Express – 1

Creating our first Server and Handling Requests and Response

Steps to create a basic Express server

1. Import Express.

```
1      import express from 'express'
```

2. Call express function and store the returned object in a variable (by convention app is used as variable name)

```
const app = express()
```

3. Select a port where the server should run and use the app object's listen method to listen for requests on that port

```
app.listen(3000, () => {
    console.log("Server is running on port 3000")
})
```

Creating routes in Express

Express provides several methods for creating routes, each corresponding to different HTTP methods.

1. app.get
   - Used for handling GET requests
   - Retrieves data from the server
2. app.post
   - Used for handling POST requests
   - Submits data to the server, often used for creating new resources
3. app.put
   - Used for handling PUT requests
   - Updates existing resources on the server
4. app.delete
   - Used for handling DELETE requests
   - Deletes resources from the server

Creating routes in Express

Note: For a login form, the most appropriate HTTP method to use is POST

Why POST for login:

- **Login doesn't typically create a new resource** (user accounts are usually pre-existing).
- It's an action that changes server-side state (creating a session, for instance).
- It involves sending sensitive data that needs to be in the request body.

Use cases for POST:

- Creating new resources
- Submitting form data
- Initiating server-side processes or actions
- Authentication (like login)
- Complex operations that don't fit other HTTP methods