**HTTP methods**

In Node.js, HTTP methods are used to define the actions that should be performed on a resource. The most common HTTP methods are:

1. **GET**: Used to retrieve data from a specified resource.
2. **POST**: Used to submit data to be processed to a specified resource.
3. **PUT**: Used to update a resource or create a new resource if it doesn't exist.
4. **DELETE**: Used to request the removal of a resource.
5. **PATCH**: Used to apply partial modifications to a resource.

Eg:

const express = require('express');

const app = express();

const port = 3000;

// Handling GET requests

app.get('/', (req, res) => {

res.send('GET request received');

});

// Handling POST requests

app.post('/', (req, res) => {

res.send('POST request received');

});

// Handling PUT requests

app.put('/', (req, res) => {

res.send('PUT request received');

});

// Handling DELETE requests

app.delete('/', (req, res) => {

res.send('DELETE request received');

});

// Handling PATCH requests

app.patch('/', (req, res) => {

res.send('PATCH request received');

});

An **application programming interface (API)** is a way for two or more computer programs to communicate with each other. It is a type of software interface, offering a service to other pieces of [software](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software)

Rest API

Representational State Transfer Application Programming Interface

is a set of rules that define how applications or devices can connect to and communicate with each other.

REST has been employed throughout the software industry to create **stateless**, reliable web-based applications.

Stateless: ach request from a client contains all the information needed to understand and process the request. The server does not store any client state between requests.