

Cookies



Topics

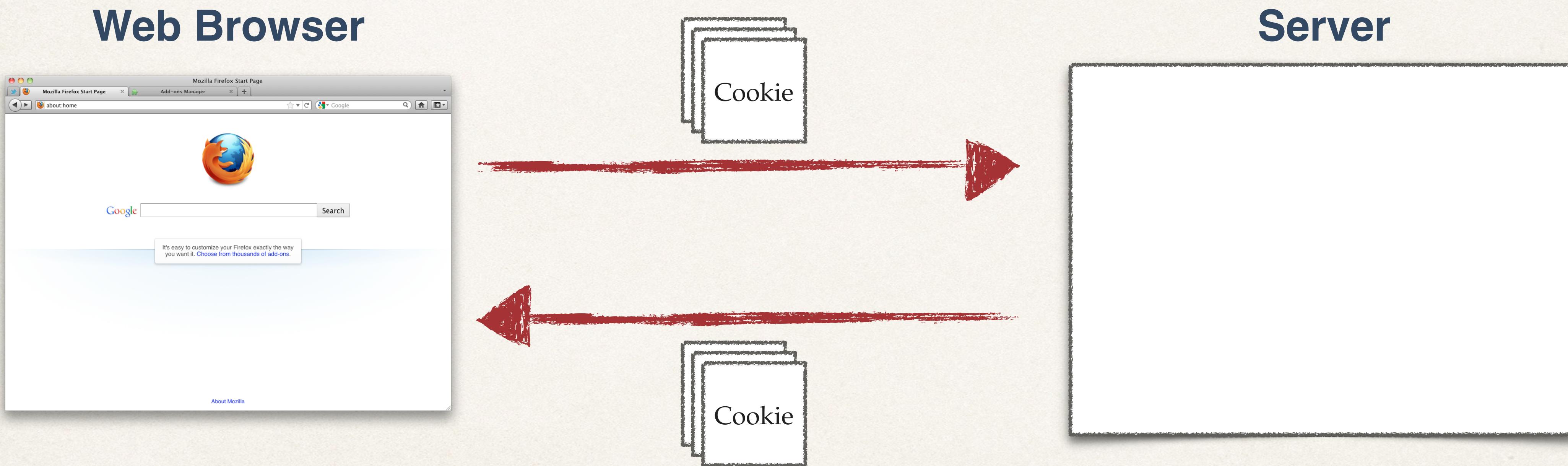
- What are Cookies?
- Cookies API

What is the Purpose of Cookies?

- Personalize a web site for a user
- Keep track of user preferences
 - Favorite programming language: *Java*
 - Favorite departure airport: *Philadelphia (PHL)*
 - etc...

What is a Cookie?

- Text data exchanged between web browser and server



Cookies - Contents

- Name / value pair

Cookie

```
name: myApp.favoriteLanguage  
value: Ruby
```

...

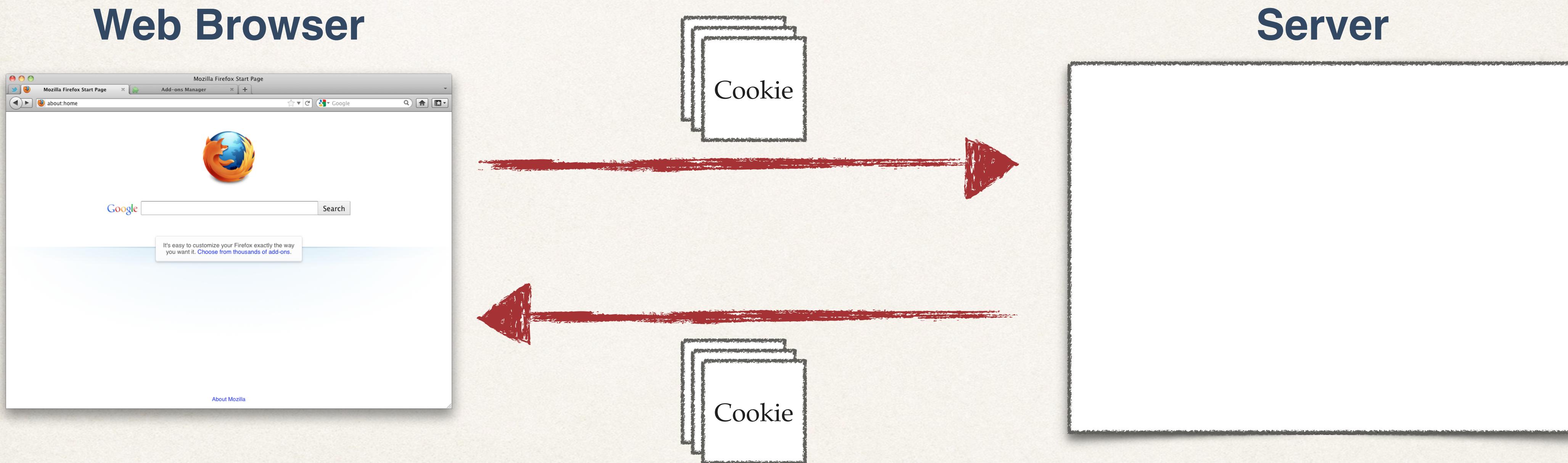
Cookie

```
name: myApp.favoriteCity  
value: Philadelphia
```

...

How Are Cookies Passed?

- Browser will only send cookies that match the server's domain name



Cookie API - Package

- **Cookie** class defined in package: **javax.servlet.http**
- Package imported for free in all JSP pages

Cookie API - Constructor

Constructors

Constructor and Description

Cookie(String name, String value)

Constructs a cookie with the specified name and value.

Cookies API - Sending Cookies to Browser

```
<%
String favLang = request.getParameter("favoriteLanguage");

// create cookie
Cookie theCookie = new Cookie("myApp.favoriteLanguage", favLang);

// set life span ... total number of seconds
theCookie.setMaxAge(60*60*24*365);

// send cookie to browser
response.addCookie(theCookie);
%>
```

Cookies API - Reading Cookies from the Browser

```
<!-- read the favorite programming language cookie -->
<%
String favLang = "Java";

Cookie[] theCookies = request.getCookies();

if (theCookies != null) {
    for (Cookie tempCookie : theCookies) {

        if ("myApp.favoriteLanguage".equals(tempCookie.getName())) {
            favLang = tempCookie.getValue();
            break;
        }
    }
%>
```

Cookies

