

# Working with REST-based APIs

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This document applies to CentraSite Version 9.7 and to all subsequent releases.

Specifications contained herein are subject to change and these changes will be reported in subsequent release notes or new editions.

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## About this Guide

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This guide describes how to create REST-based API and how to manage the REST APIs in the CentraSite Business UI.

## Document Conventions

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Convention	Description
<b>Bold</b>	Identifies elements on a screen.
Narrowfont	Identifies storage locations for services on webMethods Integration Server, using the convention <i>folder.subfolder:service</i> .
UPPERCASE	Identifies keyboard keys. Keys you must press simultaneously are joined with a plus sign (+).
<i>Italic</i>	Identifies variables for which you must supply values specific to your own situation or environment. Identifies new terms the first time they occur in the text.
Monospace font	Identifies text you must type or messages displayed by the system.
{ }	Indicates a set of choices from which you must choose one. Type only the information inside the curly braces. Do not type the { } symbols.
	Separates two mutually exclusive choices in a syntax line. Type one of these choices. Do not type the   symbol.
[ ]	Indicates one or more options. Type only the information inside the square brackets. Do not type the [ ] symbols.
...	Indicates that you can type multiple options of the same type. Type only the information. Do not type the ellipsis (...).

## Documentation Installation

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- Access articles, demos, and tutorials.
- Use the online discussion forums, moderated by Software AG professionals, to ask questions, discuss best practices, and learn how other customers are using Software AG technology.
- Link to external websites that discuss open standards and web technology.

# 1 Getting Started with the CentraSite REST API Data Model

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## About the REST Data Model in CentraSite

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CentraSite's REST framework enables you to model APIs conforming to the (Resource Oriented Architecture) ROA design. For example, you might model an API that serves to expose the web service data and functionality as a collection of resources. Each resource will be accessible with unique Uniform Resource Identifiers (URLs). In your API, you expose a set of HTTP operations (methods) to perform on a specific resource, and capture the request and response messages, and status codes that will be unique to the HTTP method and linked within the specific resource of the API.

The basic elements of a REST API in CentraSite are as follows:

- The API itself (For example, *phonestore*)
- Its resource (*phones*), available on the unique base URL (*/phones*)
- The defined HTTP method (*GET*) for accessing the resource (*phones*)
- Parameters for request representations (*412456*)
- A request generated for this method (*Request 123*)
- A response with the status code received for this request (*Response ABCD*)

Instructions throughout the this guide use the term *API* when referring to the REST APIs.

## REST APIs

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In CentraSite, you model a REST API as an asset instance of the type REST Service or Virtual REST Service.

These APIs are typically collections of resources.

For example, consider an API that is defined to support an online phone store application. Assume, this sample Phone Store API currently has a database that defines the various brands of phones, features in the individual phones and the inventory of each phone.

The Phone Store API is used as a sample to illustrate how to model URL patterns for resources, resource methods, HTTP headers and response codes, content types, and parameters for request representations to resources.

## Base URL

The base URL of an API is constructed by the domain, port and context mappings of the API. For example, if the server name is `www.phonestore.com`, port is `8080`, and the API context is `api`. The full Base URL is:

```
http://www.phonestore.com:8080/api
```

## API Parameters

Parameters defined at the higher API level are inherited by all Resources, and by all Methods included in the individual Resources.

CentraSite permits different types of parameters at the API level. For more information about these parameters, see "[API-Level Parameters](#)" on page 12.

## REST Resources

Resources are the basic components of an API. Examples of resources from an online Phone Store API include a phone, an order from a store, and a collection of customers.

After you identify a service to expose as an API, you define the resources for the API. CentraSite's flexible metadata store captures the relationships of APIs with resources, and ensures that the APIs are available in the right way.

For example, consider the case of an online Phone Store API. In this example, there are a number of ways to represent the data in the phone store database as an API. The verbs in the HTTP request maps to the operations that the database supports, such as select, create, update, delete.

Each resource needs to be addressable by a unique URI. Along with the URI you're going to expose for each resource, you also need to decide what can be done to each resource. The HTTP methods passed as part of an HTTP request header direct the API what needs to be done with the addressed resource.

## Resource URLs

An URL identifies the location of a specific resource.

For example, consider the case of our sample Phone Store API designed to support an online phone store application. The resources will have the following URLs:

URL	Description
<code>http://www.phonestore.com/api/phones</code>	Specifies the collection of phones contained in the online store.
<code>http://www.phonestore.com/api/phones/412456</code>	Accesses a phone referenced by the product code 412456.
<code>http://www.phonestore.com/api/phones/412456/reviews</code>	Specifies a set of reviews posted for a phone of code 412456.

URL	Description
<code>http://www.phonestore.com/api/phones/412456/reviews/78</code>	Accesses a specific review referenced by the unique ID 78 contained in the reviews of the phone of code 412456.

CentraSite supports the following patterns of resource URL: a collection of resources or a particular resource.

For example, consider the above example of an online Phone Store API.

### Collection URL

`http://phonestore.com/api/phones`

### Unique URL

`http://phonestore.com/api/phones/412456`

### Collection URL

`http://phonestore.com/api/phones/412456/features`

to retrieve a collection resource describing the key features of phone whose product code is 412456

## Resource Parameters

Parameters defined at the higher Resource level are inherited by all Methods in the particular resource; it does not affect the API.

CentraSite permits different types of parameters at the Resource level. For more information about these parameters, see ["Resource-Level Parameters" on page 12](#).

## Resource Methods

Individual resources can define their capabilities using supported HTTP methods. To invoke an API, the client would call an HTTP operation on the URL associated with the API's resource. For example, to retrieve the key feature information for phone whose product code is 412456, the client would make a service call HTTP GET on the following URL:

`http://www.phonestore.com/phones/412456/features`

## Supported HTTP Methods

CentraSite supports the standard HTTP methods for modeling APIs: GET, POST, PUT, DELETE, HEAD, OPTIONS, PATCH, TRACE, and CONNECT.

**Important:** During virtualization of an API, CentraSite does not support the following HTTP methods: HEAD, OPTIONS, PATCH, TRACE, and CONNECT. This is because, when the virtual API is published to Mediator, at run-time Mediator only supports GET, POST, PUT, DELETE.

The following table describes the semantics of HTTP methods for our sample Phone Store API.

Resource URI	HTTP Method	Description
/phones/orders	GET	Asks for a representation of all of the orders.
/phones/orders	POST	Attempts to create a new order, returning the location (in the Location HTTP Header) of the newly created resource.
/phones/orders/{order-id}	GET	Asks for a representation of a specific Order resource.
/phones/orders/{order-id}	DELETE	Requests the deletion of a specified Order resource.
/phones/orders/{order-id}/status	GET	Asks for a representation of a specific Order's current status.
/phones/orders/{order-id}/paymentdetails	GET	Asks for a representation of a specific Order's payment details.
/phones/orders/{order-id}/paymentdetails	PUT	Updates a specific Order's payment details.

For information on the HTTP methods that CentraSite ships, in CentraSite Control, go to **Administration > Taxonomies**. On the Taxonomies page, enable the **Show all Taxonomies** option. Navigate to **HTTP Methods** in the list of taxonomies.

## Method Parameters

Parameters defined at the lower Method level apply only to that particular method; it does not affect either the API or the Resource.

CentraSite permits different types of parameters at the Method level. For more information about these parameters, see ["Method-Level Parameters" on page 13](#).

## REST Parameters

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Parameters specify additional information to a request. You use parameters as part of the URL or in the headers or as components of a message body.

### Parameter Levels

A parameter can be set at different levels of an API. When you model an API in CentraSite, you define the parameters at the API level or Resource level or Method level to address the following scenarios:

- If you have the parameter applicable to all resources in the API, then you define this parameter at the API level. This indirectly implies that the parameter is propagated to all resources and methods under the particular API.
- If you have the parameter applicable to all methods in the API, then you define this parameter at the Resource level. This indirectly implies that the parameter is propagated to all methods under the particular resource.
- If you have the parameter applicable only to a method in the API, then you define this parameter at the Method level.

### API-Level Parameters

Setting parameters at the API level enables the automatic assignment of the parameters to all resources and methods included in the API. Any parameter value you specify at the higher API level overrides the parameter value you set at the lower Resource level or the lower Method level if the parameter names are the same.

For example, say you have a header parameter called API Key that is used for the consuming an API.

```
x-CentraSite-APIKey:a4b5d569-2450-11e3-b3fc-b5a70ab4288a
```

This parameter is specific to the entire API and to the individual components - resources and methods directly below the API. Such a parameter can be defined as a parameter at the API level.

At an API level, CentraSite allows you to define the following types of parameters:

- Query parameter
- Header parameter

### Resource-Level Parameters

Setting parameters at the Resource level enables the automatic assignment of the parameters to all methods within the resource. Any parameter value you specify at the

higher Resource level overrides the parameter value you set at the lower Method level if the parameter names are the same. In contrast, the lower Resource level parameters will not affect the higher API level parameters.

Consider our sample Phone Store API maintains a database of reviews about different phones. Here is a request to display information about a particular user review, 78 of the phone whose product code is 412456.

```
GET /phones/412456/user_reviews/78
```

In the example, `/user_reviews/78` parameter narrows the focus of a GET request to review `/78` within a particular resource `/412456`.

This parameter is specific to the particular resource phone whose product code is 412456 and to any individual methods that are directly below the particular resource. Such a parameter can be defined as a parameter at the Resource level.

At a Resource level, CentraSite allows you to define the following types of parameters:

- Path parameter
- Query parameter
- Header parameter

## Method-Level Parameters

If you do not set parameters at the API level or Resource level, you can set them at a Method level. Parameters you set at the Method level are used for the HTTP method execution. They are useful to restrict the response data returned for a HTTP request. Any parameter value you specify at the lower Method level is overridden by the value set at higher API level parameter or the higher Resource level parameter if the names are the same. In contrast, the lower Method level parameters will not affect the higher API level or Resource level parameters.

For example, the Phone Store API described might have a request to display information contributed by user `Allen` in 2013 about a phone whose product code is 412456.

```
GET /phones/412456/user_reviews/78?year=2013&name=Allen
```

In this example, `year=2013` and `name=Allen` narrow the focus of the GET request to entries that user `Allen` added to user review `78` in 2013.

At a Method level, CentraSite allows you to define the following types of parameters:

- Query parameter
- Header parameter

## Parameter Types

CentraSite supports the following types of parameters:

## Query Parameters

Query parameters are appended to the URI after a `?` with name-value pairs. The name-value pairs sequence is separated by either a semicolon or an ampersand.

For instance, if the URL is `http://phonestore.com/api/phones?itemID=itemIDValue`, the query parameter name is `itemID` and value is the `itemIDValue`. Query parameters are often used when filtering or paging through HTTP GET requests.

Now, consider the online Phone Store API. A customer, when trying to fetch a collection of phones, may wish to add options, such as `android v4.3 OS` and `8MP camera`. The URI for this resource could look like this:

```
/phones?features=androidsv4.3&cameraresolution=8MP
```

## Path Parameters

Path parameters are defined as part of the URI. For example, the URI can include `phones/item`, where `/item` is a path parameter that identifies the item in the collection of resource `/phones`. Because path parameters are part of the URI, they are essential in identifying the request.

Now, consider the above online Phone Store API example. A customer may wish to fetch details about a phone `{phone-id}` whose product code is `"412456"`. The URI for this resource could look like this:

```
/phones/412456
```

**Important:** As a best practice, we recommend that you adopt the following conventions when specifying a path parameter in the resource URI:

- Append a path parameter variable within curly `{ }` brackets.
- Specify a path parameter variable such that it exactly matches the path parameter defined at the Resource level.

## Header Parameters

Header parameters are HTTP headers. Headers often contain metadata information for the client, or server.

```
x-CentraSite-APIKey:a4b5d569-2450-11e3-b3fc-b5a70ab4288a
```

You can create custom headers, as needed. As a best practice, we recommend that you prefix the header name with `X-`.

HTTP/1.1 defines the headers that can appear in a HTTP response in three sections of RFC 2616: 4.5, 6.2, and 7.1. Examine these codes to determine which are appropriate for the API.

## Parameter Data Types

When you add a parameter to the API, you specify the parameter's data type. The data type determines what kind of information the parameter can hold.

CentraSite supports the following data types for parameters.

Data Type	Description
String	Specifies a string of text.
URL	<p>Holds a URL/URI. This type of parameter only accepts values in the form:</p> <pre>protocol://host:port/path</pre> <p>Where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <i>protocol</i> is any protocol that java.net.URL supports.</li> <li>■ <i>host</i> is the name or IP address of a host machine.</li> <li>■ <i>port</i> is the port on which the host machine is listening.</li> <li>■ <i>path</i> (optional) is the path to the requested resource on the specified host.</li> </ul>
Boolean	Specifies a <code>true</code> or <code>false</code> value.
Email	<p>Specifies an email address. This data type only accepts values in the format:</p> <pre>anyString@anyString</pre>
Number	Specifies a numeric value.
Duration	<p>Specifies a value that represents a period of time as expressed in years, months, days, hours, minutes and seconds.</p> <p>This duration is specified using an <code>xs:duration</code> format. It specifies a duration in terms of years (either 0 or 1), months, days, hours, minutes and seconds.</p>
Date/Time	<p>Specifies a timestamp that represents a specific date and/or time.</p> <p>The date/time input parameters allow year, month and day input as well as hour and minute. Hour and minute default to 0.</p> <p>This data type only accepts date values in the format <code>yyyy-mm-dd</code>; and time values in the format <code>hh:mm:ss</code>.</p>

Data Type	Description
IP Address	Specifies a numeric IP address in the v4 or v6 format.

## Supported Content Types

Clients can optionally specify the content-type format they want the response to use.

CentraSite includes a set of predefined content types that are classified in the following taxonomy categories:

Predefined Taxonomy Category	Description
Applications	<p>An <b>application</b> content-type value to transmit API data or binary data, and hence, among other uses, to implement an electronic mail file transfer service.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- application/xml</li> <li>- application/json</li> </ul>
Audio Files	<p>An <b>audio</b> content-type value for transmitting audio or voice data.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- audio/basic</li> <li>- audio/mp4</li> </ul>
Image Files	<p>An <b>image</b> content-type value, for transmitting still image (picture) data.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- image/gif</li> <li>- image/png</li> </ul>
Text Files	<p>A <b>text</b> content-type value to represent textual information in a number of character sets and formatted text description languages in a standardized manner.</p> <p>Example</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- text/html</li> </ul>

Predefined Taxonomy Category	Description
	- text/plain
Video Files	A <b>video</b> content-type value, for transmitting video or moving image data, possibly with audio as part of the composite video data format.  Example - video/mpeg

For information on the content types that CentraSite ships, in CentraSite Control, go to **Administration > Taxonomies**. On the Taxonomies page, enable the **Show all Taxonomies** option. Navigate to **Content Types** in the list of taxonomies.

If you would like to use content types that are not provided by CentraSite, you can define your custom content types. For more information about creating custom content types, see the *CentraSite Administrator's Guide*. In addition, if you are using webMethods Mediator, and would like to extend the content types, you can define custom content types as described in *Administering webMethods Mediator*.

## Supported HTTP Status Codes

An API response returns a HTTP status code that indicates success or failure of the requested operation.

CentraSite allows you specify HTTP codes for each method, to help clients understand the response. While responses can contain an error code in XML or other format, clients can quickly and more easily understand an HTTP response status code. The HTTP specification defines several status codes that are typically understood by clients.

CentraSite includes a set of predefined content types that are classified in the following taxonomy categories:

Predefined Taxonomy Category	Description
1xx	Informational.
2xx	Success.
3xx	Redirection. Need further action.
4xx	Client error. Correct the request data and retry.

Predefined Taxonomy Category	Description
5xx	Server error.

For information on the status codes that CentraSite supports out-of-the-box, in CentraSite Control, go to **Administration > Taxonomies**. On the Taxonomies page, enable the **Show all Taxonomies** option. Navigate to **HTTP Status Codes** in the list of taxonomies.

HTTP/1.1 defines all the legal status codes. Examine these codes to determine which are appropriate for your API.

Consider the case of online Phone Store API. The following table describes the HTTP status codes that each of the URIs and HTTP methods combinations will respond.

Resource URI	Supported HTTP Methods	Supported HTTP Status Codes
/phones/orders	GET	200 (OK, Success)
/phones/orders	POST	201 (Created) if the Order resource is successfully created, in addition to a Location header that contains the link to the newly created Order resource; 406 (Not Acceptable) if the format of the incoming data for the new resource is not valid
/phones/orders/{order-id}	GET	200 (OK); 404 (Not Found) if Order Resource not found
/phones/orders/{order-id}	DELETE	204 (OK); 404 (Not Found) if Order Resource not found
/phones/orders/{order-id}/status	GET	200 (OK); 404 (Not Found) if Order Resource not found
/phones/orders/{order-id}/paymentdetails	GET	200 (OK); 404 (Not Found) if Order Resource not found
/phones/orders/{order-id}/paymentdetails	PUT	201 (Created); 406 (Not Acceptable) if there is a problem with the format of the incoming data on the new payment details; 404 (Not Found) if Order Resource not found

## Sample Requests and Responses

To illustrate the usage of an API, you provide sample request and response messages. Consider the sample Phone Store API that maintains a database of phones in different brands. The Phone Store API might provide the following examples to illustrate its usage.

### Sample 1 - Retrieve a list of phones

#### Client Request

```
GET /phones HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE5.01; Windows NT)
Host: www.api.phonestore.com
Accept-Language: en-us
Accept-Encoding: text/xml
Connection: Keep-Alive
```

#### Server Response

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 14 July 11:53:27 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Win32)
Last-Modified: Wed, 18 June 2014 09:18:16 GMT
Content-Length: 356
Content-Type: text/xml
<phones>
  <phone>
    <name>Asha</name>
    <brand>Nokia</brand>
    <price currency="irs">11499</price>
    <features>
      <camera>
        <back>3</back>
      </camera>
      <memory>
        <storage scale="gb">8</storage>
        <ram scale="gb">1</ram>
      </memory>
      <network>
        <gsm>850/900/1800/1900 MHz</gsm>
      </network>
    </features>
  </phone>
  <phone>
    <name>Nexus7</name>
    <brand>Google</brand>
    <price currency="irs">16499</price>
    <features>
      <camera>
        <front>1.3</front>
        <back>5</back>
      </camera>
      <memory>
        <storage scale="gb">16</storage>
        <ram scale="gb">2</ram>
      </memory>
```

```

        <network>
          <gsm>850/900/1800/1900 MHz</gsm>
          <HSPA>850/900/1900 MHz</HSPA>
        </network>
      </features>
    </phone>
  </phones>

```

## Sample 2 - Find a phone that doesn't exist

### Client Request

```

GET /phones/phone-4156 HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE5.01; Windows NT)
Host: www.api.phonestore.com
Accept-Language: en-us
Accept-Encoding: text/xml
Connection: Keep-Alive

```

### Server Response

```

HTTP/1.1 404 Not Found
Date: Mon, 14 July 11:53:27 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Win32)
Last-Modified: Wed, 18 June 2014 09:18:16 GMT
Content-Type: text/xml

```

## Sample 3 - Create a phone

### Client Request

```

POST /phones/phone HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0 (compatible; MSIE5.01; Windows NT)
Host: www.api.phonestore.com
Accept-Language: en-us
Accept-Encoding: text/xml
Content-Length: 156
Connection: Keep-Alive
<phones>
  <phone>
    <name>iPhone5</name>
    <brand>Apple</brand>
    <price currency="irs">24500</price>
    <features>
      <camera>
        <front>1.2</front>
        <back>8</back>
      </camera>
      <memory>
        <storage scale="gb">32</storage>
        <ram scale="gb">2</ram>
      </memory>
      <network>
        <gsm>850/900/1800/1900 MHz</gsm>
        <HSPA>850/900/1900 MHz</HSPA>
      </network>
    </features>
  </phone>
</phones>

```

### Server Response

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Date: Mon, 14 July 11:53:27 GMT
Server: Apache/2.2.14 (Win32)
Last-Modified: Wed, 18 June 2014 09:18:16 GMT
Content-Type: text/xml
Content-Length: 15
<id>2122</id>
```



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## 2 Modeling a RESTful API

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## Modeling a REST API

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Now that we are familiar with the RESTful paradigm, let us focus on modeling an API using the enhanced REST data model in CentraSite Business UI.

If you are modeling our sample online phone store application as an API by capturing the metadata collected from online phone store application. The metadata to manage the latest phone details online will include the following:

- A list of resources. For example, phones
- A list of HTTP methods the API will support for each individual resource phones. For example, GET, PUT, DELETE, and POST.
- A list of parameters that will best describe the resource phones. For example, `features=androidosv4.3&cameraresolution=8MP`
- A list of sample HTTP request and response messages

The sequence of modeling a REST API using the CentraSite's Business user interface can be best understood with the following illustration:

- Start by defining basic details of an API, and then define the base URL, schemas and parameters.
- Easily capture resources and methods, and then add the required details as you want.
- Add parameters and other details (content types, status codes) specific to each call.
- Specify samples for requests specific to each call, and then the corresponding samples for expected responses.

---

## Creating a New REST API

---

**Note:** Beginning with Version 9.7, CentraSite supports the ability to define APIs using the Business UI only. Please note that using the CentraSite Control interface to define REST APIs is no longer supported.

### Before You Begin

To define a REST API in an organization, you must belong to a role that has the Create Assets or Manage Assets permission for that organization. For more information about roles and permissions, see the *CentraSite Administrator's Guide*.

## Adding a Simple REST API to CentraSite

Perform these steps to create the simple REST API and save it to CentraSite.

### To create a simple REST API

1. In the CentraSite Business UI, click the **Create Asset** activity.

This opens the **Create Asset** wizard.

2. In the **Basic Information** panel, enter the following information in the fields provided:

In this field...	Do the following...
<b>Name</b>	<p><i>Mandatory.</i> Enter a name for the new API. For example, Phone Store API.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> An API name does not need to be unique. However, to reduce ambiguity, we recommend that you adopt appropriate naming conventions to ensure that API is distinctly named within an organization.</p>
<b>Type</b>	The <b>REST Service</b> asset type.
<b>Organization</b>	Choose the organization in which the new API will be created. (The drop-down list will contain the list of organizations in which you are permitted to create APIs.)
<b>Version</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Specify a version identifier for the new API.
<b>Description</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> Enter a description for the new API.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> This is the description information that users will see when they view instances of this type in the user interface, therefore, the description should be meaningful.</p>

3. Click **Next**.

Be aware that you will not be allowed to move to the next panel unless all of its required parameters have been set.

4. After you specify the value for all of the required fields, click **Save**  to save and add the new REST API to CentraSite registry.

The newly created API's details page is displayed. Here you can enter the values of various attributes of the new API.

5. Configure the API's extended attributes.

---

## Configuring the Global Details of a REST API

---

After you define the REST API, you then expose the API's base URLs. A base URL path includes the hostname of the server where the API is actually hosted.

### Before You Begin

When you configure the global details for an API, keep the following points in mind:

- A base URL is the core design element that serves as the only way to access the identified API.

CentraSite allows you to configure multiple base URL paths for the API. For example, you can configure a sandbox URL for testing purposes, and a production URL for accessing real-world data.

For our sample Phone Store API, here are the sandbox and production base URLs:

#### Sandbox URL

```
https://www.sandbox.phonestore.com/api/v2
```

#### Production URL

```
https://www.phonestore.com/api/v2
```

For example, a base URL for our sample Phone Store API would look like:

```
https://www.phonestore.in/api/v2
```

A complete URL is formed by combining the resource path with the base URL.

For example, here is the URL you would use in a request to get the list of phones:

```
GET https://www.phonestore.in/api/v2/phones
```

Or, retrieve a phone with product code is 412456

```
GET https://www.phonestore.in/api/v2/phones/phone-412456
```

Where,

*GET* - HTTP request method

*https://www.phonestore.in/api/v2* - URL

*phones* - resource URI

*412456* - path parameter

- An API parameter is an expression that represents a value that the client passes to the API specified in the client call. Here, the parameters are specified at the API level. Since these are defined at the API level, the parameters will be available for all child resources and methods below the API in the hierarchy.

## Adding a Base URL to the REST API

Configure the base URLs for the API using which users would traverse to any of the API's resources. In order to execute this task, you must know the URL of the server that is hosting the API you intend to model.

### To add a base URL

1. Display the details page for the REST API that you want to configure. If you need procedures for this step, see ["Viewing the Details of a REST API" on page 43](#).
2. In the action bar for the API, select the **Edit**  icon.
3. Select the **Technical Details** profile.
4. Enter the following information in the fields provided:

In this field...	Do the following...
<b>Base URL</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> Enter the server base URL in the text box.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you are specifying multiple base URLs for an API, it must be unique among all URLs in the API.</p> <p>If you want to specify additional base URLs, use the plus button beside the text box to create a new base URL input field, and enter another URL.</p> <p>If at any time you want to remove a base URL, use the minus button.</p>
<b>Sandbox</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> The sandbox category by which you want to classify base URL for the API.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Click <b>Choose</b>.</li> <li>b. When you click the button, the <b>Choose Sandbox Categories</b> dialog appears which allows you to select the required categories for base URL.</li> <li>c. Click the expand node next to Sandbox taxonomy to view the categorization tree.</li> <li>d. Mark the checkbox beside the name of the category to classify the base URL.</li> <li>e. Click <b>OK</b>.</li> </ol> <p>CentraSite includes a set of predefined categories for the taxonomy node "Sandbox", especially for classifying base URLs of REST APIs. By default, the base URLs can</p>

In this field...	Do the following...
	<p>be classified into these following predefined categories: Development, Production, Test.</p> <p>For information on the Sandbox categories that CentraSite supports out-of-the-box, in CentraSite Control, go to <b>Administration &gt; Taxonomies</b>. On the Taxonomies page, navigate to <b>Sandbox</b> in the list of taxonomies.</p> <p>If you would like to use sandbox categories that are not supported by CentraSite, you can define your custom categories.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Although it is possible to define subcategories for the predefined and custom categories within the Sandbox taxonomy, you cannot use these subcategories to classify the base URLs. CentraSite only displays the names of the top-level categories (that is, categories that are defined for the Sandbox taxonomy) for the classification.</p>
<b>Namespace</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Specify the target namespace.
<b>Parameters - Add Parameter</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> Specify one or more request parameters of the following types at the API level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Query</li> <li>■ Header</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> You cannot add more than one parameter with the same name and the same type within the API level.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Click the <b>Add Parameter</b> link to open the <b>Add Parameter</b> dialog.</li> <li>b. In this dialog, you define input parameters at the API level. To specify multiple parameters, click on the <b>Add Parameter</b> link to add each new parameter.</li> </ol> <p>The new parameter is added to the <b>Technical Details</b> profile. For a complete description of how to add the request parameters, see <a href="#">"Adding a Parameter to the REST API" on page 36</a>.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. To further update the new parameter, mouse over the parameter, and then click <b>Edit</b> .</li> <li>6. To specify multiple parameters, click the <b>Add Parameter</b> link to add each new parameter.</li> <li>7. After you specify the value for all of the required fields, select <b>Save</b>  to save the API.</li> </ol>

---

## Configuring REST Resources

---

Resources are the basic components of a REST API.

### Before You Begin

After you have exposed the base URIs for accessing the API, you must identify and first define the resources for it. By identifying the resources in the API, you can make the API more useful and easier to develop.

Each resource has its own unique URI. Defining URI patterns is important because URIs enable clients to directly access a resource.

For example, consider the case of our sample Phone Store API. Assume this API exposes a database that defines a list of phones and the features and specifications of each phone; wherein the list of phones is represented with the collection URI and the features of each phones is represented as an individual URI.

#### Collection Resource URI

`/phones`

#### Unique Resource URI

`/phones/412456`

We recommend that you follow these simple tips and guidelines for structuring the resource path (URI):

- **Short name URIs** as much as possible - for example, prefer `/phones/412456` than `/phones/phone.php?phone_id=412456`
- **Straightforward and meaningful URIs** to ease use of the resource - `/phones/412456`
- **Consistent and predictable URIs** patterns - `/phones/412456/features`
- **Simple and hierarchical URIs** to represent the relationships - for example,
  - `/phones`
  - `/phones/412456`
  - `/phones/412456/features`
- **Nouns, not verbs** - for example, plural nouns to represent list of things - `/phones`; singular nouns to represent a particular thing - `/phones/412456`
- **Hyphens, avoid spaces or underlines** to improve and enhance aesthetic interaction with the resource - for example, prefer `/phones/412456` than `/phones_412456`
- **Lower case, avoid mixed case and upper case** to improve readability - `/phones/412456` than `/Phones/412456`

Here are some common examples for our sample resource `/phones`:

- `/phones`
- `/phones/412456`
- `/phones/412456?fields=(make,features,bodytype)`
- `/phones/412456/make`
- `/phones/search?q=(make,eq,apple)`
- `/phones/?make=apple&features=3g&price.min=44101`

## Adding a Resource to the REST API

In this task, you identify the resource of the API, and capture the resource URI for the API. Indirectly, a URI address implies the relationship between each of the resources.

### To add a resource

1. Display the details page for the REST API that you want to configure. If you need procedures for this step, see "[Viewing the Details of a REST API](#)" on page 43.
2. In the action bar for the API, click **Edit**  icon.
3. Select the **Resource and Methods** profile.
4. Click the **Add Resource** link.
5. In the **Add Resource** dialog box, enter the following information in the fields provided:

In this field...	Do the following...
<b>Name</b>	<p><i>Mandatory.</i> Enter a display name for the new resource.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you are specifying multiple resources for an API, the name must be unique among all resources in the API.</p>
<b>Resource Path</b>	<p><i>Mandatory.</i> Enter the new resource URI. Structure the URI with the simple tips and guidelines described above.</p> <p><b>Important:</b> When you specify a path parameter in the resource URI, as a best practice, we recommend that you adopt the following conventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Append the path parameter variable within curly {} brackets.</li> <li>■ Specify the path parameter variable to exactly match with the path parameter.</li> </ul>
<b>Description</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> Enter a description for the new resource.</p>

In this field...	Do the following...
<b>Schema</b>	<p><b>Note:</b> This is the description information that users will see when they view instances of this type in the user interface, therefore, the description should be meaningful.</p> <p><i>Optional.</i> Specify a XML Schema Definition (XSD) file for the new resource.</p>
<b>Documents</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> Specify one or more input files for API.</p> <p>You can use the <b>Browse</b> button to navigate to the required folder.</p> <p>If you want to specify additional input files, use the plus button to create a new input field, and then use the <b>Browse</b> button to select another input file.</p>
<b>Parameters - Add Parameter</b> (link)	<p><i>Optional.</i> Specify one or more request parameters of the following types at the Resource level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Path</li> <li>■ Query</li> <li>■ Header</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> You cannot add more than one parameter with the same name and the same type within the resource.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Click the <b>Add Parameter</b> link to open the <b>Add Parameter</b> dialog.</li> <li>b. In this dialog, you define input parameters at the resource level. To specify multiple parameters, click on the <b>Add Parameter</b> link to add each new parameter.</li> </ol> <p>The new parameter is added to the resource. For a complete description of how to add the request parameters, see "<a href="#">Adding a Parameter to the REST API</a>" on page 36.</p>

For each method, depending on the requirements, you can specify the path parameters, query parameters, and header parameters.

6. Expand the resource whose details you want to view.
7. To further update the new resource, mouse over the resource, and then click **Edit** . Repeat for each resource that you want to modify.
8. To specify multiple resources, click the **Add Resource** link to add each new resource.

9. After you specify the value for all of the required fields, select **Save**  to save the API.

## Configuring HTTP Methods

The HTTP methods passed as part of an HTTP request tell the API what operation needs to be done with the addressed resource.

### Before You Begin

Understand the predefined HTTP methods and their known attributes. See the HTTP method definitions information to learn more about the common set of methods for HTTP.

Clients use HTTP methods to perform certain operations. Multiple methods exist - GET, POST, PUT, DELETE, HEAD, OPTIONS, PATCH, TRACE, and CONNECT.

**Important:** During virtualization of an API, CentraSite does not support the following HTTP methods: HEAD, OPTIONS, PATCH, TRACE, and CONNECT. This is because, when the virtual API is published to Mediator, at run-time Mediator only supports GET, POST, PUT, DELETE.

Let us consider the following scenarios for our sample Phone Store API:

Resource URI	Supported HTTP Methods	Description
/phones	GET	List all phones.
/phones	POST	Creates a new phone with product code 412456.
/phones/412456	GET	Retrieves details of a phone whose product code is 412456.
/phones/412456	DELETE	Removes a phone whose product code is 412456.
/phones/412456? fields=(make, features, bodytype)	GET	Retrieves additional details (such as Brand, Features, Body Type) of a phone whose product code is 412456.

Resource URI	Supported HTTP Methods	Description
/phones/412456/make	GET	Identifies the brand of a phone whose product code is 412456.
/phones/search? q= (make, eq, apple)	GET	Retrieves a list of all phones whose brand is Apple.
/phones/412456? make=apple&features=3g	PUT	Updates a phone whose product code is 412456, brand is Apple, and also 3G compatible.

Resource methods can also use parameters to identify or pass additional information.

You can capture the sample requests and responses to facilitate clients easily interact with the resources of API.

You can set HTTP status codes to help client quickly and more easily understand the HTTP response messages.

## Adding a HTTP Method to the REST API

In this task, you define the valid operations for the resources. In addition, you can define the resource representation formats and the samples to represent the HTTP requests and responses.

### To add a HTTP method

1. Display the details page for the REST API that you want to configure. If you need procedures for this step, see ["Viewing the Details of a REST API" on page 43](#).
2. In the action bar for the API, select the **Edit**  icon.
3. Select the **Resource and Methods** profile.
4. Locate the resource you want to add HTTP methods.
5. Click **Add Method** link.
6. In the **Add Method** dialog box, enter the following information in the fields provided:

**In this field...**

**Do the following...**

**Name**

*Optional.* Enter a name for the method.

<u>In this field...</u>	<u>Do the following...</u>
<b>Description</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Enter descriptive information about the method.
<b>HTTP Method</b>	Select the HTTP operation you want to perform on the resource. (The drop-down list will contain the list of supported HTTP methods.)
<b>Request Content-Type</b>	Select the content format for request message. (The drop-down list displays the list of supported content formats.)  <b>Note:</b> By default, this field shows an empty default value.
<b>Response Content-Type</b>	Select the content format for response message. (The drop-down list displays the list of supported content formats.)  <b>Note:</b> By default, this field shows an empty default value.
<b>Parameters - Add Parameter</b> (link)	<i>Optional.</i> Specify one or more request parameters of the following types at the Method level: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Query</li><li>■ Header</li></ul> <b>Note:</b> You cannot add more than one parameter with the same name and the same type within the method. <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Click the <b>Add Parameter</b> link to open the <b>Add Parameter</b> dialog.</li><li>In this dialog, you define input parameters at the method level. To specify multiple parameters, click on the <b>Add Parameter</b> link to add each new parameter.</li></ol> The new parameter is added to the method. For a complete description of how to set up the request parameters, see <a href="#">"Adding a Parameter to the REST API" on page 36</a> .
<b>HTTP Status Codes - Add Status Code</b> (link)	<i>Optional.</i> Define one or more HTTP response status codes that indicates the success or failure of an invocation. For a complete description of how to set up the status code, see <a href="#">"Adding a Status Code to the RESTful API" on page 37</a> .

In this field...	Do the following...
<b>Sample Requests and Responses - Add Request and Response</b> (link)	<i>Optional.</i> Write one or more sample requests to the resources of the REST API, and the corresponding sample responses from the API. For a complete description of how to expose the HTTP requests and response messages, see <a href="#">"Adding a Request and Response Message to the REST API"</a> on page 39.

7. Click the newly added method to view its details.
8. To further update the new method, mouse over the method, and then click **Edit** . Repeat for each method that you want to modify.
9. To specify multiple methods, click the **Add Method** link to add each new method.
10. After you specify the value for all of the required fields, select **Save**  to save the API.

## Configuring REST Parameters

Parameters are used to pass and add additional information to a request. You can use parameters as part of the URL or in the headers.

### Before You Begin

Multiple parameter types exist - the most widely used parameters are path and query parameters.

- Path parameters, which are integral part of the request URL, and correspond to the URL path variable names.

The following example shows the different path parameter representations and the results expected:

`GET /phones/412456` - Returns the details for a specific phone whose product code is 412456.

In the above snippet, the URL path variable name 412456 is passed as a parameter to the GET method.

Note that CentraSite allows you to define a path parameter only at the Resource level.

- Query parameters, which are passed as the request URL query parameters.

The following examples show the different query parameter representations and the results expected:

- `GET /phones?make=apple` - Returns a list of all the phones that match the specified brand Apple.

- GET /phones/412456?format=JSON - Returns the details for phone whose product code is 412456 in the JSON format.
- Header parameters, which are passed as custom HTTP headers.

The following example shows the header parameter representation:

```
GET /phones?412456
Accept-Encoding: application/json
x-CentraSite-APIKey:66f4b263-cc6e-11e3-85a7-a2d064a5bd02
```

## Adding a Parameter to the REST API

In this task, you define input parameters either at the API level, Resource level or Method level. Defining a parameter at the API level (in the **Technical Details** profile) means that it is inherited by all Resources, and by all methods under the individual Resources. Defining a parameter at the Resource level (in the **Add Resource** dialog box) means that it is inherited by all Methods under it. Defining it at the Method level (in the **Add Method** dialog box) only applies the parameters to that particular method; it does not affect either the API level or Resource level.

### To add a parameter

1. Display the details page for the REST API that you want to configure. If you need procedures for this step, see "[Viewing the Details of a REST API](#)" on page 43.
2. In the action bar for the API, click **Edit**  icon.
3. Navigate to **Advanced Information > Technical Details** or **Resource and Methods** profile.
4. Expand the **Parameters** pane in the **Technical Details** profile or the **Add Resource** dialog box or the **Add Method** dialog box, as required.
5. Click the **Add Parameter** link.
6. In the **Add Parameter** dialog box, enter the following information in the fields provided:

In this field...	Do the following...
<b>Name</b>	<i>Mandatory.</i> Enter a display name for the parameter.
<b>Description</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Enter a comment or descriptive information about the parameter.
<b>Parameter Type</b>	Select a parameter type.
<b>Data Type</b>	Select the parameter's data type.
<b>Required</b>	Specify whether the parameter is mandatory or optional for invoking the REST API.

In this field...	Do the following...
<b>Multiplicity</b>	Specify whether the parameter can hold a just a single value or multiple values (an array of values). Enabling the <b>Multi Value</b> option allows you to assign more than one value to the parameter.
<b>Default Value</b>	<i>Optional.</i> If you want to specify a default value, enter a value in this field.
<b>Possible Values</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Enter a list of possible values for this parameter.

- To further update the new parameter, mouse over the parameter, and then click **Edit** . Repeat for each parameter that you want to modify.
- To specify multiple parameters, click the **Add Parameter** link to add each new parameter.
- If you need to delete a parameter, mouse over the parameter, and then click **Delete** . Repeat for each parameter that you want to delete.
- After you specify the value for all of the required fields, click **Save**  to save the updated API.

## Configuring HTTP Status Codes

HTTP status codes indicate the success or failure of an invocation.

### Before You Begin

HTTP/1.1 defines all the legal status codes. Examine these codes to determine which are appropriate for your API.

HTTP response status codes provide information about the status of a HTTP request. The HTTP specification defines several status codes that are typically understood by clients.

### Adding a Status Code to the RESTful API

In this task, you define individual HTTP response status codes for each method.

#### To add a HTTP status code

- Display the details page for the REST API that you want to configure. If you need procedures for this step, see ["Viewing the Details of a REST API" on page 43](#).
- In the actions bar for the API, click **Edit**  icon.
- Navigate to **Advanced Information > Resource and Methods** profile.

4. In the **Add/Modify Method** dialog box, expand the **HTTP Status Code** section.
5. Click the **Add Status Code** link.
6. In the **Add HTTP Status Code** dialog box, enter the following information in the fields provided:

<u>In this field...</u>	<u>Do the following...</u>
<b>Status Code</b>	Choose a HTTP response status code number. <b>Examples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ HTTP 200 OK</li> <li>■ HTTP 400 Bad Request</li> <li>■ HTTP Error 404 Not Found</li> <li>■ HTTP Error 500 Internal Server Error</li> </ul>
<b>Name</b>	This is a label that you assign as a meaningful name for the status code.  For example, you may call a HTTP 400 response as Validation Error, instead of the Bad Request.
<b>Description</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Enter a comment or descriptive information about the status code.

The new status code is added to the HTTP method.

7. To further update the new status code, click **Edit** . Repeat for each code that you want to modify.
8. To specify multiple status codes, click the **Add Status Code** link to add each new status code.
9. If you need to delete a status code, click **Delete** . Repeat for each status code that you want to delete.
10. After you specify the value for all of the required fields, click **Save**  to save the updated API.

## Configuring Sample Request and Response Messages

REST APIs can produce successful response and errors. CentraSite allows you to capture the default error responses when an exception or error occurs.

For a list of the sample client request and server response messages, see "[Sample Requests and Responses](#)" on page 19.

## Adding a Request and Response Message to the REST API

In this task, you define sample request and response messages for each method.

### To add a sample request and response message

1. Display the details page for the REST API that you want to configure.
2. In the actions bar for the API, click **Edit**  icon.
3. Navigate to **Advanced Information > Resource and Methods** profile.
4. In the **Add Method** dialog box, expand the **Sample Requests and Responses** section.
5. Click **Add Request and Response** link.
6. In the **Add Sample Request and Response** dialog box, enter the following information in the fields provided:

#### In this field...

#### Do the following...

#### **Request**

Enter the HTTP request message.

**Important:** As a best practice, we recommend that you use sample messages that could be sent from the client to the server.

#### **Response/Error**

Enter the HTTP response/error message.

If you want to specify additional response message, use the plus  button to create a new input field.

If you want to remove an existing response message, use the minus  button. Repeat for each response message that you want to remove.

7. To further update the new sample request or response message, click **Edit** . Repeat for each message that you want to modify.
8. To specify multiple request and response messages, click the **Add Request and Response** link to add each new request and response messages.
9. If you need to delete a request and response message, click **Delete** . Repeat for each request and response message that you want to delete.
10. After you specify the value for all of the required fields, click **Save**  to save the updated API.



# 3

## Managing RESTful APIs

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## Viewing a REST API

---

You use the API details page to view the details of a REST API.

### Before You Begin

Before you view the details of an API, keep in mind the following points:

- If you are not the owner of the API, you cannot view the API unless you have View permission on the API (granted through either a role-based permission or instance-level permission). For more information about roles and permissions, see the *CentraSite Administrator's Guide*.
- Each panel on an API's details page represents a collection of attributes called a profile. You will only see profiles for which you have the instance-level View permission.
- If you are viewing the API details page, you can choose between display in **Resources** view and **Methods** view. The **Methods** view is set by default.
- In either of the views, mouse hover the resource or method details and delete that resource or method using the **Delete** icon.

### If You Migrate REST APIs from a Pre-9.7 Release

If you have REST APIs that were created prior to version 9.7, those APIs will continue to hold the old version's metadata in the enhanced REST API interface implemented by current version of CentraSite.

## Viewing the List of REST APIs

The **Search Results** page displays the list of REST APIs in CentraSite. Note that this list displays APIs for which you have the View permission.

You can sort the list by attribute. To specify the sorting preference, select the attribute from the drop-down list labeled **Sort by**.

---

### To view the list of REST APIs

1. In CentraSite Business UI, click the **Browse** link (in the upper left corner of the page).
  - Alternatively, select `Everything` or `Assets` from the drop-down beside the keyword search text box.
2. Expand the splitter panel using the given arrow.
3. In the **Narrow Your Results** section, locate **Additional Search Criteria**.
4. Select **Asset Types** from the drop-down list.

5. Enter the asset type `REST Service` in the text box. Click the plus button **+** next to the text box or press Enter to add REST Service to the search recipe.
  - Else, click **Choose**. This opens the **Choose Asset Types** dialog.
    - i. Navigate to `REST Service` and select the appropriate check box.
    - ii. Click **OK**.
6. If you want to further filter the list to see a subset of the available APIs, Type a partial string in the **Keyword** text field. Click the plus button **+** next to the text field or press Enter to add the keyword to the search recipe. For more information about advanced search options, see *Working with the CentraSite Business UI*.
7. The **Search Results** page provides the following information about each API.

By default, only the attributes described below are displayed in this list. Use the **View** menu to display the additional attributes.

<b>Column</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Name</b>	The name assigned to the REST API.
<b>Description</b>	Additional comments or descriptive information about the API.
<b>Asset Type</b>	The type of asset, <code>REST Service</code> .
<b>Last Updated Date</b>	The date on which the API was last modified.
<b>Owner</b>	The user to which the API belongs.
<b>Organization</b>	The organization to which the API belongs.
<b>Version</b>	The user-assigned version identifier for the API.

## Viewing the Details of a REST API

In this task you view the various basic and type-specific attributes associated with the API. You can view the resources, methods and parameters in the **Resources** view and the **Methods** view; in addition, you can delete the existing API parameters, resources and methods.

### To view the details of a REST API

1. In CentraSite Business UI, display the list of REST APIs. If you need procedures for this step, see "[Viewing the List of REST APIs](#)" on page 42.

2. Locate the API whose details you want to view.
3. Click on the hyperlinked API name.

In the API details page, CentraSite will display the attributes for the selected API. If you have Modify permission on the API, you can edit the API's attributes.

4. You can view a tooltip text for some of the attributes in the profiles of the API's details by moving the cursor to the info  icon. The tooltip text gives a summary of the attribute's purpose. The tooltip text shown is the content of the attribute's Name and Description fields as defined in the API.
5. You can view the details of the API, namely, resources, methods, parameters, status codes, and request and response messages in the **Resources and Methods** profile.

The content in the **Resources and Methods** profile reflects the view selection that you make - resource-centric, or method-centric. The profile displays multiple fields which are dependent on the view you select.

6. To select a view, use the **Resources | Methods** menu displayed on the right hand side. Depending on the view selected, the profile displays a list of resources, or methods.
7. Expand the resource names to view details of a particular resource.
8. Click on the method name buttons to view details of a particular method.
9. Drill down to different levels in the API Parameters, Resource Parameters, Method Parameters, HTTP Status Codes, and Sample Requests and Responses to see details of each of them.
10. Click on the hyperlinked parameter name to view details of the individual parameter.
11. If you have resources and methods defined for the API, you can delete one or more of these entities by using the appropriate **Delete**  in the **Resources and Methods** profile as follows:
  - a. Ensure that the **Resources and Methods** profile of the API is selected in the API's detail view mode.
  - b. In the Resource-Centric View, locate the resource that you want to delete. Do the following:
    - i. Mouse hover the resource name.
    - ii. Click the **Delete**  icon beside the resource name.
    - iii. Repeat for each resource that you want to delete.
    - iv. You can also drill down to the individual HTTP methods that are defined for the selected resource and repeat the previous steps for each method as required.
  - c. In the Method-Centric View, locate the HTTP method that you want to delete. Do the following:
    - i. Click the **Delete**  icon beside the method name.
    - ii. Repeat for each method that you want to delete.

## Using the Method-Centric View

The Method-Centric View can be accessed by clicking on **Methods** menu in the right hand side of **Resources and Methods** profile.

This view displays the available HTTP methods for an API. For an API, if there are HTTP methods defined at the resource level, the method-centric view displays the list of all HTTP methods defined at various resource levels for that API. This view provides you a consolidated list of supported HTTP methods for a resource path URI. The Method-Centric View is displayed by default.

In short, a Method-Centric View displays:

- ..> HTTP Methods...
- ... > Resource Path, Name...
  - ... > Method Description, Request Content Type, Response Content Type ....
  - ... > Method Parameters > Name, Type, Description...
  - ... > HTTP Status Codes > Status Code, Name, Description...
  - ... > Sample Requests and Responses > Sample 1 > Request, Response / Error...

## Using the Resource-Centric View

The Resource-Centric View can be accessed by clicking on **Resources** menu in the right hand side of **Resources and Methods** profile.

This view displays the available resources for an API. For the selected API, if there are multiple resources, and each resource defined with multiple HTTP methods, the resource-centric view displays all components - resources, and methods that apply to the selected API. This includes parameters, status codes, sample requests and responses defined at various method and resource levels in the API.

This view provides you a consolidated list of available resources for the selected API.

In short, a Resource-Centric View displays:

- ...> Resources ...
  - ... > Description, Resource Path, Resource Parameters, Documents, Schema...
  - ... > HTTP Methods, Resource Path, Resource Name...
    - ... > Description, Request Content Type, Response Content Type ....
    - ... > Method Parameters > Name, Type, Description...
    - ... > HTTP Status Codes > Status Code, Name, Description...
    - ... > Sample Requests and Responses > Sample 1 > Request, Response / Error...

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## Changing a REST API

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You use the API details page to view and edit the details of an API.

### Before You Begin

Before you edit the details of an API, keep in mind the following points:

- If you are not the owner of the API, you cannot edit the API unless you have Modify permission on the API (granted through either a role-based permission or instance-level permission). For more information about roles and permissions, see the *CentraSite Administrator's Guide*.
- When you view the details for the API, you will only see profiles for which you have View permission. You will only be able to edit the profiles on which you have Modify permission.
- Some attributes are designed to be read-only and cannot be edited even if they appear in an API on which you have Modify permission.
- If you are viewing the API details page, you can choose between display in **Resources** view and **Methods** view. The **Methods** view is set by default.
- When you are viewing the resources and methods, you can delete one or more of the top level REST details - resources and methods by using the **Delete**  icon. For more information about resources and methods and the **Delete** option, see "[Viewing the Details of a REST API](#)" on page 43.
- However, if you are editing the resources and methods, then you can delete the remaining resources and methods, namely - request parameters, status codes and sample requests and responses.
- If you want to edit the resources and methods, ensure that the **Resources and Methods** profile of the API is selected in the edit mode by using **Edit**  in the action bar for the API.
- In the edit mode, you will only see an editable user interface of the Resource-Centric View. There is no Method-Centric View in the edit mode.
- If you are editing the API details page, you can modify one or more of the existing entities - resources, methods, request parameters, status codes, sample requests and responses; also you can delete these entities by using **Delete** .

### Editing the Details of a REST API

In this task you examine and change the various basic and type-specific attributes associated with the API. In addition, you can examine and change the resources and methods, such as the resources, HTTP methods, parameters, status codes, and HTTP messages in the **Resources** view and the **Methods** view, as applicable; also, you can delete

the existing parameters (either the resource parameters or the method parameters), status codes and HTTP messages.

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### To edit the details of a REST API

1. Display the details page for the REST API whose details you want to edit. If you need procedures for this step, see ["Viewing the Details of a REST API" on page 43](#).
2. In the action bar for the API, click **Edit**  icon.
3. To edit the API's basic attributes, place the cursor in the appropriate field and modify the text as required.
4. To modify the extended attributes associated with the API, do the following:
  - a. Select the profile that contains the attribute(s) that you want to modify.
  - b. Edit the attributes on the profile as necessary.
  - c. Repeat steps 5.a and 5.b for each profile that you want to edit.

If at any time you want to abandon your unsaved edits, click **Close** . CentraSite will ask you if you want to save your edits. Click **Discard** to abandon your edits and return the API's attributes to their previous settings.

5. When you have finished making your edits, click **Save**  to save the updated API.
6. When you are prompted to confirm the save operation, click **Yes**.

## Editing the Details of Resources and Methods

You use the **Resources and Methods** profile of an API to view, modify, and delete its resources and methods. The content in this profile reflects the view selection that you make - resource-centric, or method-centric.

When you edit the details for an API, be aware that you will not be allowed to edit its resources and methods in the method-centric view.

If you have resources and methods defined for the API, you modify one or more of these entities by using the appropriate **Edit**  icon in the **Resources and Methods** profile.

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### To edit the details of resources and methods

1. Display the details page for the REST API that you want to modify. If you need procedures for this step, see ["Viewing the Details of a REST API" on page 43](#).
2. In the actions bar for the API, click **Edit**  icon.
3. Navigate to **Advanced Information > Resource and Methods** profile. Add or modify the resource level and method level details, as required.
  - Resource level details include the basic information for a resource, and its request parameters.

- Method level details include the basic information for a method, its request parameters, content types, status codes, and HTTP messages that are available for the selected method.
4. To modify the resource details, do the following:
    - a. Move the cursor over the resource whose details you want to modify.
    - b. Click the **Edit**  icon.
    - c. In the **Edit Resource** dialog, modify the details, as needed:

Field	Description
<b>Name</b>	<i>Mandatory.</i> The name of the resource.
<b>Resource Path</b>	<i>Mandatory.</i> The resource URL.
<b>Description</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Additional comments or descriptive information about the resource.
<b>Schema</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> The XML Schema Definition (XSD) file for selected API.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> If you have an API that uses XML as content, then you can optionally upload an XML schema document.</p>
<b>Documents</b>	<i>Optional.</i> External documents that provide additional information about the resource.
<b>Parameters</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> One or more request parameters at the resource level. <i>Optional.</i> One or more request parameters at the Resource level.</p> <p><b>Modify an Existing Parameter</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Move the cursor over the parameter whose details you want to modify.</li> <li>ii. Click the <b>Edit</b>  icon.</li> <li>iii. In the <b>Edit Parameter</b> dialog, modify the details, as needed.</li> <li>iv. Click <b>OK</b>.</li> <li>v. Repeat for each parameter that you want to modify.</li> </ol> <p><b>Delete an Existing Parameter</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Move the cursor over the parameter you want to delete.</li> </ol>

Field	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Click the <b>Delete</b>  icon.</li> <li>iii. Repeat for each parameter that you want to delete.</li> </ul> <p><b>Add a New Parameter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Click the <b>Add Parameter</b> link.</li> <li>ii. In the <b>Add Parameter</b> dialog, specify the details, as needed.</li> <li>iii. Click <b>OK</b>.</li> <li>iv. Repeat for each parameter that you want to add.</li> </ul> <p>For a complete description of how to set up the request parameters, see <a href="#">"Configuring REST Parameters" on page 35</a>.</p>

5. To modify the method details, do the following:
  - a. Move the cursor over the method whose details you want to modify.
  - b. Click the **Edit**  icon.
  - c. In the **Edit Method** dialog, modify the details as necessary:

Field	Description
<b>Name</b>	<i>Mandatory.</i> The name of the method.
<b>Description</b>	<i>Optional.</i> Additional comments or descriptive information about the method.
<b>HTTP Method</b>	The HTTP operation to perform on the resource.
<b>Request Content-Type</b>	The content format for request message.
<b>Response Content-Type</b>	The content format for response message.
<b>Parameters</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> One or more request parameters at the method level.</p> <p><b>Modify an Existing Parameter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Move the cursor over the parameter whose details you want to modify.</li> </ul>

Field	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ii. Click the <b>Edit</b>  icon.</li> <li>iii. In the <b>Edit Parameter</b> dialog, modify the details, as needed.</li> <li>iv. Click <b>OK</b>.</li> <li>v. Repeat for each parameter that you want to modify.</li> </ul> <p><b>Delete an Existing Parameter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Move the cursor over the parameter you want to delete.</li> <li>ii. Click the <b>Delete</b>  icon.</li> <li>iii. Repeat for each parameter that you want to delete.</li> </ul> <p><b>Add a New Parameter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Click the <b>Add Parameter</b> link.</li> <li>ii. In the <b>Add Parameter</b> dialog, specify the details, as needed.</li> <li>iii. Click <b>OK</b>.</li> <li>iv. Repeat for each parameter that you want to add.</li> </ul> <p>For a complete description of how to set up the request parameters, see <a href="#">"Configuring REST Parameters" on page 35</a>.</p>
<b>HTTP Status Codes</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> One or more HTTP response status codes that indicate the success or failures of an invocation.</p> <p><b>Modify an Existing Status Code</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Move the cursor over the status code whose details you want to modify.</li> <li>ii. Click the <b>Edit</b>  icon.</li> <li>iii. In the <b>Edit Status Code</b> dialog, modify the details, as needed.</li> <li>iv. Click <b>OK</b>.</li> <li>v. Repeat for each status code that you want to modify.</li> </ul> <p><b>Delete an Existing Status Code</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Move the cursor over the status code you want to delete.</li> <li>ii. Click the <b>Delete</b>  icon.</li> </ul>

Field	Description
	<p>iii. Repeat for each status code that you want to delete.</p> <p><b>Add a New Status Code</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Click the <b>Add Status Code</b> link.</li><li>ii. In the <b>Add Status Code</b> dialog, specify the details, as needed.</li><li>iii. Click <b>OK</b>.</li><li>iv. Repeat for each status code that you want to add.</li></ol> <p>For a complete description of how to set up the status code, see "<a href="#">Configuring HTTP Status Codes</a>" on page 37.</p>
<b>Sample Requests and Responses</b>	<p><i>Optional.</i> One or more sample requests to the resources of the web application, and the corresponding sample responses from the application.</p> <p><b>Modify an Existing Sample</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Move the cursor over the sample whose details you want to modify.</li><li>ii. Click the <b>Edit</b>  icon.</li><li>iii. In the <b>Edit Sample Request and Response</b> dialog, modify the details, as needed.</li><li>iv. Click <b>OK</b>.</li><li>v. Repeat for each sample that you want to modify.</li></ol> <p><b>Delete an Existing Sample</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Move the cursor over the sample you want to delete.</li><li>ii. Click the <b>Delete</b>  icon.</li><li>iii. Repeat for each sample that you want to delete.</li></ol> <p><b>Add a New Sample</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Click the <b>Add Request and Response</b> link.</li><li>ii. In the <b>Add Sample Request and Response</b> dialog, specify the details, as needed.</li><li>iii. Click <b>OK</b>.</li><li>iv. Repeat for each sample that you want to add.</li></ol>

Field	Description
	For a complete description of how to expose request headers and response messages, see <a href="#">"Configuring Sample Request and Response Messages"</a> on page 38.

- If you edited any of the details on the **Resources and Methods** profile, select **Save** to save the updated API.

## Deleting a REST API

You delete an API to permanently remove it from the CentraSite registry.

### Before You Begin

Before you delete an API, keep in mind the following points:

- If you are not the owner of the API, you cannot delete the API unless you have Full permission on the API (granted through either a role-based permission or instance-level permission). For more information about roles and permissions, see the *CentraSite Administrator's Guide*.
- You cannot delete an API that is in pending state (e.g., awaiting approval).
- You cannot delete an API if any user in your CentraSite registry is currently modifying the API.

### Deleting a Single REST API

In this task, you delete a single API to remove it from CentraSite permanently.

#### To delete a single API

- Display the details page for the REST API that you want to delete. If you need procedures for this step, see ["Viewing the Details of a REST API"](#) on page 43.
- In the actions bar for the API, click **Delete** .
- When you are prompted to confirm the delete operation, click **Yes**.  
The API is permanently removed from the CentraSite registry.

### Deleting Multiple REST APIs in a Single Operation

You can delete multiple APIs in a single step.

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**To delete a set of APIs**

1. In CentraSite Business UI, display the list of REST APIs. If you need procedures for this step, see ["Viewing the List of REST APIs" on page 42](#).
2. Mark the checkbox next to the name of each API you want to delete.
3. On the action bar, click **Delete** .

**Note:** If have you selected a set of APIs, where one or more APIs is in pending state (e.g., awaiting approval), CentraSite ignores the pending list of APIs, and deletes any remaining APIs for which you have the required permission.