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Preflight request

A CORS preflight request is a <u>CORS</u> request that checks to see if the CORS protocol is understood and a server is aware using specific methods and headers.

It is an `OPTIONS` request, using three HTTP request headers: `Access-Control-Request-Method`, `Access-Control-Request-Headers`, and the `Origin` header.

A preflight request is automatically issued by a browser and in normal cases, front-end developers don't need to craft such requests themselves. It appears when request is qualified as <u>"to be preflighted"</u> and omitted for <u>simple requests</u>.

For example, a client might be asking a server if it would allow a `DELETE` request, before sending a `DELETE` request, by using a preflight request:

```
OPTIONS /resource/foo
Access-Control-Request-Method: DELETE
Access-Control-Request-Headers: origin, x-requested-with
Origin: https://foo.bar.org
```

If the server allows it, then it will respond to the preflight request with an `Access-Control-Allow-Methods` response header, which lists `DELETE`:

```
HTTP/1.1 204 No Content
Connection: keep-alive
Access-Control-Allow-Origin: https://foo.bar.org
Access-Control-Allow-Methods: POST, GET, OPTIONS, DELETE
Access-Control-Max-Age: 86400
```

The preflight response can be optionally cached for the requests created in the same <u>URL</u> using `Access-Control-Max-Age` header like in the above example.

See also

- [CORS](#)

- [`OPTIONS`](#)

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