Business Directory Ionic 1.16 Documentation

Quick start Guide - Installation and user support

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Thank you for purchasing our product. If you have any question that are beyond of the scope of this help file, please feel free to email via our support center form. Thank you!

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Thank you

Preparing your local environment (first-time preparations)

NodeJS

Firstly, ensure that NodeJS is installed in your computer. If NodeJS is not installed, please install version **6.x**.

Sass

In order to install Sass on Linux, Windows or Mac follow the given instructions.

Git

GIT should be installed in your computer. Follow the instructions for your platform to install it:

https://www.atlassian.com/git/tutorials/install-git

Cordova and Ionic

This is a Cordova and Ionic based application, so Cordvova and Ionic should be installed on your computer for this application to run. Since this app targets iPhone and Android mobile devices, your environment should be properly configured and the corresponding SDK should be installed. If not, you will be still able to run the application into a Browser.

Please check the "Get Started with Cordova" and "Getting Started with Ionic" sections in the official Cordova and Ionic websites respectively.

Tools

This project is based on the popular "Ionic Framework Generator" that boosts the overall development process by integrating a couple of very popular automation tools like Grunt and Bower.

Install these tools by following the instructions in their corresponding web pages:

1. Install Bower
2. Getting started with Grunt - Install the CLI

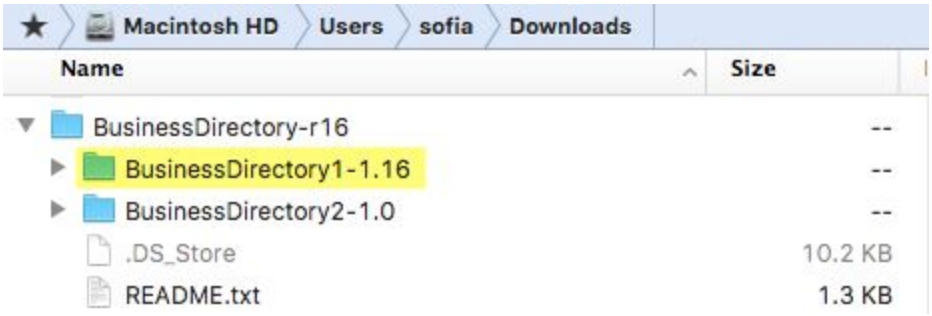
Run for the first time

In the screen captures that follow, we will demonstrate the process of preparing your

environment and running the project for the first time.

Download and extract

Download the provided .zip file and extract it, you will see something similar to what is shown in the next screen:



The highlighted folder is the Ionic 1 project directory.

Install libraries

Open a terminal window and navigate to `project` directory and install the NodeJS dependencies:

```
$ npm install
```

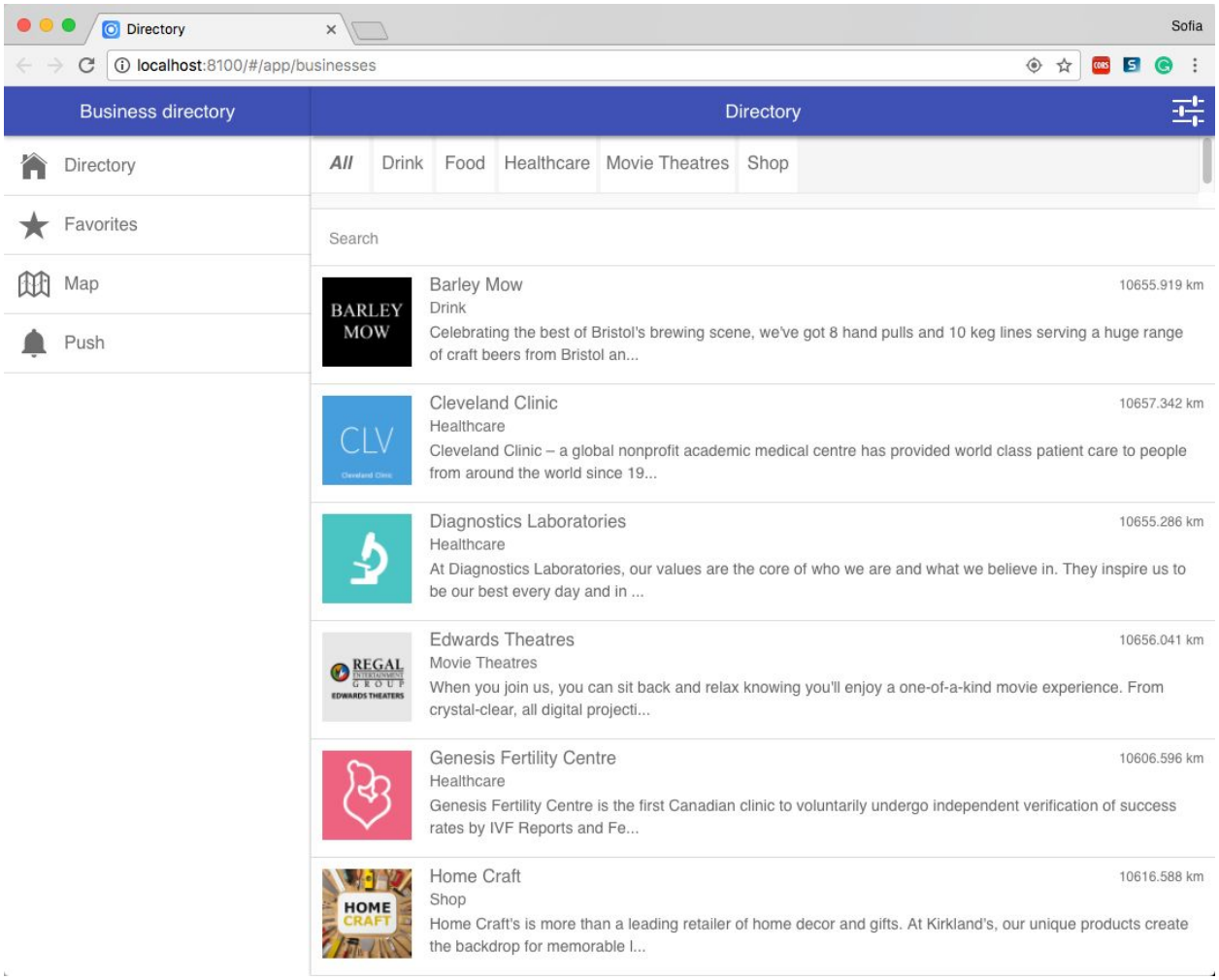
Run/Build the application (after the first-time preparations)

Run a local development server

Navigate to `project` folder and run the application in the browser:

```
$ npm run dev
```

A browser window will open and the app will run.



Run in the emulator

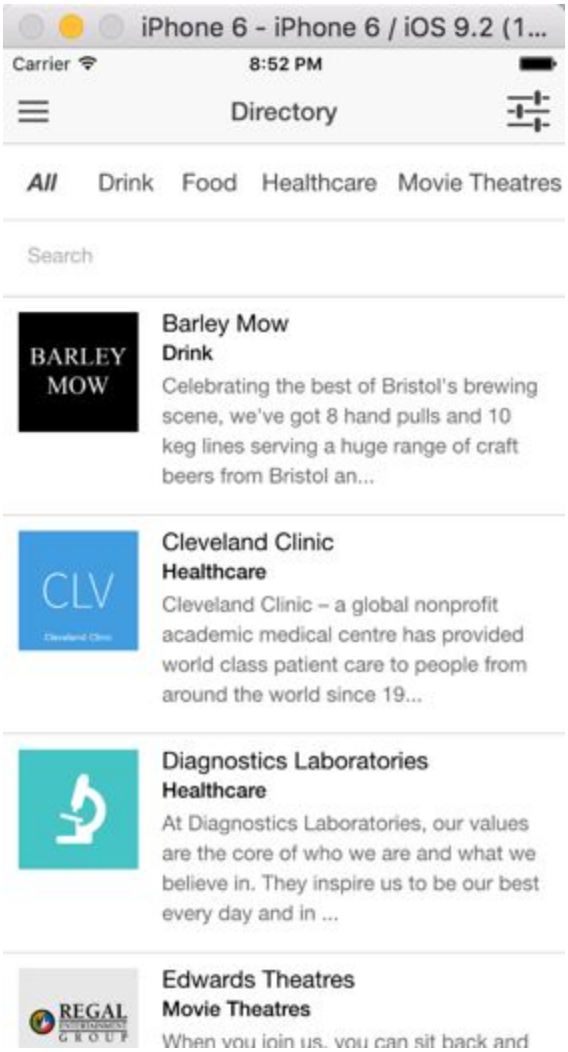
First the prefered platform should be added. To add the iOS platform run:

```
$ npm run add:ios
```

Now the application is ready to start inside a simulator:

```
$ npm run emulate:ios
```

The iPhone simulator will launch and the Business Directory Ionic app will start.



Similarly, to add the Android platform run:

```
$ npm run add:android
```

To run the app inside an Android emulator:

```
$ npm run emulate:android
```

Build the app

In order to build all the added platforms, run the command:

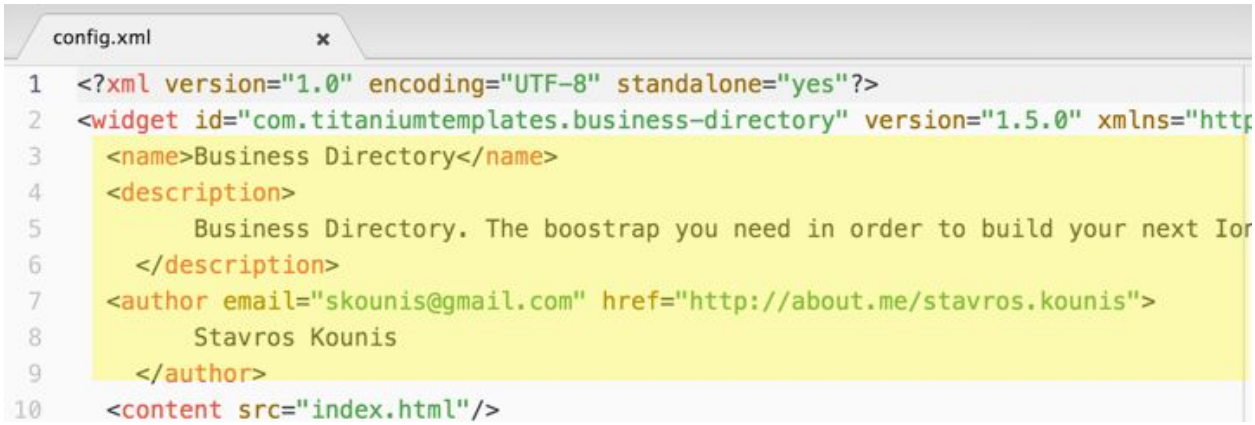
```
$ npm run build
```

After building your project, [www] folder will be created which is the actual cordova directory and where all the plugins and required libraries should be installed.

Personalize the app

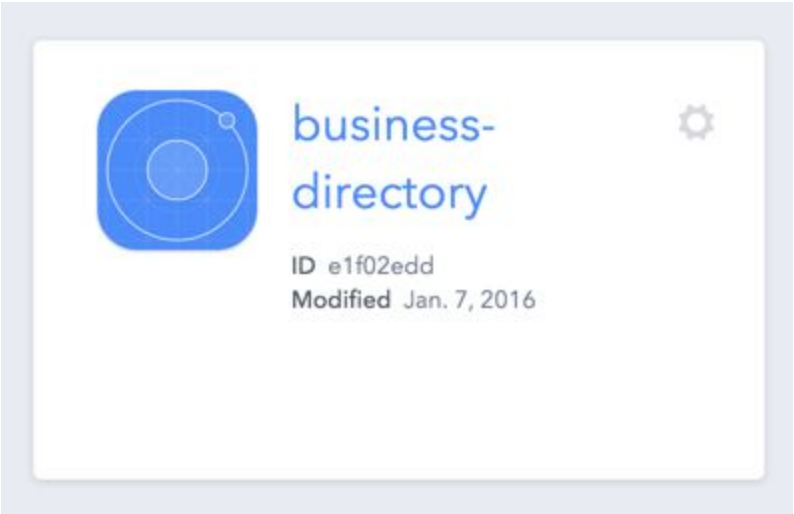
Once you get familiar with the application, the first step is to personalize it. In order to do this, edit the `ionic.project` and `config.xml` files and replace the highlighted fields:

ionic.project



config.xml

As for the app_id, use the ID of the corresponding application in your ionic.io account.



Themes - Customize the appearance

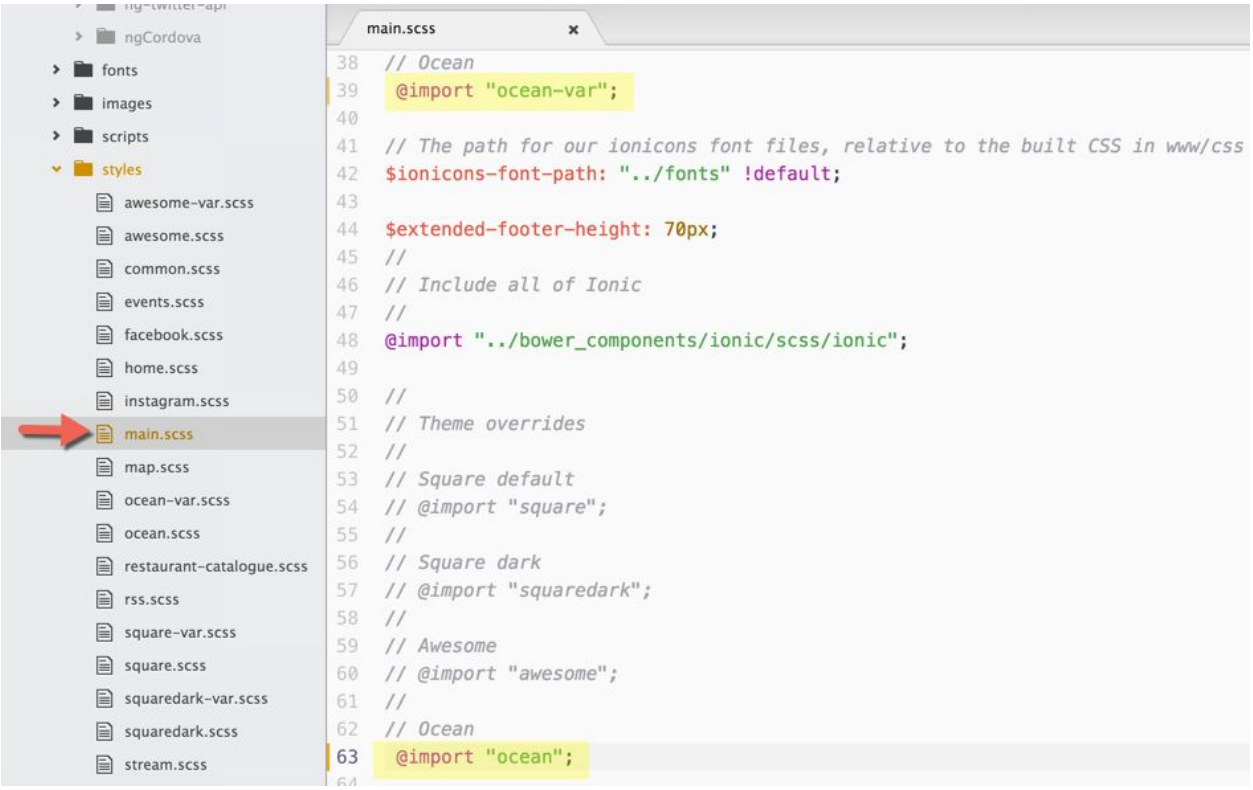
Business Directory Ionic app comes with theme options ready to be used. Each theme consists of two `.scss` files:

1. Variables: {theme}-var.scss
2. Overrides: {theme}.scss

These files are located under `app/styles/` path and are used in `main.scss` file where a theme can be activated as described in the next section.

Activate a theme

In order to activate a theme, edit `main.scss` file under `app/styles/`path and uncomment the theme you opt for. For example, in case of selecting “Ocean” theme, you should uncomment the lines showing below:



main.scss

Save the changes and the theme is all set up.

Configuration

All the configuration of Business Directory app is done through the creation of the JSON files which include information about businesses, their news, products, catalogs, services and many more.

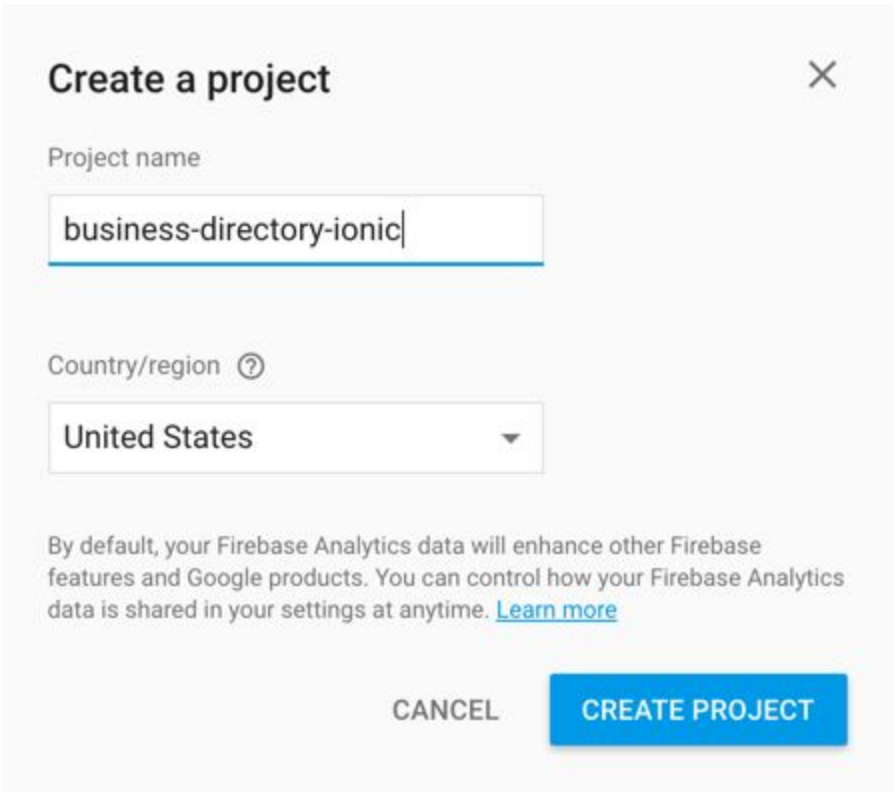
Data Sources Creation

Firebase

This app uses Firebase as a backend to read the data content it needs. In this section, you will find all the steps required for the app setup in order to be connected with Firebase.

Create a Firebase app

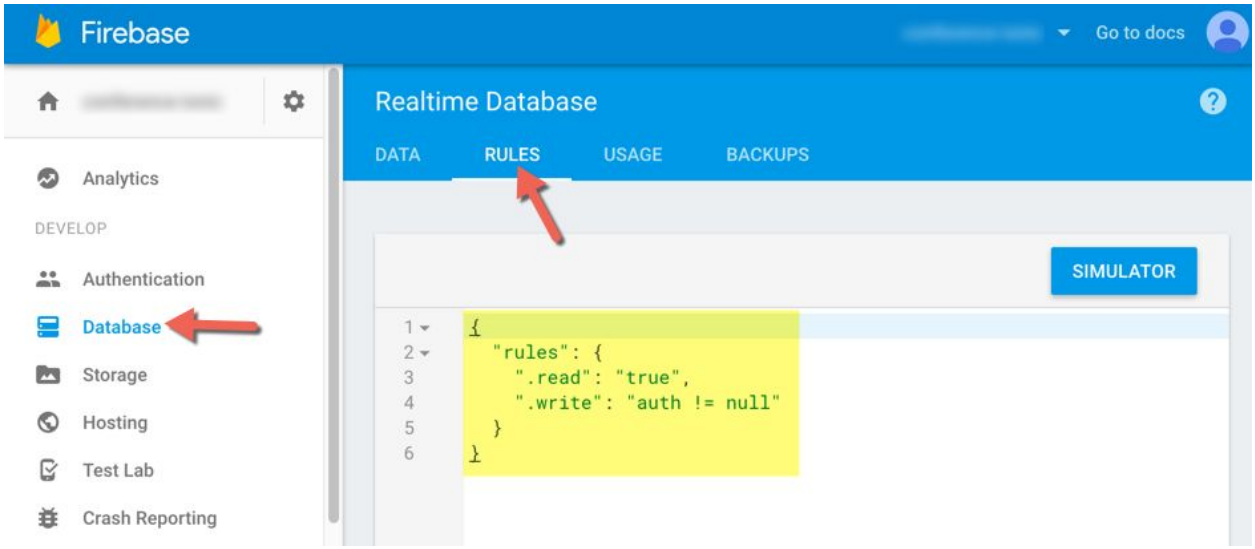
First you should create a free Firebase account and create a new app there.



Set Database Permissions

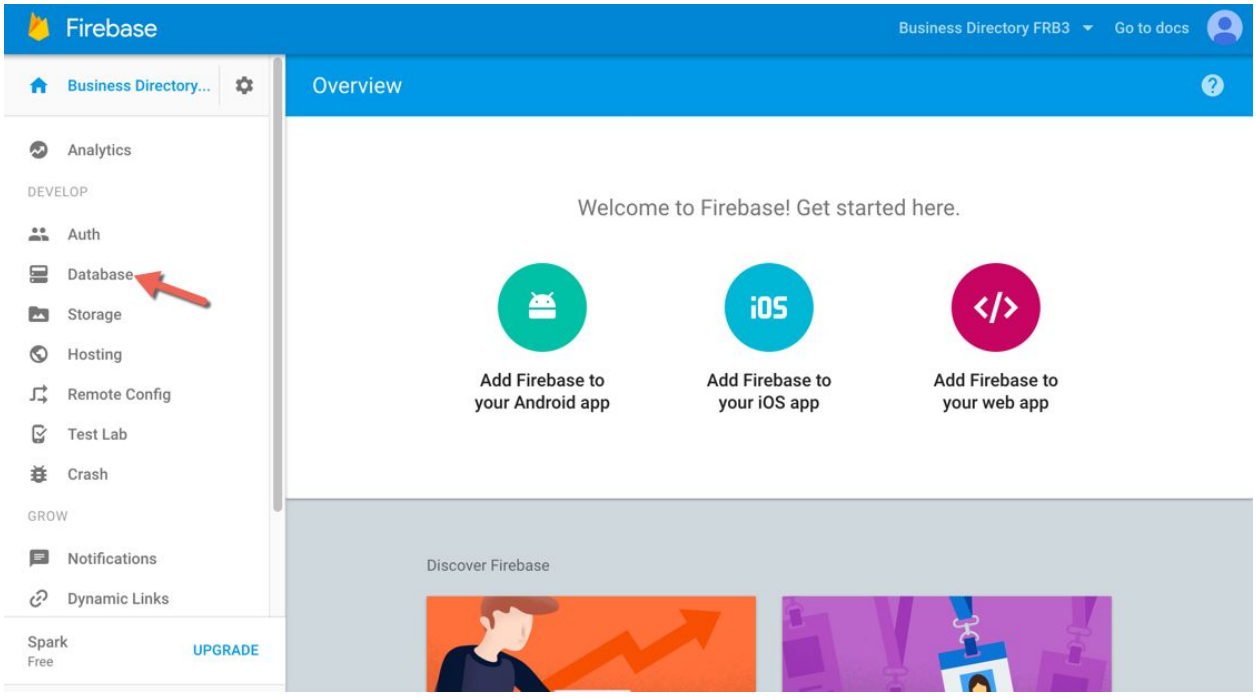
In order to allow the app to read all the data you have created in the database, you should set the permissions by navigating to the “Rules” tab and pasting the following rules:

```
{
  "rules": {
    ".read": "true",
    ".write": "true"
  }
}
```

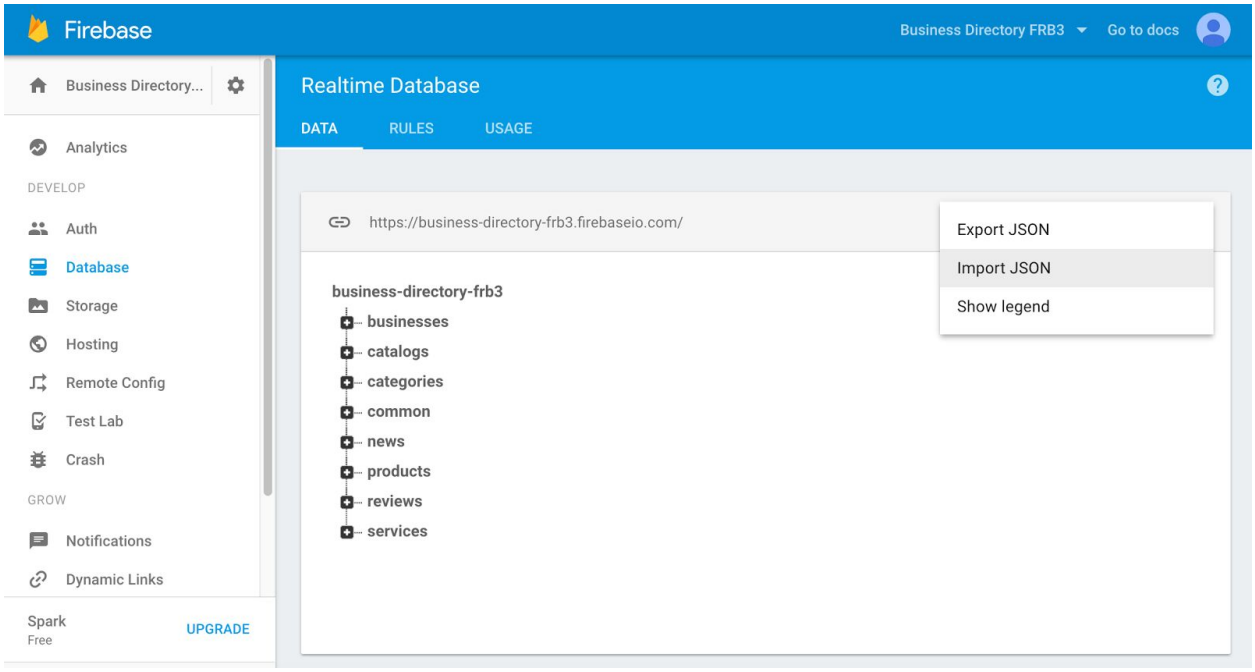


Create/Add data

Manage the app's data by clicking on the app and selecting "Database" from the side menu.



Then, choose the "Import JSON" option from the menu to import your data.



There is an example JSON file under `misc/_firebase/release` path which can be imported to the Firebase project created in the previous step. This file indicates the appropriate data structure for Business Directory.
The final JSON file for the Firebase data import should be similar to the one under the `project/misc/_firebase/release` path.

It is worth noting that this JSON file represents a large JSON object which includes the following data:

- Businesses
- News
- Products
- Services
- Catalogs
- Common

These are explained in more detail in “JSON Data sources” section.

Firebase Data source Configuration

To set the Firebase project the app will work with, you should set the “dataProvider” variable as “FIREBASE” and define the “apiKey”, “authDomain” and “databaseURL” in `Gruntfile.js`:

Gruntfile.js

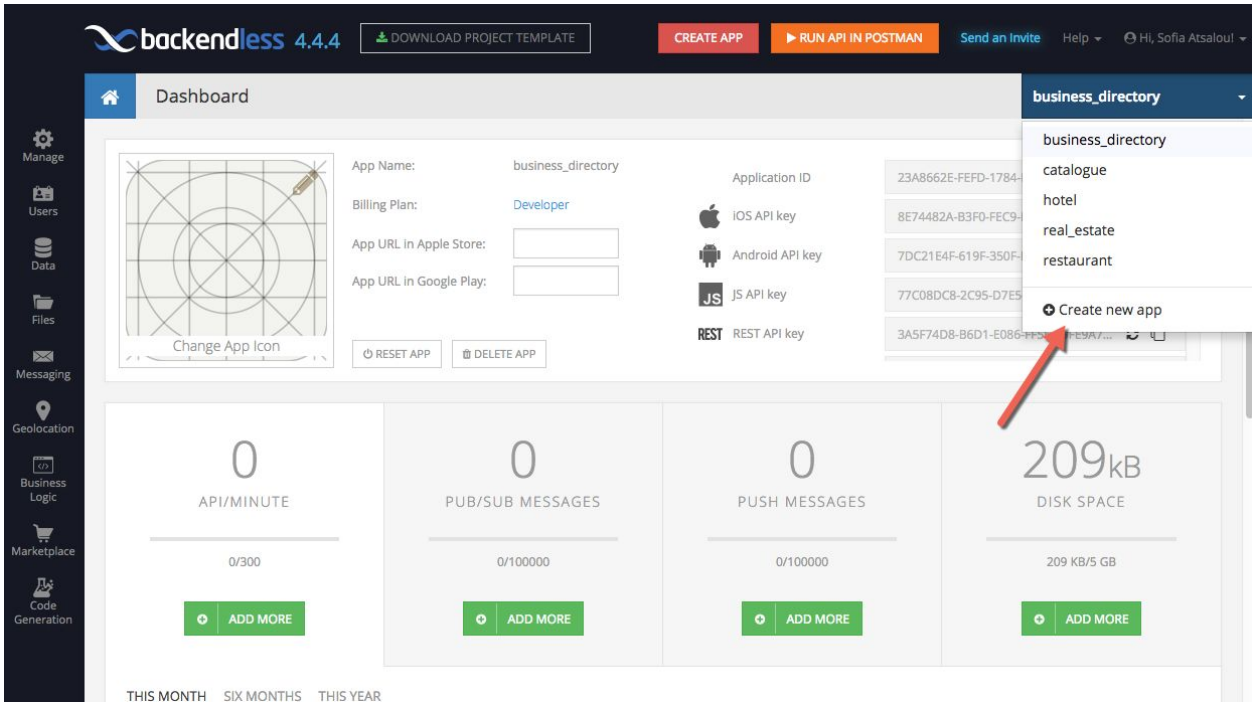
```
59          },
60          development: {
61            constants: {
62              ENV: {
63                name: 'development',
64                // LOCAL or REMOTE or FIREBASE
65                // dataProvider: 'REMOTE',
66                // apiUrl: 'https://skounis.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-di
67                // dataProvider: 'LOCAL',
68                // apiUrl: 'misc/',
69                dataProvider: 'FIREBASE',
70                firebase: {
71                  apiKey: 'AIzaSyAPinktmcHhcL88Rzm0p98W0cJ3OLmEhqA',
72                  authDomain: 'business-directory-frb3.firebaseapp.com',
73                  databaseURL: 'https://business-directory-frb3.firebaseio.com'
74                },
75                youtubeKey: 'AIzaSyDael5MmCQa1GKQNKQYyp                ',
76                ionicPrivateKey: 'a9265eaf15a20cc8516c7                                ',
77                ionicPublicKey: 'e30d4d540b8c75d1f167bbf242423c3fb23fe10275d1c016',
78                ionicAppId: '241b6d37', //'2113c758',
79                gcmId: '228071472080'
80              }
```

Backendless

You can opt for using Backendless as a backend to store the data of your mobile app. In this section, you will find all the steps required for the app setup in order to be configured and connected with Backendless. For more information about Backendless, visit https://backendless.com/.

Create a new app

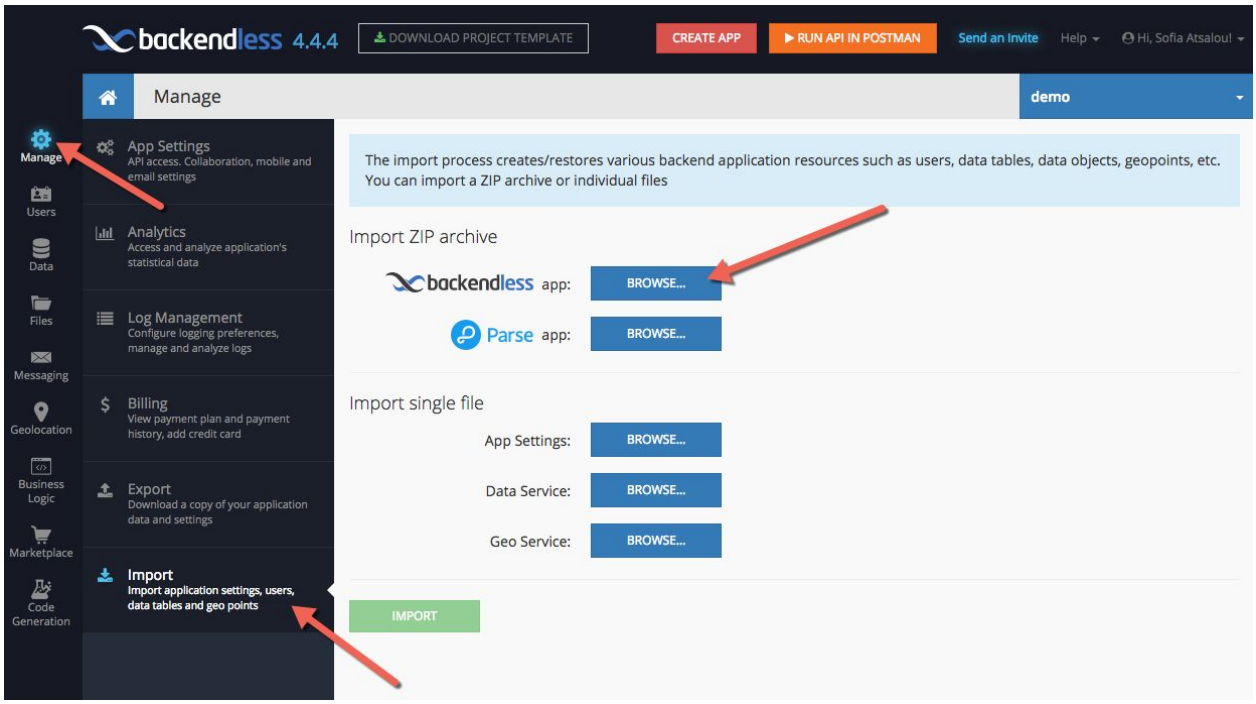
Firstly, visit https://develop.backendless.com/registration and create an account and, then, create a new app.



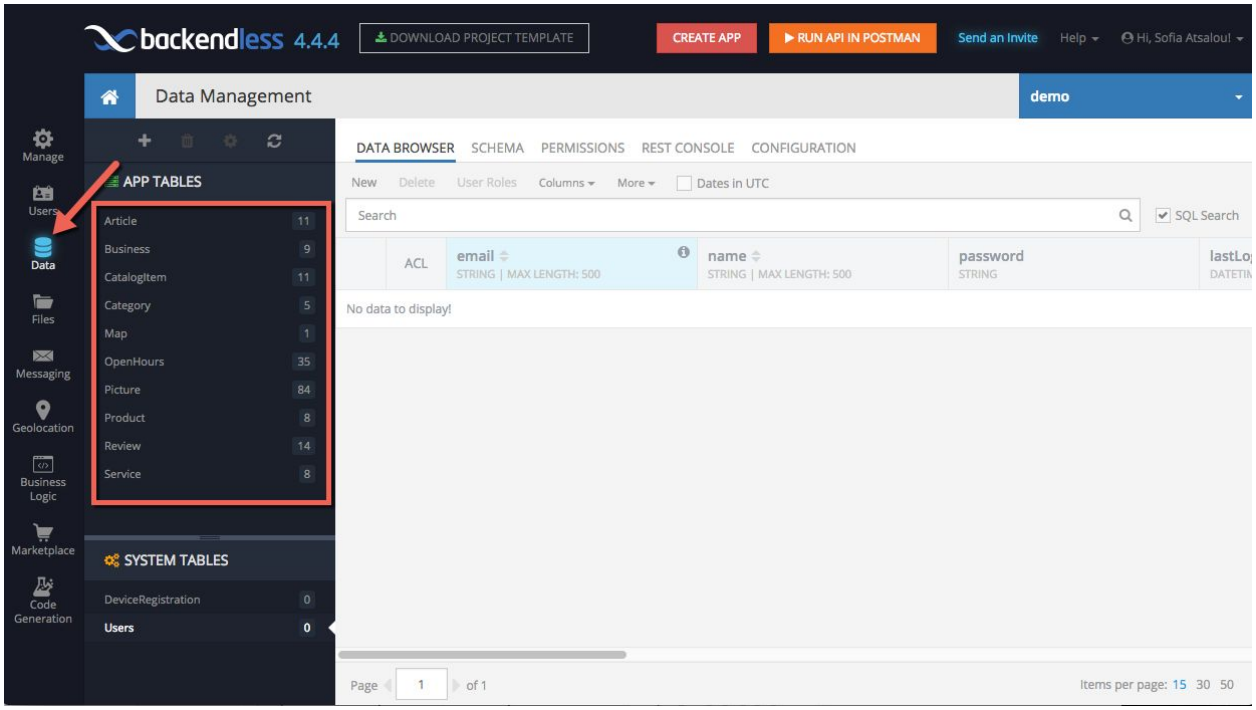
Create data

To create your data, use the sample ZIP file located under the `project/misc/_backendless/` path. In this way, the appropriate data structure of the app will be initialized so you can add/edit your own data using the same structure.

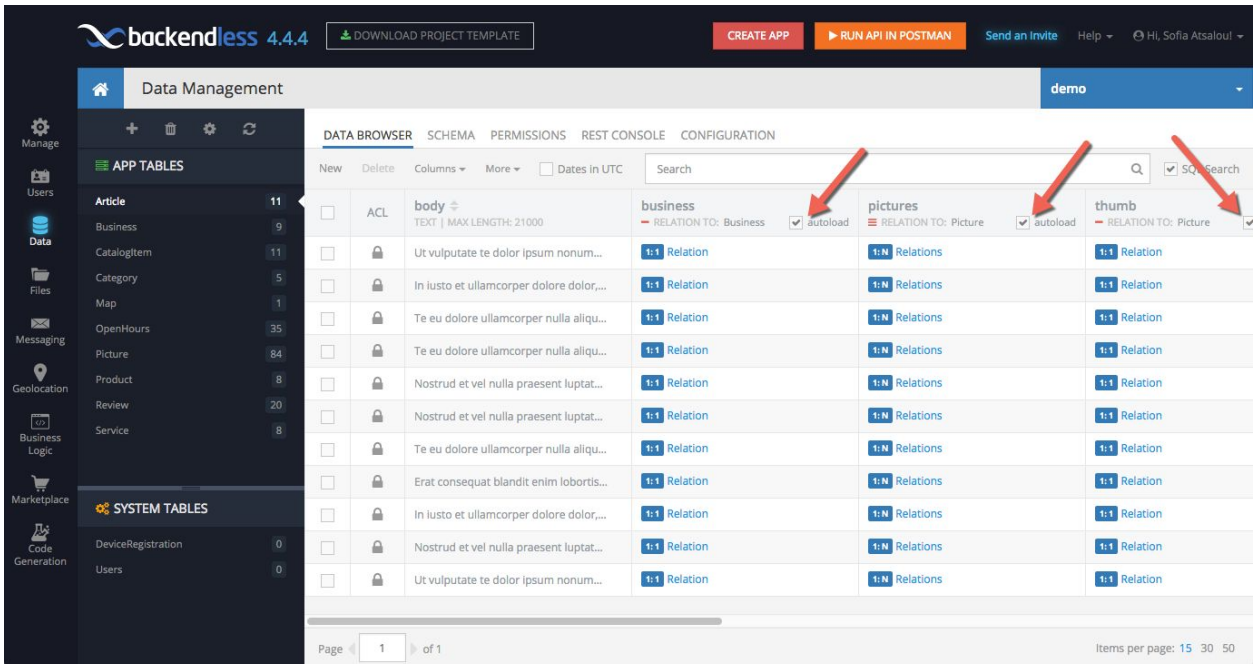
To import the data, go to Manage -> Import and browse the ZIP file as shown in the screen capture below:



Finally, hit the “Import” button and wait a couple of seconds for the import to be finished. At the end, you should be able to see all the data you imported by clicking on “Data” from the side menu.



To enable the app to load the related data/objects, select each one of the tables and make sure the “autoload” option is checked where there is a relation.



For more information about how to create data and relations, read Backendless official documentation.

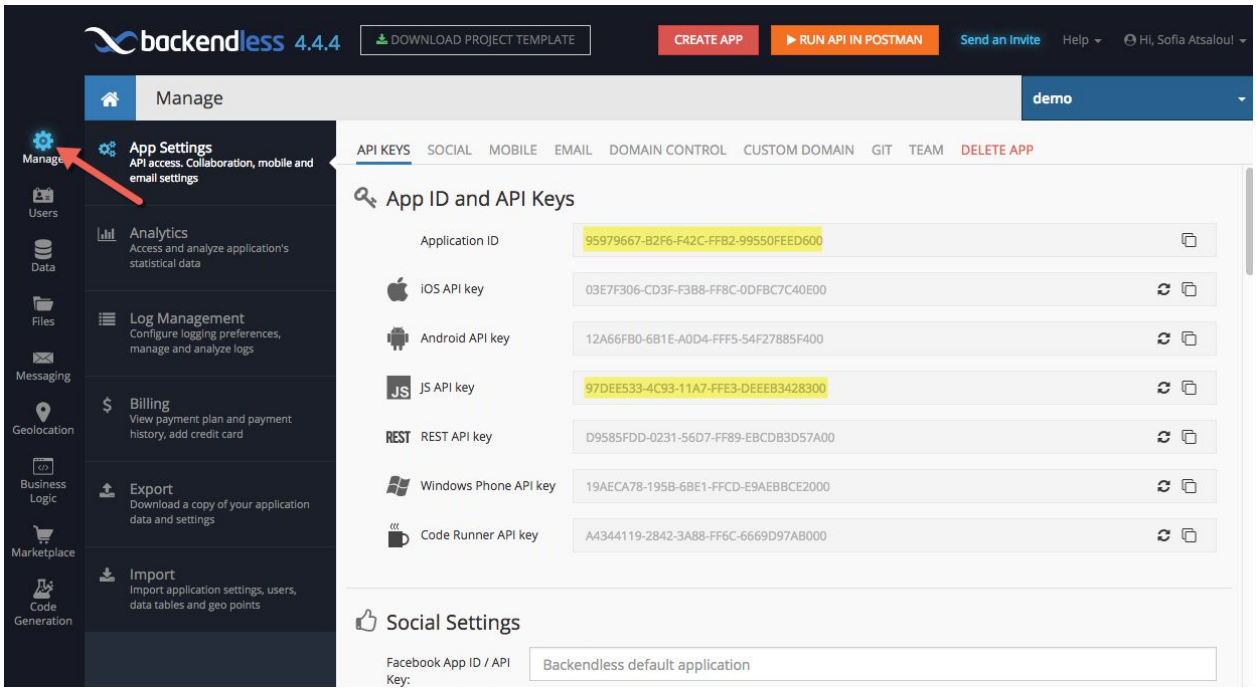
Connect mobile app with your Backendless data

To connect the mobile app with your Backendless data, open the `Gruntfile.js` file, uncomment the corresponding “dataProvider” and set the application ID and the JS API key as shown:

Gruntfile.js

```
60          development: {
61            constants: {
62              ENV: {
63                name: 'development',
64                // LOCAL or REMOTE or FIREBASE
65                // dataProvider: 'REMOTE',
66                // apiUrl: 'https://skounis.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-d
67                // dataProvider: 'LOCAL',
68                // apiUrl: 'misc/',
69                // dataProvider: 'FIREBASE',
70                firebase: {
71                  apiKey: 'AIzaSyAPinktmcHhcL88Rzm0p98W0cJ3OLmEhqA',
72                  authDomain: 'business-directory-frb3.firebaseapp.com',
73                  databaseURL: 'https://business-directory-frb3.firebaseio.com'
74                },
75
76                dataProvider: 'BACKENDLESS',
77                // BACKENDLESS
78                data: {
79                  appId: '23A8662E-FEFD-1784-FF25-94058263E100',
80                  appKey: '77C08DC8-2C95-D7E5-FF8D-0B0DF1D92700'
81                },
```

To find your application ID and your JS API Key, go to Manage -> App Settings and copy the “Application ID” and the “JS API key” as highlighted in the following screen capture:



JSON Data sources

In case you chose Firebase as the app's data provider, you can skip this section. Otherwise, this section will guide you in order to make the app read the data it needs from a local or a remote source other than Firebase. In this case the sources should be JSON files located either locally or on a remote server.

Businesses

The example of the JSON file used in order to provide all the business related information is the following:

➔ http://skounis.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-directory/businesses.json

Notice that this is the file for all the businesses that are going to be displayed in the app. In this file, the addresses to some other JSON files included. These files are:

- `news.json`,
- `catalogs.json`,
- `products.json`
- `services.json`.

The next section describes more the mentioned JSON files.

Additionally, in this file information that is going to be shown on **Home** screen, such as business name, as well as **Contact us** screen, such as business description, open hours etc. is also included.

What's more, `businesses.json` file should contain map annotations that are going to be displayed on the **Map** screen. You are able to set as many annotation points as you wish.

Common

The `origin` property of the map sets the point where it will be centered. This is the **Map** where all the annotations are going to be displayed on.

Origin property together with the zoom level of the map are included in the `common.json` file as it is a piece of information that is in common for all the businesses.
The example of common.json file that is used for demonstrational purposes is the following:

➔ http://skounis.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-directory/common.json

News, Products, Services and Catalogs

Each business that will be displayed in the app should have its own news, products, services and catalogs JSON files.

As a point of reference, the app uses the following:

- News
  https://skounis-dev.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-directory/01/news.json
- Products
  https://skounis-dev.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-directory/01/products.json
- Services
  https://skounis-dev.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-directory/01/services.json
- Catalogs
  https://skounis-dev.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-directory/01/catalogs.json

These correspond to one business and, thus, they should be created for all the businesses.

Wordpress

This feature loads articles from a remote Wordpress site. The Wordpress JSON API is used for the creation of JSON feed of the posts. This should be included in the `businesses.json` file.

For demonstration purposes a Wordpress website has been installed. Its URL and JSON feed that is used in this application are provided by the following links:

- Site: http://demo.titaniumtemplates.com/wordpress/
- JSON: http://demo.titaniumtemplates.com/wordpress/?json=1

JSON API plugin

Please note that, firstly, the JSON API plugin needs to be installed and activated. The related documentation is also available. According to that, the generation of the feed is done by finding the location on a website that you want to get a JSON feed and add `"?json=1"` at the end.

Drupal

This feature loads articles from a remote Drupal web site. Services module is used for the creation of JSON feed of the posts which should be included in the `businesses.json` file.

For demonstration purposes a Drupal website has been installed. Its URL and JSON feed that is used in this application are provided by the following links:

- Site: http://demo.titaniumtemplates.com/drupal
- JSON: http://demo.titaniumtemplates.com/drupal/rest/views/rest_api

Services and JSON View

Using Drupal, initially, you should install the Services module and enable it. A View that exposes a JSON feed of the articles should also be created.

The following tutorial describes this process:

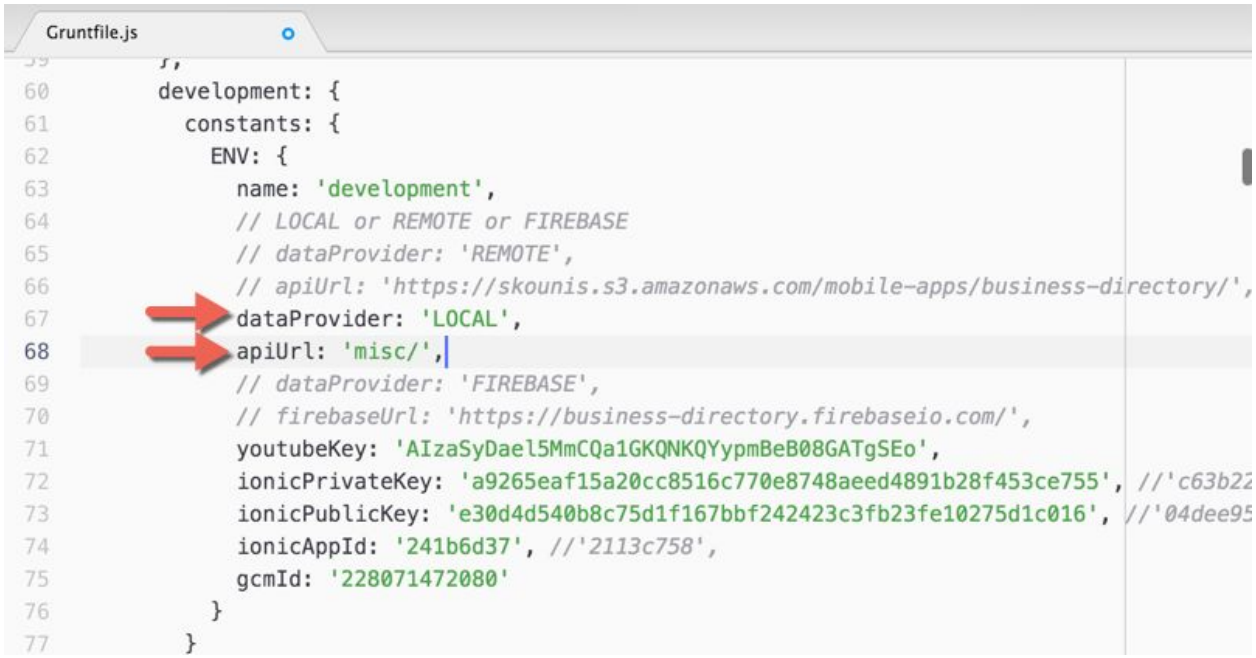
- A Beginners Guide to the Drupal Services Module
  https://www.ostraining.com/blog/drupal/services/

All the modules that are needed for this are listed below:

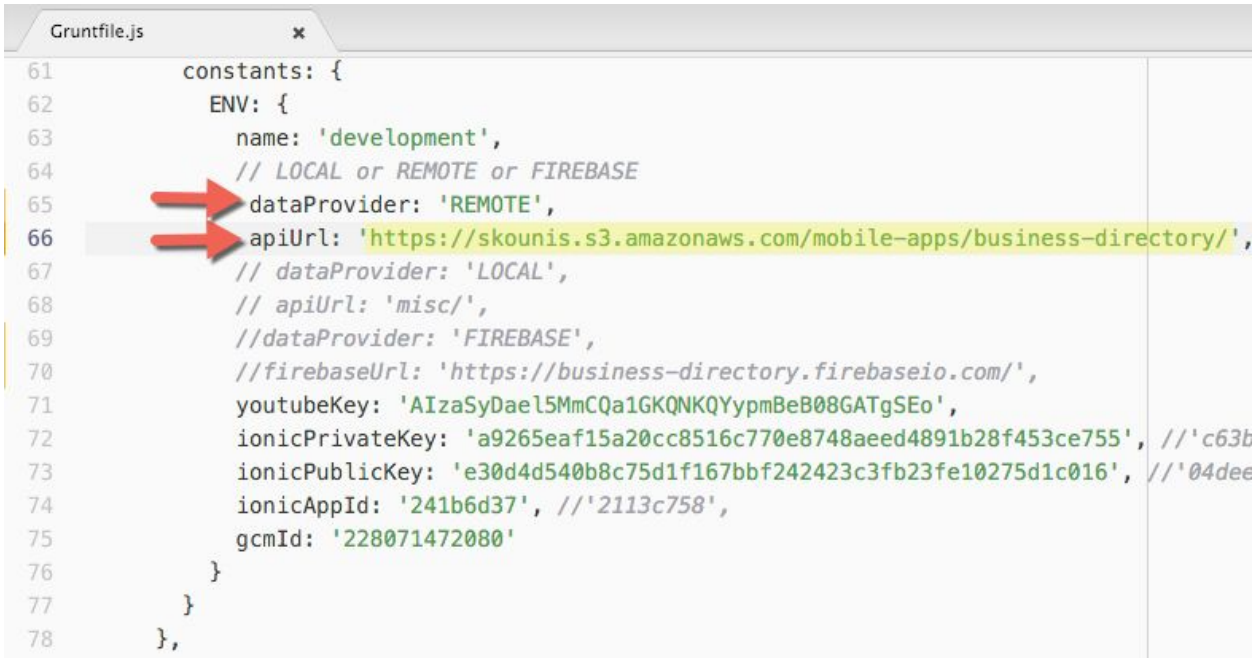
1. https://www.drupal.org/project/services
2. https://www.drupal.org/project/ctools
3. https://www.drupal.org/project/libraries
4. https://www.drupal.org/project/views
5. https://www.drupal.org/project/services_views

JSON Data Sources Configuration

In case you choose to fetch the data from a local location, you should locate the `businesses.json` and `common.json` files in `misc` folder and set the “dataProvider” variable as “LOCAL” in the `Gruntfile.js`. Make sure you uncomment the related lines as shown below:



In case you choose to fetch the data from a remote location, in `Gruntfile.js` file set the “dataProvider” variable as “REMOTE”. Make sure you uncomment the related lines and set the URL to the folder where the `businesses.json` and `common.json` files are located.



Push Notifications

Before you proceed further please check the related documentation provided by Ionic:

https://docs.ionic.io/services/push/

Create Security Profiles

Firstly, you should create a security profile with push credentials for Android. For more information, please, visit Ionic official documentation. Similarly, you should create a security profile for iOS as the Ionic documentation describes.

Plugins

Install the required plugins by using the following command where SENDER_ID is your FCM(Firebase Cloud Messaging) project number:

```
$ cordova plugin add phonegap-plugin-push --variable SENDER_ID=12341234
```

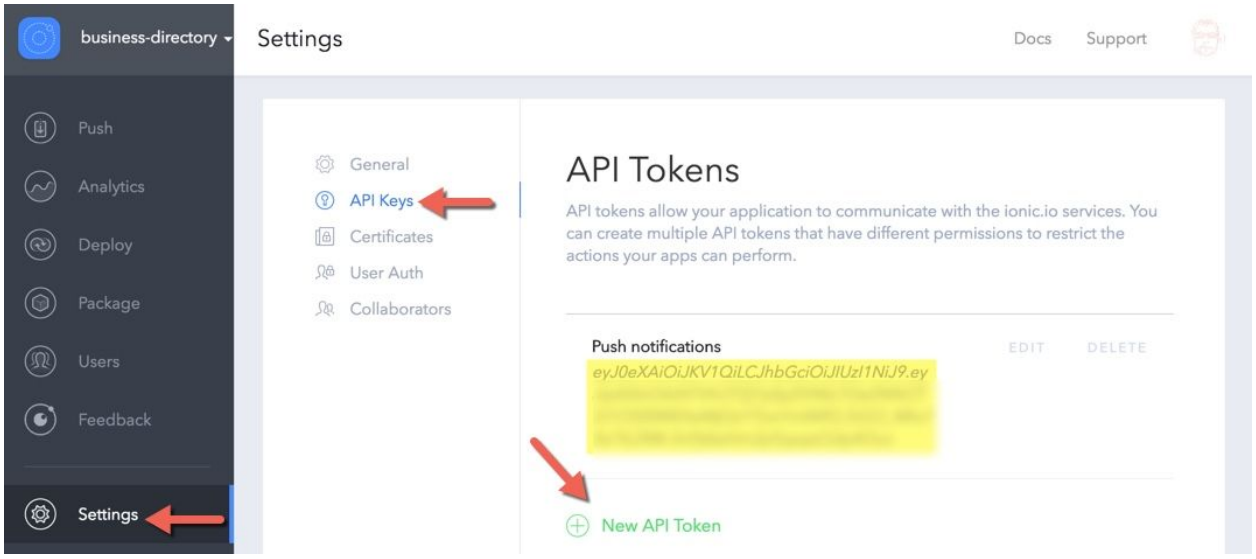
Set Ionic Platform's credentials

Please, confirm that you have already created the corresponding Application in your ionic.io account and you have properly set the ID of your application in the `Gruntfile.js`

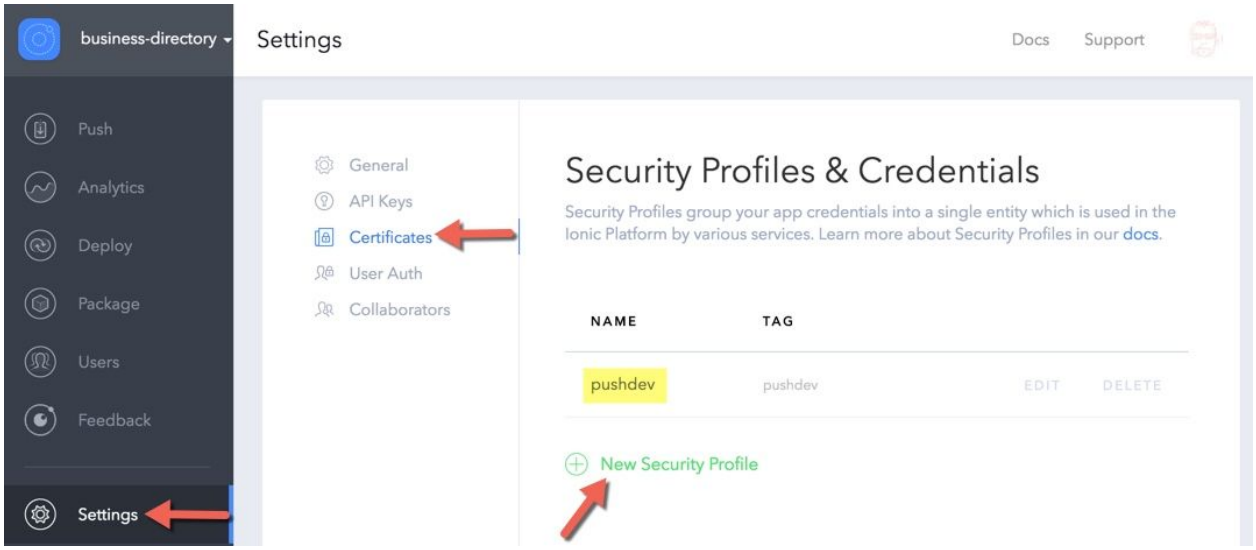
Gruntfile.js

```
59          },
60          development: {
61            constants: {
62              ENV: {
63                name: 'development',
64                // LOCAL or REMOTE or FIREBASE
65                // dataProvider: 'REMOTE',
66                // apiUrl: 'https://skounis.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-di
67                // dataProvider: 'LOCAL',
68                // apiUrl: 'misc/',
69                dataProvider: 'FIREBASE',
70                firebase: {
71                  apiKey: 'AIzaSyAPinktmcHhcL88Rzm0p98W0cJ3OLmEhqA',
72                  authDomain: 'business-directory-frb3.firebaseapp.com',
73                  databaseURL: 'https://business-directory-frb3.firebaseio.com'
74                },
75                youtubeKey: 'AIzaSyDael5MmCQa1GKQNKQYypmBeB08GATgSEo',
76                ionicCloudApiToken: 'eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJqdGkiOi
77                ionicSecurityProfile: 'clouddev', // https://apps.ionic.io/app/
78                ionicAppId: '241b6d37', //'2113c758',
79                gcmId: '228071472080' // Google Developers Console
80              }
```

Also, you will need an API token so you can use Ionic API to send push notifications. Simply, go to the Ionic Platform and hit settings to create a token. Please, make a note of this token:



Additionally, define your iOS and Android security profiles by creating a certificate on the Ionic Platform. Please, make a note of your certificate name:



Finally, set your `ionicCloudApiToken` and `ionicSecurityProfile` with your API token and certificate name in `Gruntfile.js`:

Gruntfile.js

```
59          },
60          development: {
61            constants: {
62              ENV: {
63                name: 'development',
64                // LOCAL or REMOTE or FIREBASE
65                // dataProvider: 'REMOTE',
66                // apiUrl: 'https://skounis.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-di
67                // dataProvider: 'LOCAL',
68                // apiUrl: 'misc/',
69                dataProvider: 'FIREBASE',
70                firebase: {
71                  apiKey: 'AIzaSyAPinktmcHhcL88Rzm0p98W0cJ3OLmEhqA',
72                  authDomain: 'business-directory-frb3.firebaseapp.com',
73                  databaseURL: 'https://business-directory-frb3.firebaseio.com'
74                },
75                youtubeKey: 'AIzaSyDael5MmCQa1GKQNKQYypmBeB08GATgSEo',
76                ionicCloudApiToken: 'eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJqdGkiOi
77                ionicSecurityProfile: 'clouddev', // https://apps.ionic.io/app/
78                ionicAppId: '241b6d37', //'2113c758',
79                gcmId: '228071472080' // Google Developers Console
80              }
```

Set GCM id

Note that in order to push notifications to the registered Android devices, you will need to set the `gcmId` (FCM project number) in `Gruntfile.js` as shown below:

Gruntfile.js

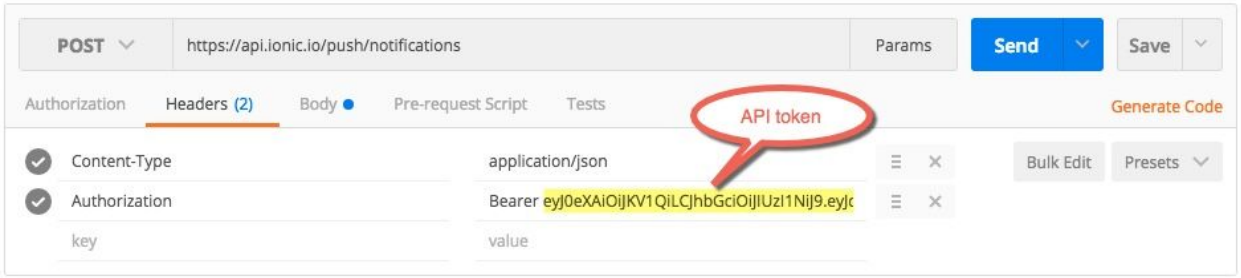
```
59          },
60          development: {
61            constants: {
62              ENV: {
63                name: 'development',
64                // LOCAL or REMOTE or FIREBASE
65                // dataProvider: 'REMOTE',
66                // apiUrl: 'https://skounis.s3.amazonaws.com/mobile-apps/business-di
67                // dataProvider: 'LOCAL',
68                // apiUrl: 'misc/',
69                dataProvider: 'FIREBASE',
70                firebase: {
71                  apiKey: 'AIzaSyAPinktmcHhcL88Rzm0p98W0cJ3OLmEhqA',
72                  authDomain: 'business-directory-frb3.firebaseapp.com',
73                  databaseURL: 'https://business-directory-frb3.firebaseio.com'
74                },
75                youtubeKey: 'AIzaSyDael5MmCQa1GKQNKQYypmBeB08GATgSEo',
76                ionicCloudApiToken: 'eyJ0eXAiOiJKV1QiLCJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJqdGkiOi
77                ionicSecurityProfile: 'clouddev', // https://apps.ionic.io/app/
78                ionicAppId: '241b6d37', //'2113c758',
79                gcmId: '228071472080' // Google Developers Console
80              }
```

Send a Push Notification

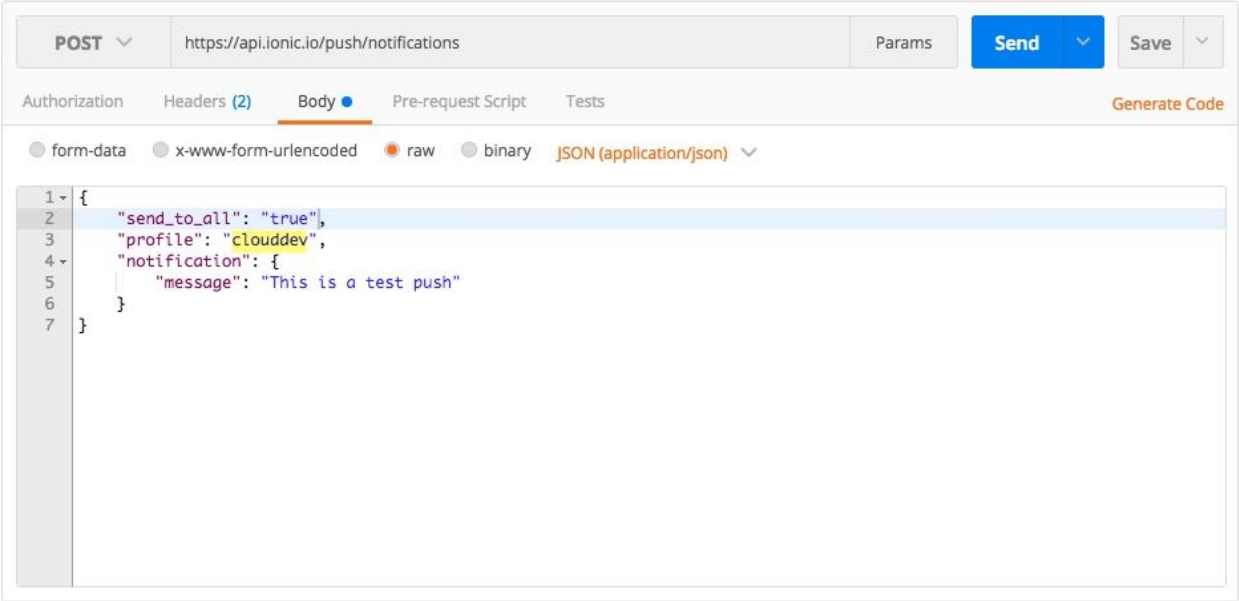
Please, bear in mind that you can send push notifications only to real devices. In order to do this, you can use POSTMAN or the UI of the Ionic Platform.

POSTMAN

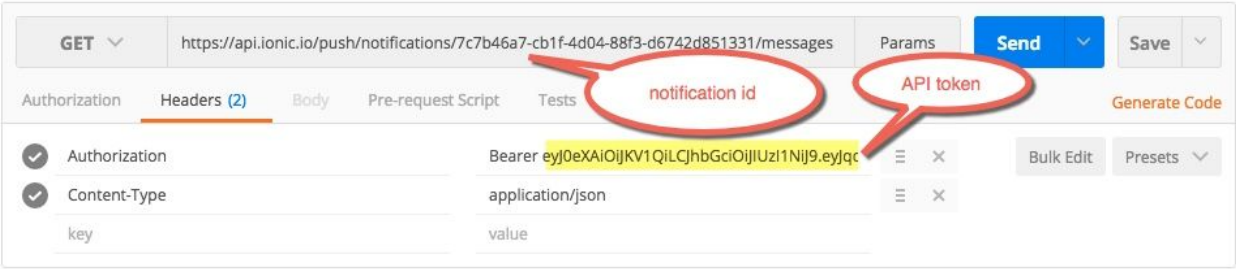
To send a notification to all the registered devices, you should use the related API endpoint and make a POST call. Also, you should have the following headers. For the authorization use the API token you created previously.



Set the body and place your certificate name where highlighted:

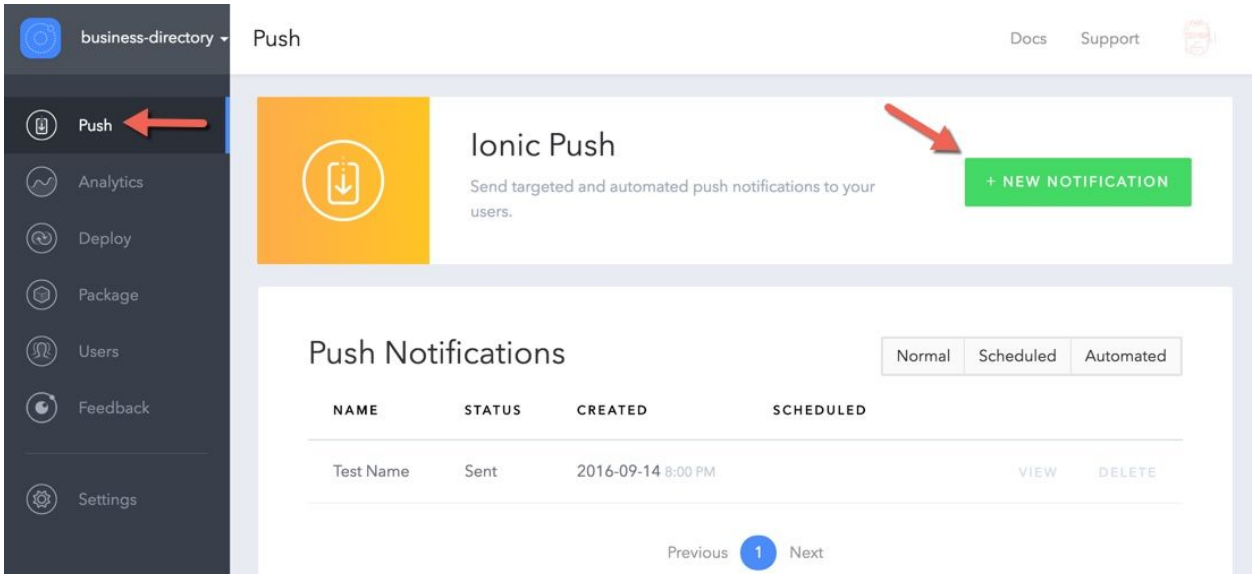


You may need to troubleshoot in case of a failed push notification. In order to see the state of your push notification and any error messages use the related API endpoint. The GET request should look similar to the following:



Ionic Platform UI

To send a notification using the UI of Ionic Platform, simply, create a new push notification.



Support

With regard to technical questions, new ideas and suggestions, you may use the dedicated form and choose the product your enquiry refers to:

http://support.appseed.io/customer/portal/questions/new

References / Links:

- YouTube channel
  Periodically, video demonstrations and tutorials related to this product will be published in this YouTube channel.
- Codecanyon User page
  You may contact us by using our user page on Codecanyon.
- Quick Start Guide
  The online version of this document.

Thank you

Thank you again for purchasing our product. If you have any questions that are beyond of the scope of this help file, please feel free to email also via our support center form.

--- *The Appseed team.*