

spiderable

Source code of released version | Source code of development version ***

spiderable is part of Webapp. It's one possible way to allow web search engines to index a Meteor application. It uses the AJAX Crawling specification published by Google to serve HTML to compatible spiders (Google, Bing, Yandex, and more).

How it works

When a spider requests an HTML snapshot of a page the Meteor server runs the client half of the application inside phantomjs, a headless browser, and returns the full HTML generated by the client code.

In order to have links between multiple pages on a site visible to spiders, apps must use real links (eg ``) rather than simply re-rendering portions of the page when an element is clicked. Apps should render their content based on the URL of the page and can use HTML5 `pushState` to alter the URL on the client without triggering a page reload. See the Todos example for a demonstration.

When running your page, **spiderable** will wait for all publications to be ready. Make sure that all of your `publish` functions either return a cursor (or an array of cursors), or eventually call `this.ready()`. Otherwise, the `phantomjs` executions will fail.

Notes

If you deploy your application with `meteor bundle`, you must install `phantomjs` (<http://phantomjs.org>) somewhere in your `$PATH`. If you use `meteor deploy` this is already taken care of.