

FastAPI framework, high performance, easy to learn, fast to code, ready for production



Documentation: https://fastapi.tiangolo.com

Source Code: https://github.com/tiangolo/fastapi

FastAPI is a modern, fast (high-performance), web framework for building APIs with Python 3.6+ based on standard Python type hints.

The key features are:

- **Fast**: Very high performance, on par with **NodeJS** and **Go** (thanks to Starlette and Pydantic). One of the <u>fastest Python frameworks available</u>.
- Fast to code: Increase the speed to develop features by about 200% to 300%. *
- Fewer bugs: Reduce about 40% of human (developer) induced errors. *
- Intuitive: Great editor support. <u>Completion</u> everywhere. Less time debugging.
- Easy: Designed to be easy to use and learn. Less time reading docs.
- Short: Minimize code duplication. Multiple features from each parameter declaration. Fewer bugs.
- Robust: Get production-ready code. With automatic interactive documentation.
- **Standards-based**: Based on (and fully compatible with) the open standards for APIs: OpenAPI (previously known as Swagger) and JSON Schema.

Sponsors

^{*} estimation based on tests on an internal development team, building production applications.



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Opinions

"[...] I'm using **FastAPI** a ton these days. [...] I'm actually planning to use it for all of my team's **ML services at**Microsoft. Some of them are getting integrated into the core Windows product and some Office products."

Kabir Khan - Microsoft (ref)

"We adopted the FastAPI library to spawn a REST server that can be queried to obtain predictions. [for Ludwig]"

Piero Molino, Yaroslav Dudin, and Sai Sumanth Miryala - Uber (ref)

"Netflix is pleased to announce the open-source release of our crisis management orchestration framework:

Dispatch! [built with FastAPI]"

Kevin Glisson, Marc Vilanova, Forest Monsen - Netflix (ref)

"I'm over the moon excited about FastAPI. It's so fun!"

Brian Okken - Python Bytes podcast host (ref)

"Honestly, what you've built looks super solid and polished. In many ways, it's what I wanted **Hug** to be - it's really inspiring to see someone build that."

Timothy Crosley - Hug creator (ref)

"If you're looking to learn one **modern framework** for building REST APIs, check out **FastAPI** [...] It's fast, easy to use and easy to learn [...]"

"We've switched over to FastAPI for our APIs [...] I think you'll like it [...]"

Ines Montani - Matthew Honnibal - Explosion Al founders - spaCy creators (ref) - (ref)

Typer, the FastAPI of CLIs



If you are building a <u>CLI</u> app to be used in the terminal instead of a web API, check out <u>Typer</u>.

Requirements

Python 3.6+

FastAPI stands on the shoulders of giants:

• <u>Starlette</u> for the web parts.

• Pydantic for the data parts.

Installation

```
$ pip install fastapi
---> 100%
```

You will also need an ASGI server, for production such as <u>Uvicorn</u> or <u>Hypercorn</u>.

```
$ pip install uvicorn[standard]
---> 100%
```

Example

Create it

• Create a file main.py with:

```
from typing import Optional

from fastapi import FastAPI

app = FastAPI()

@app.get("/")
def read_root():
    return {"Hello": "World"}

@app.get("/items/{item_id}")
def read_item(item_id: int, q: Optional[str] = None):
    return {"item_id": item_id, "q": q}
```

▶ Or use async def...

Run it

Run the server with:

```
$ uvicorn main:app --reload

INFO: Uvicorn running on http://127.0.0.1:8000 (Press CTRL+C to quit)
INFO: Started reloader process [28720]
INFO: Started server process [28722]
INFO: Waiting for application startup.
INFO: Application startup complete.
```

▶ About the command uvicorn main:app --reload...

Check it

Open your browser at http://127.0.0.1:8000/items/5?q=somequery.

You will see the JSON response as:

```
{"item_id": 5, "q": "somequery"}
```

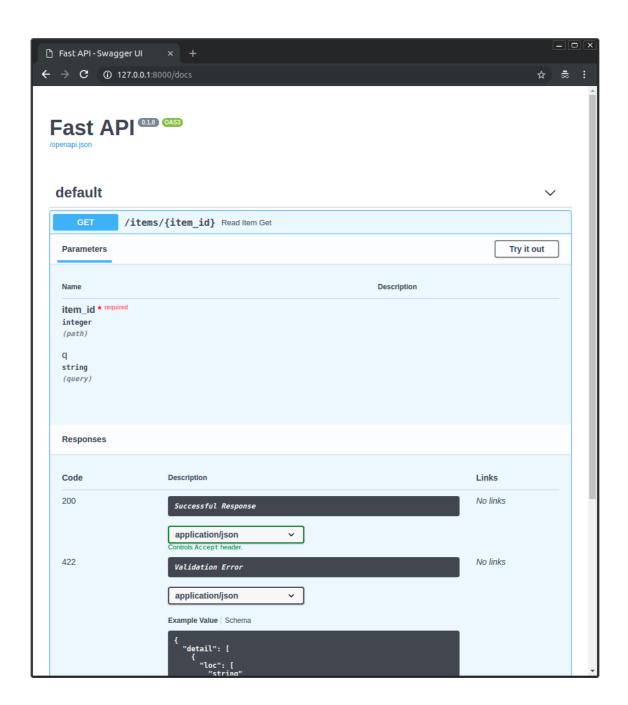
You already created an API that:

- Receives HTTP requests in the paths / and /items/{item id}.
- Both paths take GET operations (also known as HTTP methods).
- The path /items/{item id} has a path parameter item id that should be an int.
- The path /items/{item_id} has an optional str $query\ parameter$ q .

Interactive API docs

Now go to http://127.0.0.1:8000/docs.

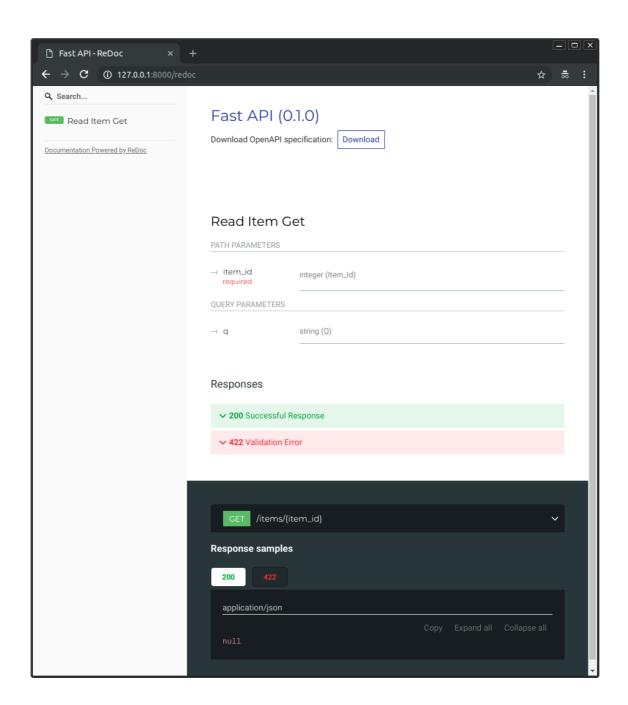
You will see the automatic interactive API documentation (provided by Swagger UI):



Alternative API docs

And now, go to http://127.0.0.1:8000/redoc.

You will see the alternative automatic documentation (provided by ReDoc):



Example upgrade

Now modify the file main.py to receive a body from a PUT request.

Declare the body using standard Python types, thanks to Pydantic.

```
from typing import Optional

from fastapi import FastAPI
from pydantic import BaseModel

app = FastAPI()
```

```
class Item(BaseModel):
    name: str
    price: float
    is_offer: Optional[bool] = None

@app.get("/")
def read_root():
    return ("Hello": "World")

@app.get("/items/{item_id}")
def read_item(item_id: int, q: Optional[str] = None):
    return ("item_id": item_id, "q": q)

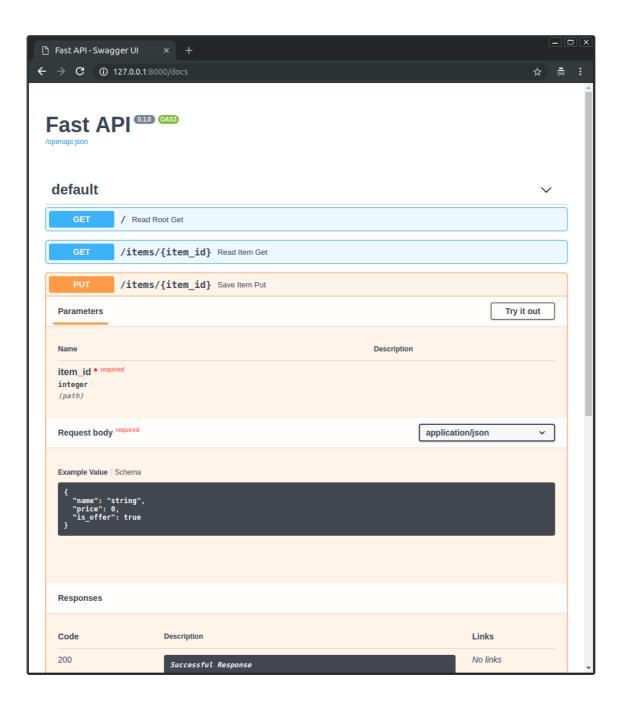
@app.put("/items/{item_id}")
def update_item(item_id: int, item: Item):
    return {"item_name": item.name, "item_id": item_id}
```

The server should reload automatically (because you added --reload to the uvicorn command above).

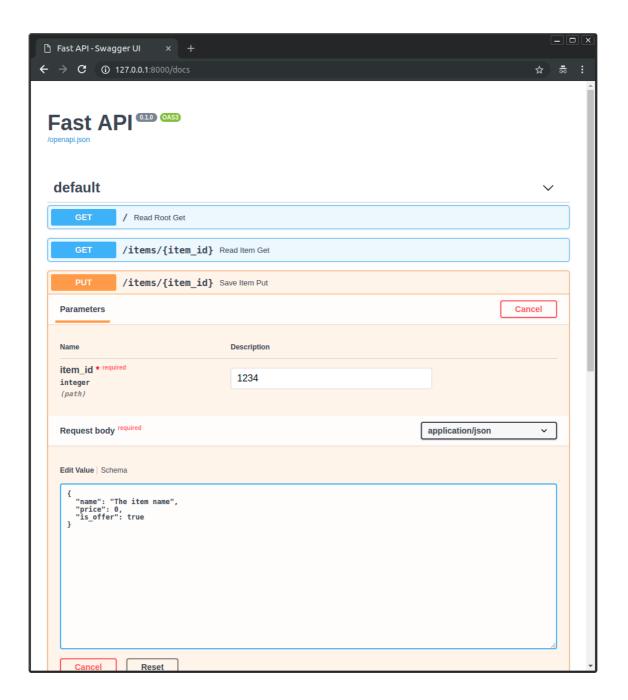
Interactive API docs upgrade

Now go to http://127.0.0.1:8000/docs.

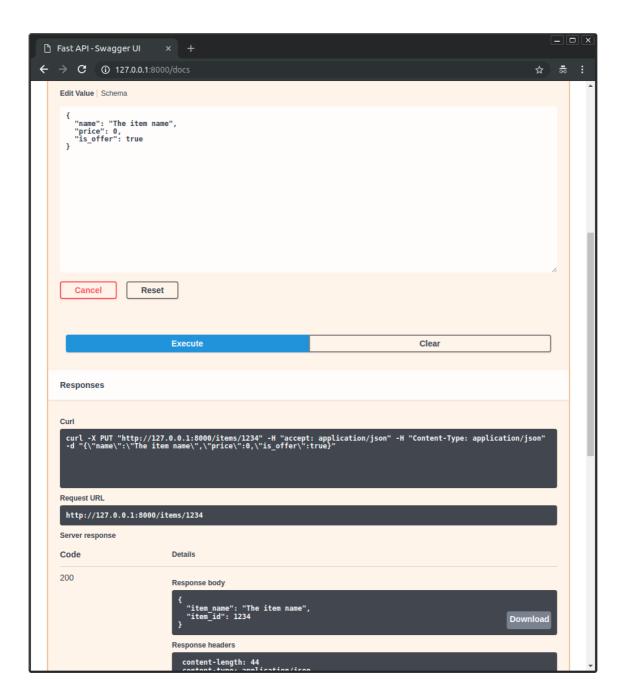
• The interactive API documentation will be automatically updated, including the new body:



• Click on the button "Try it out", it allows you to fill the parameters and directly interact with the API:



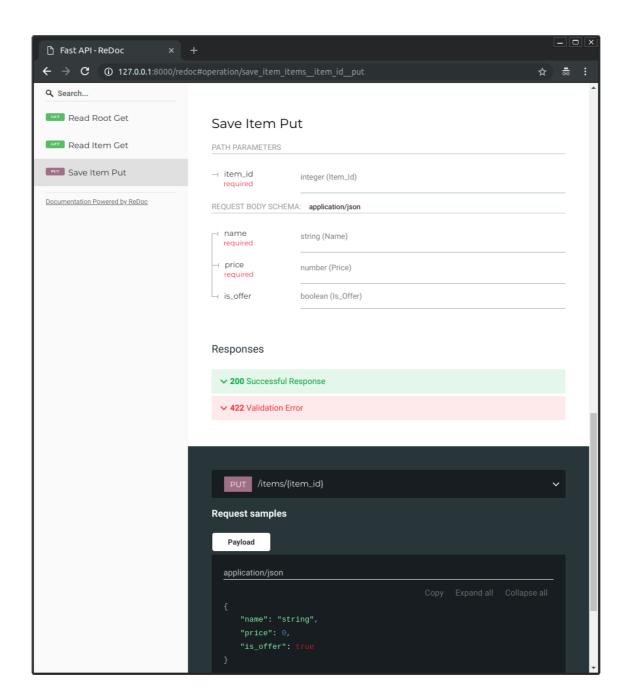
• Then click on the "Execute" button, the user interface will communicate with your API, send the parameters, get the results and show them on the screen:



Alternative API docs upgrade

And now, go to http://127.0.0.1:8000/redoc.

• The alternative documentation will also reflect the new query parameter and body:



Recap

In summary, you declare **once** the types of parameters, body, etc. as function parameters.

You do that with standard modern Python types.

You don't have to learn a new syntax, the methods or classes of a specific library, etc.

Just standard Python 3.6+.

For example, for an int:

```
item_id: int
```

or for a more complex Item model:

```
item: Item
```

...and with that single declaration you get:

- Editor support, including:
 - Completion.
 - Type checks.
- Validation of data:
 - Automatic and clear errors when the data is invalid.
 - Validation even for deeply nested JSON objects.
- Conversion of input data: coming from the network to Python data and types. Reading from:
 - JSON.
 - o Path parameters.
 - Query parameters.
 - Cookies.
 - Headers.
 - o Forms.
 - o Files.
- Conversion of output data: converting from Python data and types to network data (as JSON):
 - Convert Python types (str , int , float , bool , list , etc).
 - datetime objects.
 - UUID objects.
 - o Database models.
 - ...and many more.
- Automatic interactive API documentation, including 2 alternative user interfaces:
 - Swagger UI.
 - ReDoc.

Coming back to the previous code example, FastAPI will:

- Validate that there is an item id in the path for GET and PUT requests.
- Validate that the item id is of type int for GET and PUT requests.
 - If it is not, the client will see a useful, clear error.
- Check if there is an optional query parameter named q (as in http://127.0.0.1:8000/items/foo? q=somequery) for GET requests.
 - \circ As the q parameter is declared with = None , it is optional.
 - Without the None it would be required (as is the body in the case with PUT).
- For PUT requests to /items/{item id}, Read the body as JSON:
 - Check that it has a required attribute name that should be a str.
 - Check that it has a required attribute <code>price</code> that has to be a <code>float</code> .
 - Check that it has an optional attribute <code>is_offer</code> , that should be a <code>bool</code> , if present.
 - All this would also work for deeply nested JSON objects.
- Convert from and to JSON automatically.
- Document everything with OpenAPI, that can be used by:
 - Interactive documentation systems.

- Automatic client code generation systems, for many languages.
- Provide 2 interactive documentation web interfaces directly.

We just scratched the surface, but you already get the idea of how it all works.

Try changing the line with:

```
return {"item_name": item.name, "item_id": item_id}

...from:

... "item_name": item.name ...

...to:

... "item_price": item.price ...
```

...and see how your editor will auto-complete the attributes and know their types:

For a more complete example including more features, see the Tutorial - User Guide.

Spoiler alert: the tutorial - user guide includes:

- Declaration of parameters from other different places as: headers, cookies, form fields and files.
- How to set validation constraints as maximum_length or regex .
- A very powerful and easy to use **Dependency Injection** system.
- Security and authentication, including support for **OAuth2** with **JWT tokens** and **HTTP Basic** auth.
- More advanced (but equally easy) techniques for declaring **deeply nested JSON models** (thanks to Pydantic).

- Many extra features (thanks to Starlette) as:
 - WebSockets
 - o GraphQL
 - extremely easy tests based on requests and pytest
 - o CORS
 - Cookie Sessions
 - o ...and more.

Performance

Independent TechEmpower benchmarks show **FastAPI** applications running under Uvicorn as <u>one of the fastest</u>

<u>Python frameworks available</u>, only below Starlette and Uvicorn themselves (used internally by FastAPI). (*)

To understand more about it, see the section **Benchmarks**.

Optional Dependencies

Used by Pydantic:

- <u>ujson</u> for faster JSON "parsing".
- <u>email validator</u> for email validation.

Used by Starlette:

- requests Required if you want to use the TestClient .
- <u>aiofiles</u> Required if you want to use FileResponse or StaticFiles.
- <u>jinja2</u> Required if you want to use the default template configuration.
- python-multipart Required if you want to support form "parsing", with request.form()
- <u>itsdangerous</u> Required for SessionMiddleware support.
- pyyaml Required for Starlette's SchemaGenerator support (you probably don't need it with FastAPI).
- graphene Required for GraphQLApp support.
- <u>ujson</u> Required if you want to use UJSONResponse.

Used by FastAPI / Starlette:

- <u>uvicorn</u> for the server that loads and serves your application.
- orjson Required if you want to use ORJSONResponse.

You can install all of these with <code>pip install fastapi[all]</code> .

License

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