The**manual**Page

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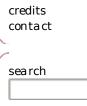
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Directives of HTTP/1.1

HTTP/1.1 officially defines 47 directives (or headers); another directive (Content-Disposition), previously used in some HTTP/1.0 implementations, is suggested, not not officially defined. The complete list of headers is provided below.

directive	meaning
Accept:	specifies the media types accepted by the requested resource (text/html, image/jpeg...). List of MIME types.
Accept-Charset:	code page accepted for the response (greek alphabet...)
Accept-Encoding:	same as Accept: but limits the encoding (gzip...)
Accept-Language:	languages (used in the requested web page) accepted for the response
Accept-Ranges:	the server says if it accepts the Range: directives
Age:	used for caches. Tells the server the estimated age of the resource cached so that the server can compare and possibly sends the new version.
Allow:	lists all the methods (GET, PUT...) supported for the requested resource
Authorization:	used by a client to authenticate itself to the server
Cache-Control:	defines a cache policy for the resource (no-cache, public...). The list of policy can be found page 108 of the **RFC2616**.
Connection:	gives a list of particular parameters used for the connction (close, for instance, to ask the server to close the connection after it has replied)
Content-Disposition:	allows the server to suggest a default filename for the resource it is sending to the client. This header is not an official HTTP/1.1 header; it is just suggested to use it.
Content-Encoding:	completes media-type:. Tells what encoding (gzip...) is used for the resource.
Content-Language:	language used in the resource
Content-Length:	length (in byte) of the entity's body
Content-Location:	(entity's header) tells the real URI of the provided resource if this resource has been found at another location than the one specified in the request
Content-MD5:	send an MD5 control code to the client to allow it to check the resource integrity

Content-Range:	tells the range of the complete entity represented by the entity actually sent
Content-Type:	media type of the entity's body (text/html; charset=ISO-8859-4 for instance)
Date:	date to which the message was written
ETag:	in the reply, it is the entity tag (sort of control code) of the version of the requested entity. This allows a comparaison between what has been requested and what is provided.
Expect:	The client expects a specific behaviour from the server. the 417 status (Expectation Failed) is used in this context.
Expires:	date from which the reply must be considered as invalid
From:	e-mail of the user that made the request
Host:	tells the (virtual) server to which the request is performed
If-Match:	used to make conditional requests based on ETags
If-Modified-Since:	also used for conditional requests but based on the last update date of the resource
If-None-Match:	used for conditional requests, contrary to If-Match:
If-Range:	used in conditional requests to ask for a specific range of the resource, if this resource has not been modified meanwhile (condition tested through a If-Unmodified-Since: for instance)
If-Unmodified-Since:	contrary to If-Modified-Since
Last-Modified:	sends the last update date of the resource
Location:	used to redirect a request to another URI
Max-Forwards:	used with the TRACE and OPTIONS methods to tell the number of intermediates (proxy, gateway) that can forward the request
Pragma:	used to specify some behaviours for intermediates (no-cache, for instance, is used to ask all intermediates not to cache the resource)
Proxy-Authenticate:	used when a proxy asks the client (actually the user) to authenticate before going through the request
Proxy-Authorization:	reply provided by the client to a Proxy-Authenticate:
Range:	tells the range (in byte) of the resource that is requested or sent
Referer:	URI of the resource that is refering to the currently requested resource (for instance, it is the URI of the web page that contains the link on which you have just clicked)
Retry-After:	with a 503 status (Service Unavailable), tells how long the client should wait before repeating the request (tells how long the resource is unavailable)

Server:	tells what server (Apache for instance) is answering the query
TE:	tells what Transfer-Encoding: extension the client accepts for the reply
Trailer:	tells what directives are present in the trailer of the message encoded with "chunked transfer-coding" (see Transfer-Encoding:)
Transfer-Encoding:	tells what type of transformation has been performed on the entity's body to transfer it correctly (chunked for example)
Upgrade:	used by a client to tell what extra communication protocol (HTTP/2.0 for instance) it supports and wishes to use if the server wants to change communication protocol
User-Agent:	contains an identification code for the client (the program) that is making the request (Mozilla/4.03 [us], for instance)
Vary:	used in cache: tells the set of directives to use in a client-side request that allows the cache to forward the reply as it is, without asking for another validation to the server
Via:	tells what intermediates (machines and protocols) the request has been gone through before getting the server
Warning:	additional information about the status or message transformation that could not be specified by any other directive
WWW-Authenticate:	is sent by the server with a 401 status (Unauthorized) to ask for an authentication

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