. How to secure Website hosted on Apache Web Server?

* Implementing SSL
* Integrating with WAF (Web Application Firewall) like ModSecurity, etc.
* Using [cloud-based security provider](https://geekflare.com/cloud-waf-to-stop-website-attacks/)

13. What are the log files generated by Apache?

access.log – all request details with the [status code](https://geekflare.com/http-status-code-infographics/)

error.log – capture all the errors within apache or connecting in backend

14. How to create a CSR?

To create new CSR with private key

openssl req -out geekflare.csr -newkey rsa:2048 -nodes -keyout geekflare.key

15. What is Virtual Hosting?

Virtual Hosting in Apache allows you to host multiple websites on a single instance. You can either create **IP based** or **Name based** in virtual hosting.

16. Which module is required to enable SSL?

The mod\_ssl module must be uncommented prior to SSL implementation.

LoadModule auth\_basic\_module modules/mod\_ssl.so

17. What are the log level available in Apache?

The default configuration is set to “warn” however, the following is possible too.

* debug
* info
* warn
* notice
* crit
* alarm
* emerg
* error

18. What is DocumentRoot?

DocumentRoot directive is the configuration where you can specify the folder location from where the static files will be served. It’s also called as Web Root.

Default DocumentRoot location is /var/www/html

19. What’s difference between Apache Web Server and Apache Tomcat?

Apache Web is HTTP server to serve static contents where Tomcat is servlet container to deploy JSP files.You can always integrate Apache HTTP with Tomcat, however, based on the requirement you need to choose either one. If you need proper web server then Apache HTTP else Tomcat for JSP-Servlet Container.

20. What are the Web Servers you’ve worked on along with Apache?

Again, you better tell the truth but to make you aware there are many web servers in the market including the following.

* Nginx
* Microsoft IIS
* LiteSpeed
* GWS

21. How to verify httpd.conf file to ensure no configuration syntax error?

# **httpd -t**

Syntax OK

22. what is a difference between Apache and Nginx web server?

Both are categorized as a Web Server and here are some of the main differences.

* Nginx is event-based web server where Apache is process based
* Nginx is known for better performance than Apache
* Apache supports wide range of OS where Nginx doesn’t support OpenVMS and IBMi
* Apache has large number of modules integration with backend application server where Nginx is still catching up
* Nginx is lightweight and capturing the market share rapidly. If you are new to Nginx then you may be interested to check out [my articles on Nginx](https://geekflare.com/category/web-infrastructure/nginx/).

23. What does 200, 403 & 503 HTTP error code mean?

* 200 – content found and served OK
* 403 – tried to access restricted file/folder
* 503 – server is too busy to serve the request and in another word – service unavailable.

**24. What is meaning of "Listen" in httpd.conf file ?**

Port number on which to listen for nonsecure (http) transfers.

**25.** Does Apache act as Proxy server?

Yes,using mod\_proxy module.

26. How do you find the port on which Apache Web Server is listening?  
 You can check the httpd.conf file for the keyword "Listen", that defines the port on which Apache listen. Alternatively, you can use [netstat command](http://javarevisited.blogspot.sg/2015/11/how-to-find-pid-of-process-listening-on-a-port-unix-netstat-lsof-command-examples.html) in Linux to find the port on which Apache web server is listening as shown below:  
 # netstat -nap | grep httpd  
tcp 0 0 0.0.0.0:10202 0.0.0.0:\* LISTEN 3988/httpd

27.What does htpasswd do?

It creates a new user in a specified group, and asks to specify a password for that user.

28. What are the types of virtual hosts ?  
 name-based and IP-based.

29.What is Apache Virtual Hosting?

Answer : Apache Virtual hosting is the concept of hosting multiple website on a single web server. There are two types of Virtual hosts can be setup with Apache are Name Based Virtual hosting and IP based virtual hosting.

30. What’s the difference between <Location> and <Directory>?

Answer :

<Location> is used to set element related to the URL / address bar of the web server.

<Directory> refers that the location of file system object on the server

31. What is Virtual Host in Apache?

Answer : The Virtual Host section contains the information like Website name, Document root, Directory Index, Server Admin Email, ErrorLog File location etc.

32.How SSL works with Apache

Whenever an https requests comes, these three steps Apache follows:

* Apache generates its private key and converts that private key to .CSR file (Certificate signing request).
* Then Apache sends the .csr file to the CA (Certificate Authority).
* CA will take the .csr file and convert it to .crt (certificate) and will send that .crt file back to Apache to secure and complete the https connection request.

**33. If you have only one IP address, but you want to host two web sites on your server. What will you do?**

In this case I will use Name Based Virtual hosting.

ServerName 10.111.203.25  
 NameVirtualHost \*:80

<VirtualHost \*:80>  
 ServerName web1.test.com  
 DocumentRoot /var/www/html/web1  
 </VirtualHost>  
  
 <VirtualHost \*:80>  
 ServerName web2.test2.com  
 DocumentRoot /var/www/html/web2  
 </VirtualHost>