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The "create-form" and "edit-form" Link Relations

Abstract

RFC 5988 standardized a means of indicating the relationships between resources on the Web. This specification defines link relation types that may be used to express the relationships between a resource and an input form for constructing data submissions.

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1. Introduction

RFC 5988 [RFC5988] standardized a means of indicating the relationships between resources on the Web. This specification defines link relation types that may be used to express the relationships between a resource and an input form for constructing data submissions.

The "create-form" and "edit-form" link relations are intentionally generic, and they can be used with multiple media types in a wide variety of use cases.

2. Notational Conventions

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

3. Link Relations

The following link relations are defined.

3.1. The "create-form" Link Relation Type

When included in a response, the "create-form" link relation indicates a target resource that represents a form that can be used to append a new member to the link context.

```
<html>
  <ul>
    <li>Entry Description 1</li>
    <li>Entry Description 2</li>
  </ul>
  <a href="..." rel="create-form">[Add New Entry]</a>
</html>
```

or, expressed as a Link header

```
Link: <...>; rel="create-form"; title="Add New Entry"
```

3.1.1. Using the "create-form" Link Relation

If the form representation includes a submission URI, this URI MUST be used to submit the form. The context URI SHOULD be used otherwise.

If the form representation includes a submission method, this method MUST be used for submit requests. HTTP's POST method SHOULD be used otherwise.

3.2. The "edit-form" Link Relation Type

When included in a response, the "edit-form" link relation indicates a target resource that represents a form that can be used for updating the context resource.

```
<html>
  ...
  <ul>
    <li>
      Entry Description 1
      <a href="..." rel="edit-form">[Edit Entry]</a>
    </li>
  </ul>
  ...
</html>
```

or, expressed as a Link header

```
Link: <...>; rel="edit-form"; title="Edit Entry"
```

3.2.1. Using the "edit-form" Link Relation

If the form representation includes a submission URI, this URI MUST be used to submit the form. The context URI SHOULD be used otherwise.

If the form representation includes a submission method, this method MUST be used for submit requests. HTTP's PUT method SHOULD be used otherwise.

3.3. Error-Handling Example

When submitting forms in unsupported media type format, service may respond to the client with HTTP's 415 Unsupported Media Type status code.

```
HTTP/1.1 415 Unsupported Media Type
Link: <...>; rel="create-form"; title="Create new entry"
Content-Type: text/html
Content-Length: ...
```

```
<html>
  Use <a href="..." rel="create-form">
    this form
  </a> to create a new entry.
</html>
```

4. IANA Considerations

IANA has registered the "create-form" and "edit-form" link relations below as per [RFC5988].

4.1. The Link Relation Registration "create-form"

Relation Name:

create-form

Description:

The target IRI points to a resource where a submission form can be obtained.

Security considerations:

Automated agents should take care when this relation crosses administrative domains (e.g., the URI has a different authority than the current document).

Reference:

See Section 3.

4.2. The Link Relation Registration "edit-form"

Relation Name:

edit-form

Description:

The target IRI points to a resource where a submission form for editing the associated resource can be obtained.

Security Considerations:

Automated agents should take care when this relation crosses administrative domains (e.g., the URI has a different authority than the current document).

Reference:

See Section 3.

5. Security Considerations

See Section 7 of RFC 5988 [RFC5988].

6. Internationalisation Considerations

See Section 8 of RFC 5988 [RFC5988].

7. Normative References

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997.

[RFC5988] Nottingham, M., "Web Linking", RFC 5988, October 2010.

Appendix A. Acknowledgements

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