

# How can we access the HttpServletResponse

You can obtain the request by asking the ActionContext or implementing ServletResponseAware. Implementing ServletResponseAware is preferred.


## Ask the ActionContext

The response is available on the ActionContext instance, which is made available via ThreadLocal.

```
HttpServletResponse response = ServletActionContext.getResponse();
```

## Implement ServletResponseAware

★ Preferred

- Ensure that `ServletConfig` Interceptor is included in the Action's stack.
  -  *The default stack already includes `ServletConfig`.*
- Edit the Action so that it implements the `ServletResponseAware` interface.
  - The `ServletResponseAware` interface expects a `setServletResponse` method. You may wish to include a companion `getServletResponse` method.
- At runtime, call `getServletResponse` to obtain a reference to the response object.



When the `ServletConfig` Interceptor sees that an Action implements `ServletResponseAware`, it passes a reference to the request the Action's `setServletResponse` method.



It is more difficult to test Actions with runtime dependencies on `HttpServletResponse`. Only implement `ServletResponseAware` as a last resort. A better approach to solving a use case involving the response may be with a custom [Result Type](#).

@see [struts-default.xml](#)

@see [org.apache.struts.action2.interceptor.ServletResponseAware](#)

@see [org.apache.struts.action2.interceptor.ServletConfigInterceptor](#)