Developing a Basic To-Do List Application Using Django

1. Introduction and Setup

What is Django?

Django is a high-level Python web framework that enables rapid development of secure and maintainable websites. It follows the "batteries-included" philosophy, meaning it comes with most of the essential tools built-in.

Two Features That Make Django Suitable for Web Development:

- 1. Built-in Admin Interface Automatically generates an admin dashboard for managing database models.
- 2. ORM (Object-Relational Mapping) Allows interaction with the database using Python code instead of SQL.

Steps to Install Django in a Virtual Environment:

- 1. python -m venv env
- 2. env\Scripts\activate (Windows) OR source env/bin/activate (macOS/Linux)
- 3. pip install django

2. Creating the Project

Command to create a Django project named 'todolist':

django-admin startproject todolist

Command to create a new Django app named 'tasks':

cd todolist

python manage.py startapp tasks

3. Models and Migrations

Task Model (in tasks/models.py):

from django.db import models

class Task(models.Model):

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```
title = models.CharField(max_length=200)
  completed = models.BooleanField(default=False)
  created_at = models.DateTimeField(auto_now_add=True)
  def __str__(self):
    return self.title
Commands to Create and Apply Migrations:
python manage.py makemigrations
python manage.py migrate
4. Views, Templates, and Static Files
View to Retrieve All Tasks (in tasks/views.py):
from django.shortcuts import render
from .models import Task
def task_list(request):
  tasks = Task.objects.all()
  return render(request, 'home.html', {'tasks': tasks})
Basic HTML Template (tasks/templates/home.html):
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
  <title>To-Do List</title>
  k rel="stylesheet" href="{% static 'styles.css' %}">
</head>
<body>
  <h1>My To-Do List</h1>
```

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How to Link a CSS File from the Static Directory:

- 1. Create a 'static' folder inside the tasks app.
- 2. Add styles.css to it.
- 3. In the HTML, add {% load static %} at the top.
- 4. Link the CSS file using: <link rel="stylesheet" href="{% static 'styles.css' %}">