

Learn REST: A Tutorial

A fast-training course for **REST** - *Representational State Transfer*, a new approach to systems architecture and a lightweight alternative to web services

12.6. Using REST in Python

Issuing GET Requests

The Python module `urllib2` makes reading URLs trivial:

```
import urllib2

url = 'http://www.acme.com/products/3322'
response = urllib2.urlopen(url).read()
```

Errors are reported as exceptions (`urllib2.HTTPError` or `urllib2.URLError`).

Issuing POST Requests

A POST request is just as easy, simply passing (encoded) request data as an extra parameter to `urlopen`, thus:

```
import urllib
import urllib2

url = 'http://www.acme.com/users/details'
params = urllib.urlencode({
    'firstName': 'John',
    'lastName': 'Doe'
})
response = urllib2.urlopen(url, params).read()
```

Note that encoding is done using a function from the `urllib` module.

Dr. M. Elkstein



3 comments:



Andrew October 20, 2008 at 5:06 AM

Can you post an example that shows a REST request with Authentication.

[Reply](#)



Dr. M. Elkstein October 21, 2008 at 5:35 AM

Hi Andrew,

REST with authentication in Python is just like any HTTP request with authentication. You can read about it more in [this tutorial](#).

[Reply](#)



FrEnzY May 20, 2015 at 3:39 AM

Hi ,

I am able to successfully post a request to a RESTful Web service, but my requirement also requires a search filter in the request body.can you pls help

[Reply](#)

Enter your comment...

Comment as: Unknown (Google) ▼

Sign out

Publish

Preview

☐ Notify me

Links to this post

[Create a Link](#)



[Home](#)



[View web version](#)

Your Host

Dr. M. Elkstein

A software engineering expert with years of hands-on experience. I have developed dozens of web sites, and have taught numerous programming and computer science courses in academia and in the industry. I provide consultancy services, and my clients range from small startups to the largest banks in my country.

[View my complete profile](#)

Powered by [Blogger](#).