The Web Server’s Role

• The first Web servers were responsible for receiving and processing simple user requests from browsers via HTTP. The Web server handled its request and sent a response back to the Web browser.

• The Web server then closed any connection between it and the browser and released all resources that were involved with the request. These resources were easy to release as the Web server was finished processing the request.

• This type of Web application was considered to be stateless because no data was held by the Web server between requests and no connection was left open. These applications typically involved simple HTML pages and were therefore able to handle thousands of similar requests per minute. Web Browser HTTP GET (default.html) Display page