

Web Servers

What is a web server?

Web servers are tools or programs that help keep the web application always up and running and available to the end-user. The function of the web server is to display the website content. A web server is a machine that enables the delivery of websites. It's a computer application that manages web pages and distributes them when required. The web server's primary goal is to deliver content by storing, processing, and distributing web pages and delivering to the end-users. The Hypertext Transfer Protocol(HTTP) is used for this intercommunication.

It comprises three parts: a physical server, an operating system, and software that work together to speed up the HTTP (Hypertext Transfer Protocol) communication process.

Example: A web application has a frontend, backend and data storage layer. Each layer has a web server which simply is a process running on a machine. The web server displayed the content to the end-user by processing and delivering the web pages. All the layers are running under a web server which enables the different components of an application to be always available and operational.

Some standard and most used servers are Apache and Nginx.

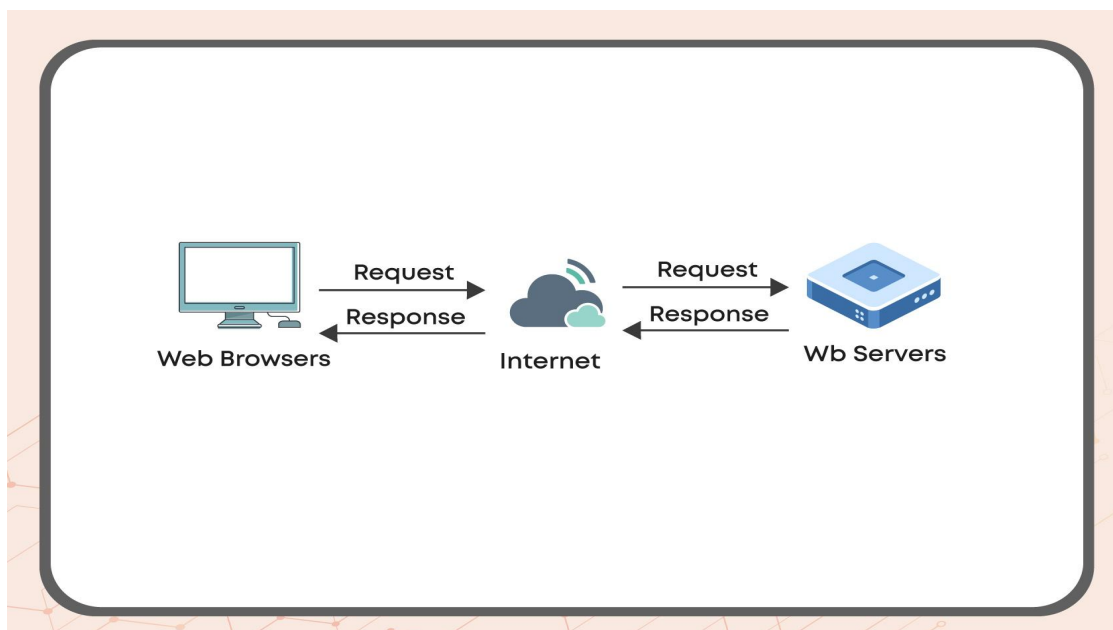


Fig: Web Server

Commonly Used Servers:

1. Apache Servers: Apache's job as a Web server is to accept directory (HTTP) requests from Internet users and provide the requested information in the form of files and Web pages. Much of the software and code on the Internet is built to work with Apache's features.
2. Tomcat Servers: Tomcat is used for Java web applications that do not require the entire Java EE requirements but still require a reliable tool. Because Tomcat serves as a Web server and a Servlet container, it is not considered a complete application server.
3. Node.js servers: HTTP is a built-in module in Node. Js that allows it to send data through the HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP). The HTTP module can create an HTTP server that listens for server ports and responds to requests.