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HTML Forms

Sending Data to Server-Side Programs

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Agenda

- **Sending data from forms**
- **The FORM element**
- **Text controls**
- **Push buttons**
- **Check boxes and radio buttons**
- **Combo boxes and list boxes**
- **File upload controls**
- **Server-side image maps**
- **Hidden fields**
- **Grouping controls**
- **Tab ordering**

Sending Data with GET

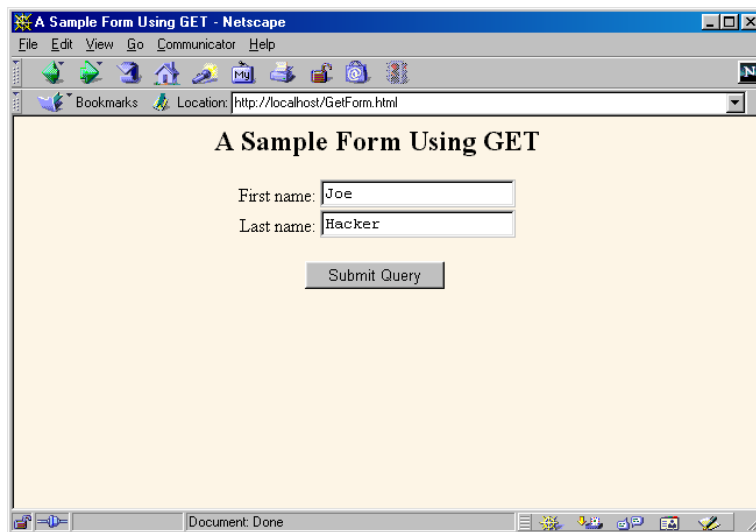
```
...  
<BODY BGCOLOR="#FDF5E6">  
<H2 ALIGN="CENTER">A Sample Form Using GET</H2>  
  
<FORM ACTION="http://localhost:8088/SomeProgram">  
  <CENTER>  
    First name:  
    <INPUT TYPE="TEXT" NAME="firstName" VALUE="Joe"><BR>  
    Last name:  
    <INPUT TYPE="TEXT" NAME="lastName" VALUE="Hacker"><P>  
    <INPUT TYPE="SUBMIT">  
  </CENTER>  
</FORM>  
  
</BODY></HTML>
```

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Initial Result

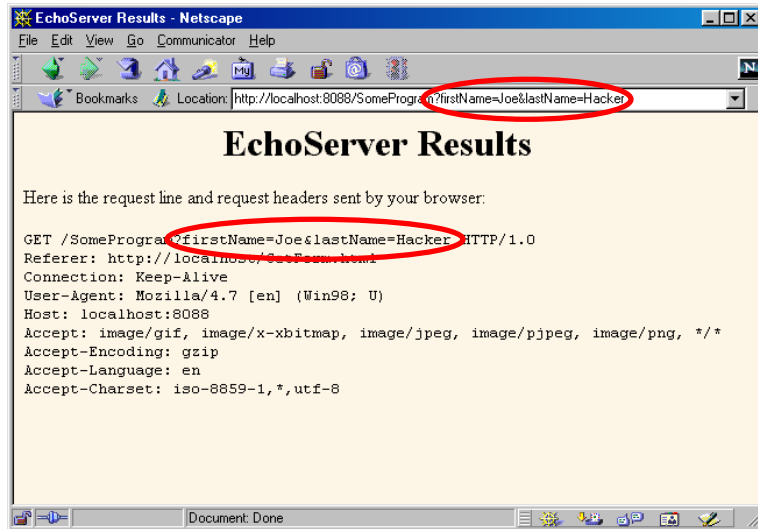


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Submission Result



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Sending Data with POST

```
...
<BODY BGCOLOR="#FDF5E6">
<H2 ALIGN="CENTER">A Sample Form Using POST</H2>

<FORM ACTION="http://localhost:8088/SomeProgram"
  METHOD="POST">
  <CENTER>
  First name:
  <INPUT TYPE="TEXT" NAME="firstName" VALUE="Joe"><BR>
  Last name:
  <INPUT TYPE="TEXT" NAME="lastName" VALUE="Hacker"><P>
  <INPUT TYPE="SUBMIT">
  </CENTER>
</FORM>

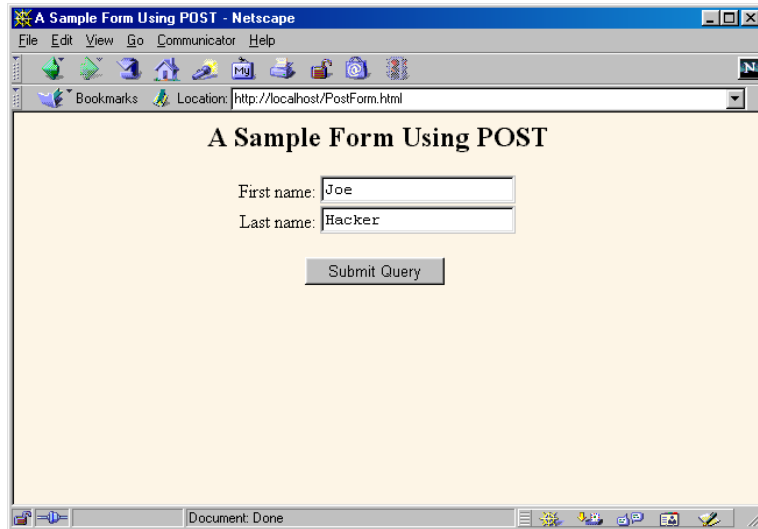
</BODY></HTML>
```

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Initial Result

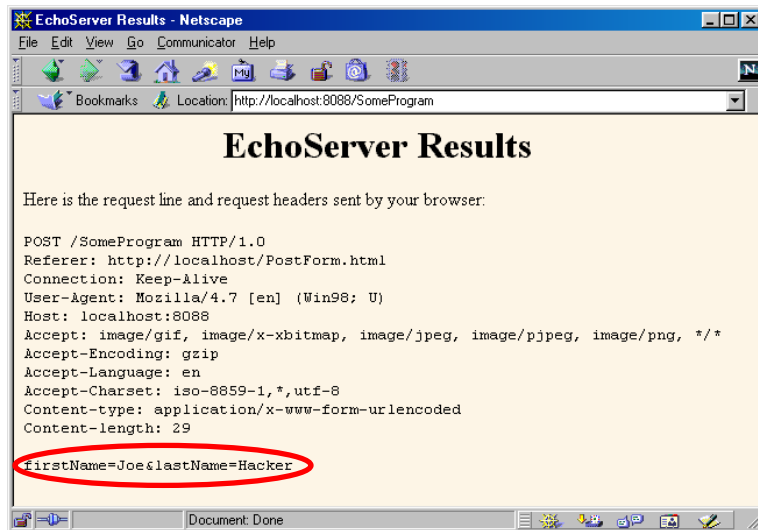


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Submission Result

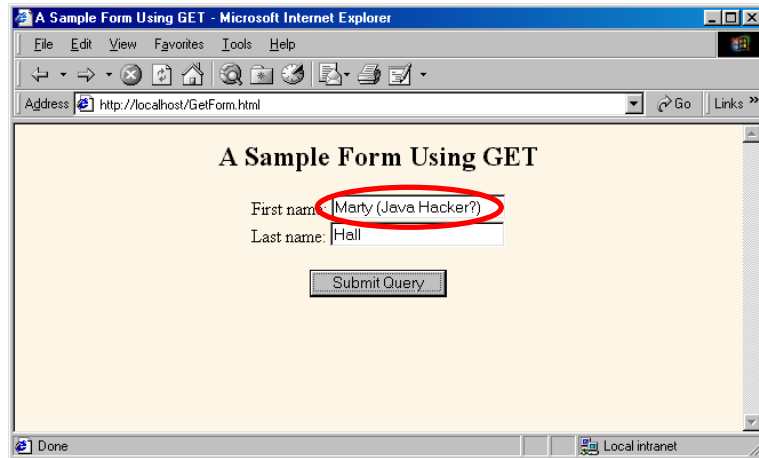


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URL Encoding: Original Form

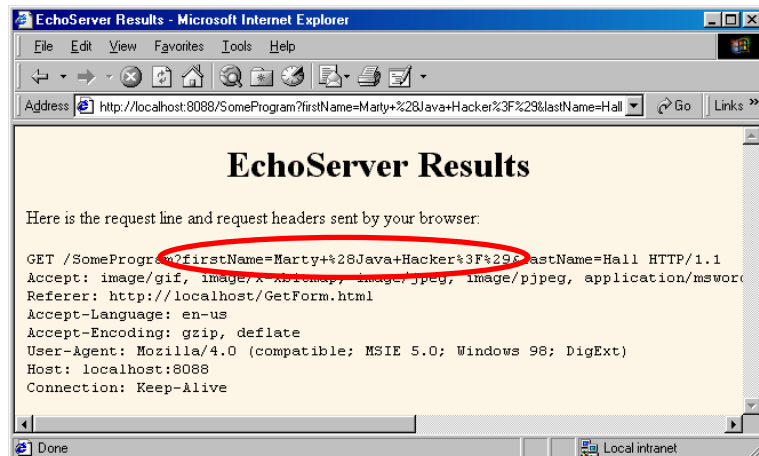


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URL Encoding: Result



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Text Controls

- **Textfields**

- `<INPUT TYPE="TEXT" NAME="..." ...>`
 - VALUE can give original value

- **Password Fields**

- `<INPUT TYPE="PASSWORD" NAME="..." ...>`
 - Always use POST

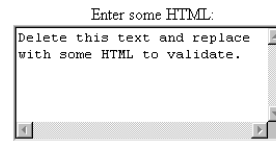
Enter Password:

- **Text Areas**

- `<TEXTAREA NAME="..."
ROWS="..." COLS="...">`

...
`</TEXTAREA>`

- Interpretation of regular HTML tags turned off between `<TEXTAREA...>` and `</TEXTAREA>`



Push Buttons

- **Submit Buttons**

- `<INPUT TYPE="SUBMIT" ...>`
 - Use NAME if you have multiple buttons
 - Use VALUE to change button's label

Submit Query

- **Reset Buttons**

- `<INPUT TYPE="RESET" ...>`
 - Use VALUE to change button's label

- **JavaScript Buttons**

- `<INPUT TYPE="BUTTON"
onClick="someJavaScriptFunction()" ...>`



- **Fancy Buttons**

- `<BUTTON TYPE="SUBMIT" ...>HTML</BUTTON>`
 - Internet Explorer and Netscape 6 only

Using Multiple Submit Buttons

```
<CENTER>
Item:
<INPUT TYPE="TEXT" NAME="Item" VALUE="256MB SIMM"><BR>
<INPUT TYPE="SUBMIT" NAME="Add"
      VALUE="Add Item to Cart">
<INPUT TYPE="SUBMIT" NAME="Delete"
      VALUE="Delete Item from Cart">
</CENTER>
```

Item:

Check Boxes

- **Format**
 - `<INPUT TYPE="CHECKBOX" NAME="..." ...>`
 - The CHECKED attribute makes it initially checked
 - Name/value pair sent only if checkbox is checked when form is submitted
- **Example code**

```
<P>
<INPUT TYPE="CHECKBOX" NAME="noEmail" CHECKED>
Check here if you do <I>not</I> want to
get our email newsletter
```
- **Example result**

Check here if you do *not* want to get our email newsletter

Radio Buttons

- **Format**

- `<INPUT TYPE="RADIO" NAME="..." VALUE="..."...>`
 - All radio buttons in a group should have same NAME
 - Only one button in a group can be pressed; pressing a different one causes previous one to pop out

- **Example**

```
<DL>
<DT>Credit Card:
<DD><INPUT TYPE="RADIO" NAME="creditCard" VALUE="visa">
    Visa
<DD><INPUT TYPE="RADIO" NAME="creditCard" VALUE="mastercard">
    Master Card
    ...
</DL>
```

Credit Card:

- Visa
- Master Card
- Java Smart Card
- American Express
- Discover

Combo Boxes

- **Format**

- SELECT gives NAME
- OPTION gives VALUE

Favorite language:

- **Example**

```
Favorite language:
<SELECT NAME="language">
  <OPTION VALUE="c">C
  <OPTION VALUE="c++">C++
  <OPTION VALUE="java" SELECTED>Java
  <OPTION VALUE="lisp">Lisp
  <OPTION VALUE="perl">Perl
  <OPTION VALUE="smalltalk">Smalltalk
</SELECT>
```

Favorite language:

- C
- C++
- Java
- Lisp
- Perl
- Smalltalk

List Boxes

- **Format**
 - Identical to combo boxes, but specify MULTIPLE
- **Example**

```
Languages you know:<BR>
<SELECT NAME="language" MULTIPLE>
  <OPTION VALUE="c">C
  <OPTION VALUE="c++">C++
  <OPTION VALUE="java" SELECTED>Java
  <OPTION VALUE="lisp">Lisp
  <OPTION VALUE="perl" SELECTED>Perl
  <OPTION VALUE="smalltalk">Smalltalk
</SELECT>
```

Languages you know:



Other Controls and Options

- **File upload controls**
 - Lets user select a file and send it to the server
- **Server-side image maps**
 - User clicks on an image and form gets submitted.
 - Form data gets sent as *name.x=x-pos&name.y=y-pos*
- **Hidden fields**
 - Preset NAME and VALUE sent with form submission..
- **Grouping Controls**
 - FIELDSET lets you visually group forms.
 - Internet Explorer and Netscape 6 only.
- **Tab order control**
 - TABINDEX (Internet Explorer and Netscape 6 only)

Summary

- **General process**
 - FORM uses ACTION to specify base URL
 - Input elements each have a NAME
 - User enters values
 - When form submitted, URL is
baseURL?name1=value1&name2=value2&...
 - For POST requests, name/value pairs sent on separate line
(not part of URL)
- **Textfields**
 - <INPUT TYPE="TEXT" ...>
- **Submit Buttons**
 - <INPUT TYPE="SUBMIT" ...>



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Questions?