

AJAX Form processing

POST Request: Process HTML5 form with Ajax

The following example demonstrates an HTML5 form saving data via an Ajax API call using the `POST` method. The ajax call will be processed by an REST resource written in xml.

Prerequisite

Basic knowledge of the following technologies.

- HTML5
- XML
- SQL

On Client Side

When the end-user inputs the data in the form and clicks the submit button the form data is sent with the HTTP POST method, this data onsubmit function catches the data and with the help of the `xhr.send` request sends the data to the respective URL.

```
<form id="x-login-form">
  <div class="form-group">
    <label for="xuser">Username</label>
    <input type="text" name="iuser" class="form-control" />
  </div>
  <div class="form-group">
    <label for="xpass">Password</label>
    <input type="password" name="xpass" class="form-control" />
  </div>
  <input type="submit" class="btn btn-danger" value="Submit" class="form-control" />
</form>
```

Javascript ajax to resource `form.xml`

```
//get the form from DOM (Document object model)
var form = document.getElementById('x-login-form');
form.onsubmit = function(event){
  var xhr = new XMLHttpRequest();
  var data = new FormData(form);
  //open the request
  xhr.open('POST', 'http://localhost:7000/tests/v1.0/form');
  //send the form data
  xhr.send(data);
  //Dont submit the form.
  return false;
}
```

On the Network

The form-data format for sending data over the network to the server.

Headers	Cookies	Params
▼ Request payload		
1	-----2642717627243	
2	Content-Disposition: form-data; name="iuser"	
3		
4	john	
5	-----2642717627243	
6	Content-Disposition: form-data; name="xpass"	
7		
8	doe	
9	-----2642717627243	
10	Content-Disposition: form-data; name="comment"	
11		
12	John Doe	
13	-----2642717627243--	
14		

On Server Side

The parameters sent in the POST request are received and replaced with their corresponding \$ symbols. These \$ variables must match the exact names of the POST params that are sent in the request. Here's the resource `form.xml`

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" ?>
<Resource xmlns="http://xml.metamug.net/resource/1.0" v="1.0">
  <Request method="POST">
    <Desc> Create a User </Desc>
    <Sql>
      INSERT INTO USER (user, pass, comment)
      values ($iuser, $xpass, $comment)
    </Sql>
  </Request>
</Resource>
```

In the Database

If you query the `user` table, you can find the data just saved from the form.

```
select * from user;
```

user	pass	comment
john	doe	John Doe

What Next?

This example demonstrated `POST` method. The next example shows how to use the `GET` ajax call results.

[Display List with Ajax and Metamug Resource](#)