COOKIES

# DEFINTION

Cookies are sent by Server to Client, to store the client preferences so that next time when the client request is sent to server, the cookie also goes along with client request and update the server on the client interest/preferences.

# TYPES OF COOKIES

* REQUEST COOKIES 🡪 these cookies are sent by client to server
* RESPONSE COOKIES 🡪 these cookies are sent by server to client

# TYPES OF COOKIES

* PERSISTENT COOKIES 🡪 these cookies have an expiry date and until the expiry date, these persistent cookies stay on the client side [*computer, browser*] hard disk ; the expiry date can be set to hours or days or weeks or months or years, according to the project requirement
* SESSION COOKIES 🡪 these cookies reside on the client side [*computer, browser*] as long as the current session is valid ; once the current session is timed out or killed or closed, these session cookies will expire immediately on the client side as server issues a notice to client to kill these session cookies immediately

# SYNTAX OF A COOKIE

* A cookie contains the below attributes:
  + Name
  + Value
  + Domain
  + Path
  + Expires
  + Is HTTP only
  + Is Secure
  + Priority

# WHAT TO CHECK IN A COOKIE

* A cookie can be checked for the below attribute values:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Is HTTP Only** | **Is Secure** | **Test Result** |
| True | True | https [test case=passed] |
| True | False | http [test case=failed] |
| False | True | Other than http protocol over a secured channel |
| False | False | Other than http protocol over an unsecured channel |

* The ‘Is Secure’ flag should be always set to TRUE, to ensure that the cookie data is transferred between client & server over ENCRYPTED mode
* If the ‘Is Secure’ flag is set to FALSE, the cookie data shall be transferred in PLAIN text between client & server, thus there are possibilities of cookie data being stolen by hackers
* The ‘Domain’ attribute should be properly validated to ensure that the domain name is same as the API request domain/baseURL name
* The ‘Path’ attribute should be set according to the end point accessed by the API request to maintain analytics of which resources the client is requesting