(DRAFT) Learning Flask and SQLite by Building a Todo App

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Introduction

Throughout this tutorial, we will learn the basics of the Python Flask framework and the database engine SQLite by building a simple todo app. I find that the easiest way to learn certain programming concepts/tools is through making stuff!

Check out the github repository for the todo app here!

Prerequisites

I'm going to assume you are familiar and comfortable programming in Python, SQL, HTML and CSS. The main goal of this project is to learn new tools (Flask and SQLite) with pre-established programming fundamentals.

Setting Up Your Environment

In a directory of your choosing, make a project folder called todo-app, and create a Python virtual environment within that project folder where you can type the command pip install Flask.

```
C:directory/of/your/choosing/todo-app
C:directory/of/your/choosing/todo-app python -m venv venv
C:directory/of/your/choosing/todo-app/venv/Scripts activate
(venv) C:directory/of/your/choosing/todo-app pip install Flask
```

Our project will contain the libraries needed for the todo app within this veny, so don't deactivate it!

Creating the Flask Application

In the todo-app we're going to make an app.py, index.html, and index.css files. The index.html file should be placed ina folder called templates, and the index.css file in a folder called static. Flask uses these folders for static and dynamic content, respectively.

The app.py file defines the web application we want to build. We import modules from the Flask framework:

Flask: Creates an instance of the web application.

render_template: Renders HTML templates which allows us to dynamically generate HTML.

request : An object that contians info about incoming requests (e.g. form data, query parameters). url_for : Generates URLs based on endpoint names in our application.

redirect: Redirects the user to a different endpoint or URL within the app.

The database module contains functions used to interact with our SQLite databse (more about that here).

Routes

The file has serval "routes" which represent different URL endpoints that use the @app.route decorator. We'll go over the home/index page route as an overview.

```
from flask import Flask, render_template, request, url_for, redirect
from database import connect_to_db, get_db

app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route("/", methods = ["POST", "GET"])
def index():
    db = get_db()
    tasks_getter = db.execute("select * from todolist")
    all_db_tasks = tasks_getter.fetchall()
    return render_template("index.html", all_db_tasks = all_db_tasks)
```

UI Connectivity

Creating the SQLite Database

Testing the App

Conclusion

Resources

Project Github repo: GAchuzia/yag-todo Flask Docs: Quickstart MDN Web Docs