What is a property?

Quick Answer

In the context of a *resource object* (i.e., a resource represented as a JSON object), a **property** is a synonym, or shorthand expression, for a JSON name /value pair.

Digging Deeper

Properties are used to enumerate one or more identifying pieces of information related to the same resource object. Consider the following resource object:

```
{
    "address":"6649 N Blue Gum St",
    "city":"New Orleans",
    "county":"Orleans",
    "state":"LA",
    "zip":"70116"
}
```

In the above example, we see an *address property* but this could also be referred to as an *address name/value pair*. It is perfectly acceptable to use "name /value pair" since this is how JSON is documented. However, the term **property** is preferred in the context of web APIs and resource objects because it defines resource object relationships better, which is evident with nested properties and sub-properties.