

Form Basics

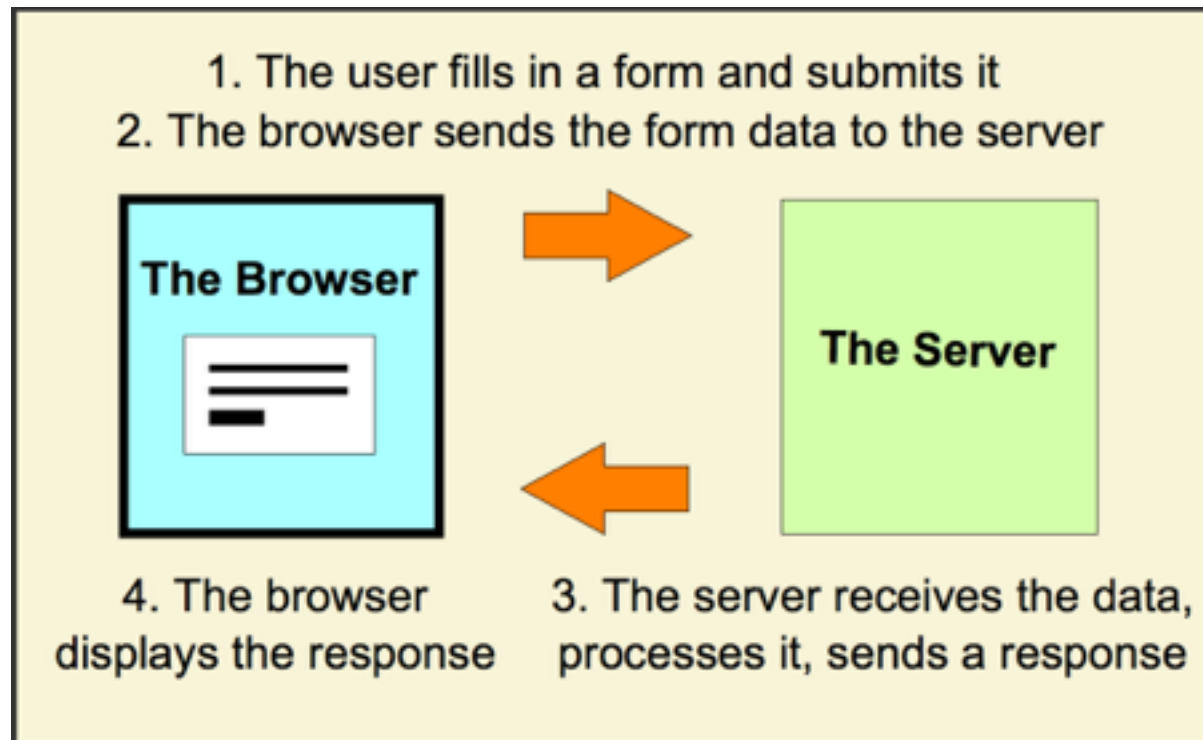
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Intro to Bayes

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Form Basics

Forms are the simplest method to send data to the server



Basic Form Structure

```
<!--Basic Form Structure -->  
<form action="destination" method="get or post">  
  <!--Would put form info here -->  
  <!-- The <input> tag specifies an input field where the user can enter data. -->  
  <input type="submit">  
  
</form>
```

Action

The action attribute tells the browser where to send the form data

```
<form action="http://putsomethinghere.com/post.php">
```

Get Method

- method = “get” is the default method
- Example: Search Reddit for cats: www.reddit.com/search?sort=relevance&t=month&q=cats
- Try changing what comes after q=
- Querystrings are a way of passing data into a webpage

More on Get Method

- It's useful to send data in the URL
- But you can't hide data
- Can only handle small amounts of data - about a few hundred characters

Post Method

- method = “post”
- main difference is you can't see any data
- Can handle big files, videos, images, etc

Demo

- HTML forms practice: <https://github.com/ga-wdi-exercises/html-forms-practice>

Key Takeaway

GET sends data as a querystring in your URL. POST hides the data when it's sent.

*GET and POST are two of what we call HTTP methods—ways browsers communicate with servers

Stuff to put in Form: Text Area

```
<form>  
  <p>Can put info here</p>  
  <textarea rows="3" cols="60" name="feedback" >  
    | Enter text here  
  </textarea>  
</form>
```

Stuff to put in Form: Submit Button

```
<form action="http://putsomethinghere.com/post.php"
      method="get">
  <p>Please enter any feedback you have.</p>
  <textarea rows="3" cols="60" name="feedback" >
    Please enter your text here
  </textarea>
  <br>
  <input type="submit" value="Send">
</form>
```

Form Input Elements

- Submit Button `<input type="submit">`
- Plain Text `<input type="text">`
- Checkbox `<input type="checkbox">`
- Radio button `<input type="radio">`
- Password field `<input type="password">`

Form Input Elements

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- Password field `<input type="password">`

Let's see a few now in action

What's wrong with password?

Selecting From a List

```
<form>
  <p>What city would you like to go to?</p>
  <select name="cities">
    <option value="hk">Hong Kong</option>
    <option value="hk">Hong Kong</option>
    <option value="sf">San Francisco</option>
  </select>
</form>
```

Useful Attributes

- Value - fixes what is shown at start
- Placeholder - shows useful text that disappears when user types
- Autofocus -
- Required - field must be completed

Example Attributes

```
<form>
  <p>Please fill in the following information:</p>
  <label for="firstname">First name:</label>
  <input type="text" name="firstname" value="Nayana" autofocus>
  <br>
  <label for="lastname">Last name:</label>
  <input type="text" name="lastname" placeholder="Your last name goes here">
  <br>
  <label for="age">Age:</label>
  <input type="text" name="age" required>
  <br>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
```

Independent Practice