

Bing

Dotenv is a zero-dependency module that loads environment variables from a `.env` file into `process.env`. It is based on The Twelve-Factor App methodology, which advocates storing configuration in the environment separate from code .

This module is available for **Node.js** and **Python**. It is useful for loading environment variables from a `.env` file into `process.env` in development environments .

The `.env` file is a simple text file that contains key-value pairs of environment variables. The file should be placed in the root directory of the project .

To use dotenv, you need to install it first using either `npm` or `yarn`. After installation, you can create a `.env` file in the root directory of your project and add key-value pairs of environment variables to it. Then, you can import and configure dotenv in your application as early as possible .

Here's an example of how to use dotenv in Node.js:

```
require('dotenv').config();
```

After this line, you can access the environment variables defined in your `.env` file using `process.env`. For example:

```
console.log(process.env.MY_VARIABLE);
```

This will print the value of the `MY_VARIABLE` environment variable defined in your `.env` file .

You can also use dotenv to load configuration without altering the environment or parse configuration as a stream .