EXPRESSJS

SESSION HANDLING

EXPRESS-SESSION

const session = require('express-session');

SIMPLE CONFIGURATION

app.use(session({ secret: 'Dogs love beef' **}**)); Required

ALTERNATIVE CONFIGURATION PART 1

```
const sessionConfig = {
 secret: 'Cows hate fog',
 rolling: true,
 cookie: { secure: true,
           maxAge: 60000 },
 resave: false,
 saveUninitialized: false,
```

ALTERNATIVE CONFIGURATION PART 2

```
app.use(
    session(sessionConfig)
);
```

BEST PRACTICE DEFAULT SESSION NAME

```
const sessionConfig = {
  secret: 'Cows hate fog',
  name: 'alpha',
};
```

Do not use the default session name. Use something, 'not typical'

BEST PRACTICE SETTING THE OPTIONS CORRECTLY

Set the following cookie options to enhance security:

- secure Ensures the browser only sends the cookie over HTTPS.
- httpOnly Ensures the cookie is sent only over HTTP(S), not client JavaScript, helping to protect against cross-site scripting attacks.
- domain indicates the domain of the cookie; use it to compare against the domain of the server in which the URL is being requested. If they match, then check the path attribute next.
- path indicates the path of the cookie; use it to compare against the request path. If this and domain match, then send the cookie in the request.
- expires use to set expiration date for persistent cookies.

EXAMPLE MONGO-STORE

```
var mongoStore = require("mongo-store")
    , assert = require("assert")
    , mongoCol = require("mongo-col")
mongoCol("example-test-collection-mongo-store", function (collection) {
    var store = mongoStore(collection)
    store.set("foo", { "foo": "bar" }, function (err) {
        assert.equal(err, null)
        store.get("foo", function (err, value) {
            assert.equal(err, null)
            assert.equal(value.foo, "bar")
            console.log("done")
        })
```

POSSIBILITY: CONNECT-MONGO

MongoDB session store for Connect and/or Express

```
const session = require('express-session');
const MongoStore = require('connect-mongo')(session);
app.use(session({
    secret: 'foo',
    store: new MongoStore(options)
}));
```

POSSIBILITY: CONNECT-MONGO

```
const mongoose = require('mongoose');
// Basic usage
mongoose.connect(connectionOptions);
app.use(session({
    store: new MongoStore({ mongooseConnection: mongoose.connection })
}));
// Advanced usage
const connection = mongoose.createConnection(connectionOptions);
app.use(session({
    store: new MongoStore({ mongooseConnection: connection })
}));
```

CONNECT-MONGO: STANDARD APPROACH

```
app.use(session({
    store: new MongoStore({ url: 'mongodb://localhost/test-app' })
}));
```

CONNECT-MONGO EVENTS TO USE

Event name	Description
create	A session has been created
touch	A session has been touched (but not modified)
update	A session has been updated
set	A session has been created OR updated (for compatibility purpose)
destroy	A session has been destroyed

SESSION STORE IN DB

The connect-mongo module stores sessions in the "sessions" collection by default

DEFAULT STORAGE: MEMORYSTORE

Warning: The default server-side session storage, MemoryStore, is purposely not designed for a production environment.

It will leak memory under most conditions, does not scale past a single process, and is meant for debugging and developing.

SEVERAL CHOICES.. SESSION STORES

https://github.com/expressjs/session#compatible-session-stores

- **★** 9 aerospike-session-store A session store using Aerospike.
- * 14 cassandra-store An Apache Cassandra-based session store.
- **★ 3** cluster-store A wrapper for using in-process / embedded stores such as SQLite (via knex), leveldb, files, or me with node cluster (desirable for Raspberry Pi 2 and other multi-core embedded devices).
- ★ 3 connect-azuretables An Azure Table Storage-based session store.
- ★ 13 connect-cloudant-store An IBM Cloudant-based session store.
- 13 connect-couchbase A couchbase-based session store.
- ★3 connect-datacache An IBM Bluemix Data Cache-based session store.
- 18 @google-cloud/connect-datastore A Google Cloud Datastore-based session store.
- connect-db2 An IBM DB2-based session store built using ibm_db module.
- ★ 103 connect-dynamodb A DynamoDB-based session store.
- connect-loki A Loki.js-based session store.
- connect-ml A MarkLogic Server-based session store.
- 27 connect-mssql A SQL Server-based session store.
- ★ 3 connect-monetdb A MonetDB-based session store.
- zk connect-mongo A MongoDB-based session store.
- connect-mongodb-session Lightweight MongoDB-based session store built and maintained by MongoDB.
- 86 connect-pg-simple A PostgreSQL-based session store.
- ★ 2k connect-redis A Redis-based session store.

COOKIE-SESSION EXAMPLE

```
var session = require('cookie-session')
var express = require('express')
var app = express()
var expiryDate = new Date(Date.now() + 60 * 60 * 1000) // 1 hour
app.use(session({
  name: 'session'.
  keys: ['key1', 'key2'],
  cookie: {
    secure: true,
    httpOnly: true,
    domain: 'example.com',
    path: 'foo/bar',
    expires: expiryDate
```

EXAMPLE MEMORY STORAGE

```
var express = require('express');
var session = require('express-session');
var cookieParser = require('cookie-parser');
var app = express();
var MemcachedStore = require('connect-memcached')(session);
app.use(cookieParser());
app.use(session({
     secret : 'some-private-key',
     key : 'test',
     proxy : 'true',
     store : new MemcachedStore({
       hosts: ['127.0.0.1:11211'], //this should be where your Memcached serve
r is running
       secret: 'memcached-secret-key' // Optionally use transparent encryption
 for memcache session data
   })
}));
```

OPTIONS: RESAVE

```
app.use(session({
    resave: [true | false]
}));
```

Forces the session to be saved back to the store, even if the session was never modified during the request.

OPTIONS: PROXY

```
app.use(session({
  proxy: true | false | undefined]
}));
```

Trust the reverse proxy when setting secure cookies (via the "X-Forwarded-Proto" header).

OPTIONS: PROXY (DETAILS)

The default value is undefined.

- true The "X-Forwarded-Proto" header will be used.
- false All headers are ignored and the connection is considered secure only if there is a direct TLS/SSL connection.
- undefined Uses the "trust proxy" setting from express

OPTIONS: ROLLING

```
app.use(session({
    rolling: [true | false]
}));
```

Force a session identifier cookie to be set on every response. The expiration is reset to the original maxAge value

OPTIONS: SAVEUNINITIALIZED

```
app.use(session({
    saveUninitialized: [true | false]
}));
```

Forces a session that is "uninitialized" to be saved to the store. A session is uninitialized when it is new but not modified.

GETTING SESSION DATA

To store or access session data, use req.session

Serialized as JSON

Nested JSON objects is typical

SET DATA ~~ GET DATA

```
app.get('/', function(req, res, next) {
 var sessData = req.session;
  sessData.someAttribute = "foo";
  res.send('Returning with some text');
});
app.get('/', function(req, res, next) {
 var sessData = req.session;
  sessData.someAttribute = "foo";
  res.send('Returning with some text');
});
```

SAVING SESSION DATA

req.session.Save(err => { });

This method is automatically called at the end of the HTTP response if the session data has been altered

DESTROY

```
The method to call is:
session.destroy( err => {
   // cannot access or use
  // session data in this callback
});
```

```
var express = require('express')
var parseurl = require('parseurl')
var session = require('express-session')
var app = express()
app.use(session({
  secret: 'keyboard cat',
  resave: false,
  saveUninitialized: true
}))
app.use(function (req, res, next) {
  if (!req.session.views) {
    req.session.views = {}
  // get the url pathname
  var pathname = parseurl(req).pathname
  // count the views
  req.session.views[pathname] = (req.session.views[pathname] | 0) + 1
  next()
})
app.get('/foo', function (req, res, next) {
  res.send('you viewed this page ' + req.session.views['/foo'] + ' times')
})
app.get('/bar', function (req, res, next) {
  res.send('you viewed this page ' + req.session.views['/bar'] + ' times')
})
```