

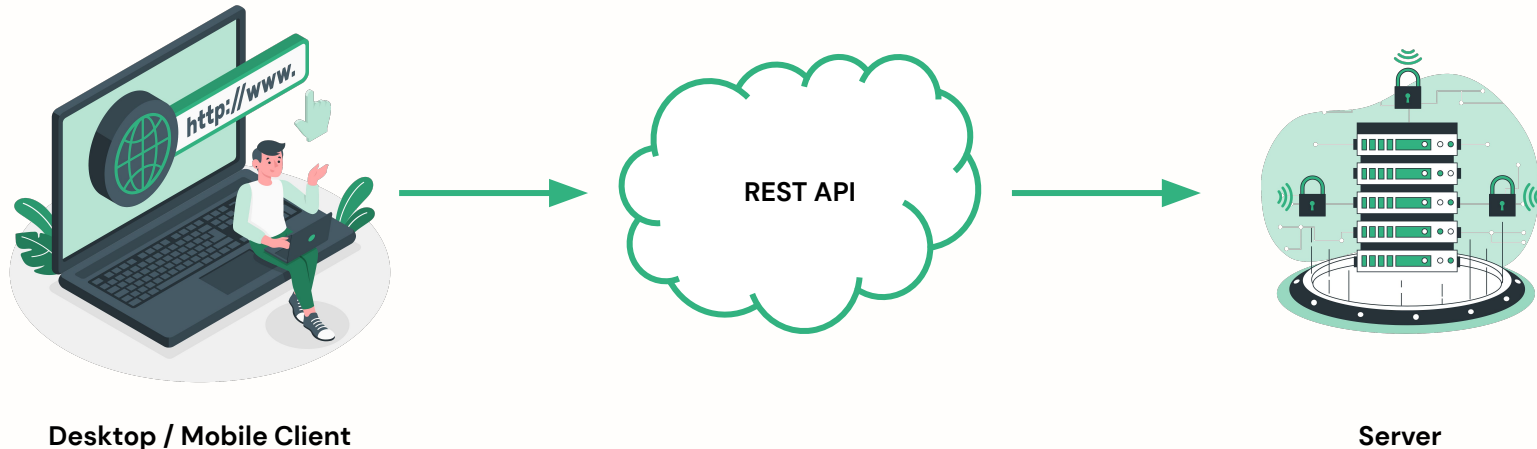
Full Stack Web Development

Intro to Back-End Development & Node JS

- Intro to Back-End Development
- API architectures
- Intro to Node JS
- Intro to REST API
- Intro to Express JS
- Create simple REST API
- Testing with REST client app
- Network Protocol & HTTP Methods

What Is Back End Development?

Backend development means working on server-side application, which focuses on everything you can't see on a website. Back-end developers ensure the website performs correctly, focusing on databases, back-end logic, application programming interface (APIs), architecture, and servers. They use code that helps browsers communicate with databases, store, understand, and delete data.



What is API ?

API stands for Application Programming Interfaces. APIs are mechanisms that enable two software components to communicate with each other using a set of definitions and protocols.

For example, the weather bureau's software system contains daily weather data. The weather app on your phone "talks" to this system via APIs and shows you daily weather updates on your phone.

API architecture is usually explained in terms of client and server. The application sending the request is called the client, and the application sending the response is called the server. So in the weather example, the bureau's weather database is the server, and the mobile app is the client.

There are many different ways that APIs can work depending on when and why they were created.

SOAP

These APIs use Simple Object Access Protocol. Client and server exchange messages using XML. This is a less flexible API that was more popular in the past.

RPC

These APIs are called Remote Procedure Calls. The client completes a function (or procedure) on the server, and the server sends the output back to the client.

Websocket

Websocket API is another modern web API development that uses JSON objects to pass data. A WebSocket API supports two-way communication between client apps and the server. The server can send callback messages to connected clients, making it more efficient than REST API.

REST

These are the most popular and flexible APIs found on the web today. The client sends requests to the server as data. The server uses this client input to start internal functions and returns output data back to the client. Let's look at REST APIs in more detail below.

What is REST API ?

REST stands for Representational State Transfer. REST defines a set of functions like GET, PUT, DELETE, etc. that clients can use to access server data. Clients and servers exchange data using HTTP.

The main feature of REST API is statelessness. Statelessness means that servers do not save client data between requests. Client requests to the server are similar to URLs you type in your browser to visit a website. The response from the server is plain data, without the typical graphical rendering of a web page.

Node.js is a JavaScript runtime built on Chrome's V8 JavaScript engine (written in C++). Node.js uses an event-driven, non-blocking I/O model that makes it lightweight and efficient. Node.js' package ecosystem, npm, is the largest ecosystem of open source libraries in the world.

- A platform which allows us to run Javascript on computer/server.
- Read, delete & update files.
- Easily communicate with database.

Src: <https://nodejs.dev/learn>

Create Simple REST API with NodeJS



```
import http from "http";

const PORT = 8000;

const server = http.createServer(async (req, res) => {
  // ... define your route here ...
});

server.listen(PORT, () => {
  console.log(`server started on port: ${PORT}`);
});
```

Create Simple REST API with NodeJS

```
const server = http.createServer(async (req, res) => {
  //set the request route
  if (req.url === "/api" && req.method === "GET") {
    //response headers
    res.writeHead(200, { "Content-Type": "application/json" });
    //set the response
    res.write("Hi there, This is a Vanilla Node.js API");
    //end the response
    res.end();
  }

  // If no route present
  else {
    res.writeHead(404, { "Content-Type": "application/json" });
    res.end(JSON.stringify({ message: "Route not found" }));
  }
});
```

Introduction to ExpressJS

Express is a minimal and flexible Node.js web application framework.

The Express philosophy is to provide small, robust tooling for HTTP servers, making it a great solution for single page applications, websites, hybrids, or public HTTP APIs.

Create Simple REST API with ExpressJS

1. First, create a project directory then

```
$ npm init --y
```

2. Installation

```
$ npm install express --save
```

Create Simple REST API with ExpressJS



```
import express from "express";

const PORT = 8000;

const app = express();

app.get("/api", (req, res) => {
  res.send("Hi there, This is Express.js API");
});

app.listen(PORT, () => {
  console.log(`server started on port ${PORT}`);
});
```

Testing with REST client app

1. Download and open POSTMAN
<https://www.postman.com/product/rest-client/>
2. Write down your web server port (ex: localhost:8000/api) in url field.
3. Hit enter to see the response.

A protocol is a set of rules. The network protocols are formal standards and policies, made up of restrictions, procedures, and formats, that define the exchange of data packets to achieve communication between two servers or more devices over a network.

Types of protocols :

- Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)
- Internet Protocol (IP)
- User Datagram Protocol (UDP)
- Post office Protocol (POP)
- Simple mail transport Protocol (SMTP)
- File Transfer Protocol (FTP)
- Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP)
- Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS)
- Etc ...

HTTP Request Methods

HTTP defines a set of request methods to indicate the desired action to be performed for a given resource. Although they can also be nouns, these request methods are sometimes referred to as HTTP verbs.

HTTP Request Method

GET

- The GET method requests a representation of the specified resource. Requests using GET should only retrieve data.

POST

- The POST method submits an entity to the specified resource, often causing a change in state or side effects on the server.

PUT

- The PUT method replaces all current representations of the target resource with the request payload.

DELETE

- The DELETE method deletes the specified resource.

PATCH

- The PATCH method applies partial modifications to a resource.

Exercise

Create REST API using ExpressJS with all HTTP request methods.

Thank You!

