

Exercise 2.6: User Authentication in Django

Learning Goals

- Create authentication for your web application
- Use GET and POST methods
- Password protect your web application's views

Reflection Questions

1. In your own words, write down the importance of incorporating authentication into an application. You can take an example application to explain your answer.

- Authentication is crucial to ensure that only authorized users can access and modify recipes. It adds a layer of security, protecting the integrity of the recipe database and preventing unauthorized users from making changes to the content.
2. In your own words, explain the steps you should take to create a login for your Django web application.

- To create a login for my Django recipe app, I need to define a User model first, configure URLs and views for authentication, design a login form with necessary fields, link views to URLs in my app's urls.py, update templates for login pages, apply decorators like `@login_required` for access control, handle authentication logic in views, thoroughly test login scenarios, manage user sessions securely, and prioritize overall application security following Django's best practices.
3. Look up the following three Django functions on Django's official documentation and/or other trusted sources and write a brief description of each.

Function	Description
<code>authenticate()</code>	Checks user credentials and returns a user object or 'None'.

redirect()	Redirects the user to a specified URL or view
include()	Used in URL patterns to include patterns from other URLconf modules, allowing for a modular and reusable URL structure in the project.