HTTP Verbs

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| Verb | Meaning | Example | Extra data |
| GET | Retrieve something | GET /item/1 |  |
| POST | Receive data, and use it | POST /item | {‘name’: ‘Chair’,   ‘price’: 7.99} |
| PUT | Make sure something is there | PUT /item | {‘name’: ‘Chair’,   ‘price’: 7.99} |
| DELETE | Remove something | DELETE /item/1 |  |

REST Principles:

Going to a site does a GET request

This normally returns HTML

What is a REST API?

* It’s a way of thinking about how a web server responds to your requests
* It doesn’t respond with just data
* It responds with resources

Resources?

* Similar to object-oriented programming
* Think of the server as having resources, and each is able to interact with the pertinent request

Stateless

* Another key feature is that REST is suppose to be stateless
* This means one request cannot depend on any other requests
* The server only knows about the current request, and not any previous requests.

For example:

POST /item/chair creates an item

The server does not know the item now exists

GET /item/chair then goes to the database and checks to see if the item is there

To get an

Another example:

A user logs in to a web application

The web server does not know the user is logged in (since it does not remember any state)

What do we do

The web application must send enough data to identify the user in every request, or else the server won’t associate the request with the user