

Webfinger

- Discover information about people and other addressable entities on the Internet
- Builds on the existing Web Host Metadata (RFC 6415) and Web Linking (RFC 5988) specifications
- Introduces additional requirements, most notably a requirement to support JSON (whereas it was optional before)
- Includes example (non-normative) Webfinger message flows

Webfinger (continued)

- Specifies the “acct” URI scheme
 - Used on the Internet for Webfinger today
 - Identifies a person’s account at a given domain
 - Example: acct:alice@example.com
- Introduces an “acct” link relation
 - Allows users to cross-reference accounts
 - Reduces need to replicate information across accounts
 - Provides a convenient means of pointing to one’s primary account
 - Example:
`<Link rel="acct" href="acct:alice@example.com" />`

Webfinger (continued)

- Introduces the "resource" parameter for host-meta
 - Example:
GET /.well-known/host-meta.json?resource=acct%3Abob%40example.com HTTP/1.1
 - Equal to querying host-meta and processing all resource-specific links (e.g., LRDD) all on one query
 - This is optional to support
- Mandates use of Cross-Origin Resource Sharing (CORS)
 - Requested by many people
 - Concerns exist with respect to the fact that the specification is not yet a W3C Recommendation
 - Guidance sought from the Working Group: keep or drop?