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Unit08 Questions

1. **(2) HTTP is a stateless protocol - what does that mean?**

This means that every HTTP request must in itself contain enough information for the server to handle it. The server cannot have a saved "state".

2. **(2) What is a session id?**

The Session ID is data used to identify a user between requests within the application.

3. **(4) Explain the relationship between cookies and sessions**

Rails stores session information in a user's cookies to identify the session and the user.

4. **(2) Name two guidelines for storing sessions**

Do not store large items in a session. Do not store critical information in a session.

5. **(4) What is CSRF?**

   Cross Site Request Forgery. When a malicious site tries to make requests through another user's session.

6. **(4) What steps does Rails take to protect the user from CSRF? Note: You might want to look at application_controller.rb and application.html.erb - after this reading you should understand more about some of the options in these files.**

Rails uses authenticity tokens, which match a user's session to the requests they make. If a request is made from another session, it will not go through.

7. **(2) Compare whitelisting to blacklisting. How does this relate to the params hash? (not explicitly mentioned in reading)**

The params hash can be seen as a "whitelist" of sorts, and will not accept any parameters that are not present within it.