

# Middleware and Helpers

Gatsby Functions provides an Express-like architecture that simplifies building Node.js APIs. We include a number of middlewares to parse common request data as well as response helpers.

## Data formats

We parse commonly used data types. You can parse more by adding custom middleware. Data available by default on the `req` object:

- Cookies at `req.cookies`
- URL Queries (e.g. `api/foo?query=foo`) at `req.query`
- Form parameters and data at `req.body`
- JSON POST bodies at `req.body`
- Files uploaded from forms at `req.files`

## Response helpers

- `res.send(body)` — returns the response. The `body` can be a `string`, `object`, or `buffer`
- `res.json(body)` — returns a JSON response. The `body` can be any value that can be serialized with `JSON.stringify()`
- `res.status(statusCode)` — set the HTTP status for the response. Defaults to 200.
- `res.redirect([statusCode], url)` — Returns a redirect to a URL. Optionally set the `statusCode` which defaults to 302.

## Custom middleware

Custom Connect/Express middleware are supported.

An example of how to add CORS support to a Function:

```
import Cors from "cors"

const cors = Cors()

export default async function corsHandler(req, res) {
```

```
// Run Cors middleware and handle errors.
await new Promise((resolve, reject) => {
  cors(req, res, result => {
    if (result instanceof Error) {
      reject(result)
    }

    resolve(result)
  })
})

res.json(`Hi from Gatsby Functions`)
}
```

## Custom body parsing

Generally useful for file upload support.

This is not yet supported. Add a comment in the discussion if this is an important use case for you.