

Middleware

You can add middleware to **FastAPI** applications.

A “middleware” is a function that works with every **request** before it is processed by any specific *path operation*. And also with every **response** before returning it.

- It takes each **request** that comes to your application.
- It can then do something to that **request** or run any needed code.
- Then it passes the **request** to be processed by the rest of the application (by some *path operation*).
- It then takes the **response** generated by the application (by some *path operation*).
- It can do something to that **response** or run any needed code.
- Then it returns the **response**.

!!! note “Technical Details” If you have dependencies with `yield`, the exit code will run *after* the middleware.

If there were any background tasks (documented later), they will run *after* all the middleware.

Create a middleware

To create a middleware you use the decorator `@app.middleware("http")` on top of a function.

The middleware function receives:

- The **request**.
- A function `call_next` that will receive the **request** as a parameter.
 - This function will pass the **request** to the corresponding *path operation*.
 - Then it returns the **response** generated by the corresponding *path operation*.
- You can then modify further the **response** before returning it.

```
Python hl_lines="8-9 11 14" {!../../docs_src/middleware/tutorial001.py!}
```

!!! tip Have in mind that custom proprietary headers can be added using the ‘X-’ prefix.

But if you have custom headers that you want a client in a browser to be able to see, you need to use the `Response` object.

!!! note “Technical Details” You could also use `from starlette.requests import Request`.

FastAPI provides it as a convenience for you, the developer. But it comes directly from `starlette`.

Before and after the **response**

You can add code to be run with the **request**, before any *path operation* receives it.

And also after the **response** is generated, before returning it.

For example, you could add a custom header **X-Process-Time** containing the time in seconds that it took to process the request and generate a response:

```
Python hl_lines="10 12-13" {!../../../docs_src/middleware/tutorial001.py!}
```

Other middlewares

You can later read more about other middlewares in the Advanced User Guide: [Advanced Middleware](#).

You will read about how to handle CORS with a middleware in the next section.