

HTTP HEADERS

 Header	 What It Does	 Example / Notes
Content-Type	Specifies the format of request/response body	application/json, text/html
Authorization	Sends login/authentication credentials	Bearer your_token_here
Accept	Informs server what data format the client wants	application/json, text/plain
User-Agent	Identifies the client (browser/tool)	Mozilla/5.0, PostmanRuntime
Cookie	Sends stored cookies to the server	Cookie: session_id=abc123
Set-Cookie	Server sets cookie on the client	Set-Cookie: id=abc123; HttpOnly
Cache-Control	Controls how responses are cached	no-cache, max-age=3600
ETag	Unique version of a resource (used in caching)	ETag: "abc123xyz"
If-None-Match	Compares with ETag to validate cache	If-None-Match: "abc123xyz"
Referer	Tells server where the request came from	Referer: <a href="https://google.com">https://google.com</a>
Host	Specifies the target domain	Host: <a href="https://example.com">example.com</a>
X-Requested-With	Indicates AJAX request (legacy usage)	X-Requested-With: XMLHttpRequest
Content-Length	Indicates body size in bytes	Content-Length: 248
Accept-Encoding	States compression formats client supports	gzip, br, deflate
Access-Control-Allow-Origin	CORS: Which origins can access the resource	*, <a href="https://yourapp.com">https://yourapp.com</a>
Origin	Specifies request origin (for CORS)	Origin: <a href="https://site.com">https://site.com</a>
Vary	Affects caching based on headers	Vary: Accept-Encoding
Expires	Sets expiration date for the response	Expires: Wed, 21 Oct 2025 07:28:00 GMT
Connection	Manages connection behavior	keep-alive, close