Aim

To set up and host a simple static website using Node.js and Express, allowing access to the site via a local server.

Prerequisites

- 1. Node.js Installed: Ensure Node.js is installed on your machine.
- 2. Visual Studio Code Installed: A code editor to develop and manage your project files.

Steps

Step 1: Download and Install Node.js

- 1. Download and install Node.js
- 2. Download and Install Visual Studio Code
 - 1. Download VS Code:
 - o Go to the Visual Studio Code website and download the installer.
 - 2. Install VS Code:
 - o Follow the installation instructions for your operating system.

Step 3: Set Up Project Folder

- 1. Create a New Folder:
 - o Create a new folder for your project (e.g., my-website).
- 2. Open Command Prompt:
 - Right-click inside the folder and select Open command window here or Open PowerShell window here.

Step 4: Initialize Node.js Project

- 1. Initialize Project:
 - o In the command prompt, type:

Bash: npm init -y

- o This creates a package.json file with default settings.
- 2. Install Dependencies:
 - Install Node.js modules:

Bash: npm install express

Step 5: Open Project in VS Code

1. Open VS Code:

o Type code . in the command prompt and press Enter.

Step 6: Write the Server Code

- 1. Create app.js:
 - o In the project-root folder, create a file named app.js.
- 2. Add Code to app.js:

```
Javascript:
const express = require('express');
const path = require('path');
const app = express();
const port = 8080;

// Serve static files from the public directory
app.use(express.static(path.join(__dirname, 'public')));

// Define a route to serve your HTML file
app.get('/', (req, res) => {
    res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, 'public', 'index.html'));
});

// Start the server
app.listen(port, () => {
    console.log(`Server running at http://localhost:${port}/');
});
```

Step 7: Create Your HTML File

- 1. Add HTML File:
 - o In the public folder, create a file named index.html.
- 2. Write HTML Code:
 - o Add your HTML content to index.html:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<head>
    <title>My Website</title>
</head>
<body>
    <h1>Welcome to My Website</h1>
    This is a simple Node.js hosted site.
</body>
</html>
```

Step 8: Run the Server

- 1. Start the Server:
 - o Open the terminal in VS Code or use the command prompt, and run:

Bash:node app.js

- 2. Verify Hosting:
 - o Open a web browser and go to http://localhost:8080/ to view your website.