

DRF Four Core View Types - Quick Guide

Django REST Framework (DRF) Cheat Sheet

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Covers four core view styles: APIView, GenericAPIView, ViewSet, ModelViewSet.
Plus notes on routers, Swagger, hooks, and Python decorators.

--- 1. APIView ---

Base class. Override `get()`, `post()`, etc.

URL: `path('posts/', PostAPIView.as_view())`

Manual Swagger needed.

--- 2. GenericAPIView (+ Mixins) ---

Add `queryset`, `serializer_class`, `lookup_field`.

Combine with `ListModelMixin`, etc.

URL: `path('posts/', PostListCreate.as_view())`

--- 3. ViewSet ---

Group actions `list`, `retrieve`, `create`, `update`, `destroy`.

Use routers OR `as_view({'get': 'list'})`

No automatic Swagger unless added.

--- 4. ModelViewSet ---

Full CRUD out of the box.

Router:

`router = DefaultRouter()`

`router.register('posts', PostViewSet)`

Hooks: `perform_create()`, `perform_update()`

Common Attributes: `queryset`, `serializer_class`, `lookup_field`, `permission_classes`, `parser_classes`.

Python Decorators:

`@classmethod` -> first arg `cls`, call on class.

`@staticmethod` -> no `self/cls`.

`@property` -> attribute-like access.