

Express

07 October 2023 02:57 PM

Express is all JS.

Express is an NodeJS Framework.

To use Nodejs in Server side, we use Express

Let us first install node.

Now do npm i express.

Express is a server side framework

We do npm init.

Fill all the details.

We can also do npm init -y

NodeJS is used to execute JS in outside browser.

We do **npm intall express --save**

We can generate node modules again by **npm i**

We can also do **npm uninstall express** to uninstall express

Let us make a index.js

Let us make a server using express.

If we want to show something in "/about" or "/contact" we have to do if-else in Http server made using NodeJS.

We need to send statusCOde ourself, Header, content-type everything is to be given by us in NOdeJS.

In Express we do not need to do this.

```

index.js > app.get('/about') callback:
1
2  const express = require('express')
3  const app = express()
4  const port = 3000
5
6  app.get('/', (req, res) => {
7    res.send('Hello World!')
8  })
9
10 app.get('/about', (req, res) => {
11   res.send('about')
12 })
13
14 app.listen(port, () => {
15   console.log(`Example app listening at http://localhost:${port}`)
16 })

```

Let us install Thunderclient now.

We can also use Postman.

Let us say we have index.html where we have some template

```

index.html > html > head > meta
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html lang="en">
3  <head>
4    <meta charset="UTF-8">
5    <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
6    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
7    <title>Document</title>
8  </head>
9  <body>
10   I am a complex html template
11 </body>
12 </html>

```

To show this, we use res.sendFile

We can use path module to give path of index.html

Let us use nodemon, npm i -g nodemon

```

app.get('/about', (req, res) => {
  // res.send('about')
  res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, 'index.html'))
})

```

We can also put Bootstrap in index.html and use it.

We can also send status code.

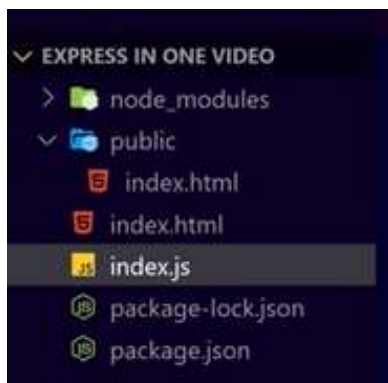
We can also make custom 404 not found page and chain it using res.status(500) or also send JSON like res.json({name: "lokes"})

```
app.get('/about', (req, res) => {
  // res.send('about')
  res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, 'index.html'))
  res.status(500)
})
```

```
app.get('/about', (req, res) => {
  // res.send('about')
  // res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, 'index.html'))
  // res.status(500)
  res.json({"harry": 34})
})
```

We will test our websites in ThunderClient now.

Whatever static data we want to show to the public, we put it inside public folder



To serve static files we use express middleware

app.use()

```
app.use(express.static(path.join(__dirname, "public")))
```

Now our "/" send this index.html inside public folder.

Let us write our own middleware

Middleware has control of request and response both

To use middleware we make use of (app.use())

```
const harryMiddleware = (req, res, next) => {
  console.log(req)
}

app.use(express.static(path.join(__dirname, "public")))
app.use(harryMiddleware)
```

If we have more than one middleware and we want our next middleware to get called on finish of current middleware. We use next()

```
const harryMiddleware = (req, res, next) => {  
  console.log(req)  
  next()  
}
```

Its very rare to make our own middleware, generally we use in-built middlewares.

Let say we give some parameters in URL, how to use it?

```
app.get('/hello/:name', (req, res) => {  
  res.send('Hello World!' + req.params.name)  
})
```

If we want to fetch some data using these params, now we can do it easily.

Let say our app gets some data from a store where data is in JSON.

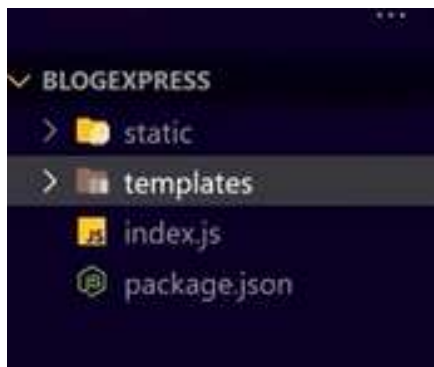
Let us build something like that. Let us build a blog website using it.

We make a static folder and keep all JS, CSS inside it.

We make some endpoints also.

Where we send some file.

We make a folder templates.



```
index.js x
index.js > ...
1
2  const express = require('express')
3  const path = require('path')
4  const app = express()
5  const port = 3000
6
7
8  app.use(express.static(path.join(__dirname, "static")))
9
10 app.get('/', (req, res) => {
11   res.sendFile()
12 })
13
14 app.get('/about', (req, res) => {
15   // res.send('about')
16   // res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, 'index.html'))
17   // res.status(500)
18   res.json({"harry": 34})
19 })
20
21 app.listen(port, () => {
22   console.log(`Example app listening at http://localhost:${port}`)
23 })
```

Let us separate our routers in a separate folder routes.

Inside routes -> we make blog.js where we put all our routes related to our blogs

We use router from express.Router

Now our index.js do not contain any routes

```
index.js x  blog.js •
index.js > app.listen() callback
1
2  const express = require('express')
3  const path = require('path')
4  const app = express()
5  const port = 3000
6
7
8  app.use(express.static(path.join(__dirname, "static")))
9
10
11
12 app.listen(port, () => {
13   console.log(`Blog app listening at http://localhost:
14   `)
15 })
```

We make a index.html inside templates and make a basic HTML.

Inside index.html

```
index.js  blog.js  index.html
templates > index.html > html > body
1  <!DOCTYPE html>
2  <html lang="en">
3  <head>
4      <meta charset="UTF-8">
5      <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="ie=edge">
6      <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
7      <title>HomePage</title>
8  </head>
9  <body>
10     This is my blog homepage
11 </body>
12 </html>
```

Inside blog.js we sendFile index.html in '/' endpoint
We install nodemon as devDependency.

```
routes > blog.js > router
1  const express = require('express')
2
3  const router = express.Router()
4
5  router.get('/', (req, res) => {
6      res.sendFile('templates/index.html')
7  })
8
9  module.exports = router
```

Inside blog.js

We use __dirname to serve our index.html which is inside templates but __dirname gives us path of routes folder, to come out of it we do
Path.join(__dirname, '../templates/index.html')

```
routes > blog.js > router.get('/') callback
1  const express = require('express')
2  const path = require('path')
3
4  const router = express.Router()
5
6  router.get('/', (req, res) => {
7      res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/index.html'))
8  })
9
10 module.exports = router
```


To use these router in index.js we do
`App.use(__dirname, require('./routes/blog.js'))`

Now we make another routes for /blog inside blog.js to display all our blogs


To get all blogs data we make data folder and inside it we make blogs.js
We make a JSON of Array of blogs

```
data >  blogs.js >  title
1  {
2    blogs:[
3      {
4        title: "How to get started with Python",
5        content: "This is content"
6      },
7      {
8        title: "How to get started with Python",
9        content: "This is content"
10     },
11     {
12       title: "How to get started with Python",
13       content: "This is content"
14     },
15     {
16       title: "How to get started with Python",
17       content: "This is content"
18     },
19   ]
20 }
```

```
module.exports = blogs;
```

We can read this file using os module

We require this in our blog.js

```
routes >  blog.js >  router.get('/blog') callback
1  const express = require('express')
2  const path = require('path')
3  const blogs = require('../data/blogs')
4
5  const router = express.Router()
6
7  router.get('/', (req, res) => {
8    res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/index.html'))
9  })
10
11 router.get('/blog', (req, res) => {
12   blogs.forEach(e => {
13     console.log(e.title)
14   });
15   res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/bloghome.html'))
16 })
17
18 module.exports = router
```

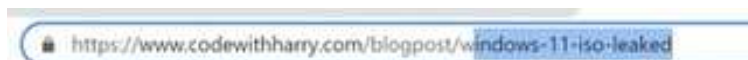
Our console looks like

```
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL
How to get started with Js
How to get started with Django
How to get started with CSS
[nodemon] restarting due to changes...
[nodemon] starting 'node index.js'
Blog app listening at http://localhost:3000
How to get started with Python
How to get started with Js
How to get started with Django
How to get started with CSS
```

Now we make blogHome.html to serve these notes.
We make another endpoint /blogpost to display blog posts

```
routes > blog.js > router.get('/blogpost') callback
6
7 router.get('/', (req, res) => {
8   res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/index.html'))
9 }
10
11 router.get('/blog', (req, res) => {
12   // blogs.forEach(e => {
13     //   console.log(e.title)
14   // });
15   res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/bloghome.html'))
16 }
17
18 router.get('/blogpost', (req, res) => {
19   res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/bloghome.html'))
20 }
21
22 module.exports = router
```

Let us add slug also in the data blogs.js
Slug is




```

data > blogs.js > slug
6   },
7   {
8       title: "How to get started with Js",
9       content: "This is content Js",
10      slug: "js-learn"
11  },
12  {
13      title: "How to get started with Django",
14      content: "This is content Django",
15      slug: "python-django-learn"
16  },
17  {
18      title: "How to get started with CSS",
19      content: "This is content Css",
20      slug: "css-learn"
21  },
22  ]
23
24
25 module.exports = blogs;

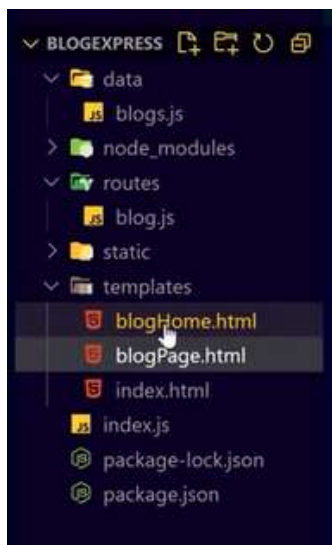
```

We make blogpage.html for /blogpost end point

```

router.get('/blogpost/:slug', (req, res) => {
    myBlog = blogs.filter((e) => {
        return e.slug == req.params.slug
    })
    console.log(myBlog)
    res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/blogPage.html'))
})

```



```
templates > blogPage.html > html > body
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en">
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="UTF-8">
5   <meta http-equiv="X-UA-Compatible" content="IE=edge">
6   <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
7   <title>blog Page</title>
8 </head>
9 <body>
10   | blog content here
11 </body>
12 </html>
```

```
PROBLEMS  OUTPUT  DEBUG CONSOLE  TERMINAL
[nodemon] restarting due to changes...
[nodemon] starting 'node index.js'
Blog app listening at http://localhost:3000
[
  {
    title: 'How to get started with Python',
    content: 'This is content Python',
    slug: 'python-learn'
  }
]
```

Now we have got our blog so we can use this blog.

How to use this blog now?? How to send this data in backend, how to show it in frontend?

For database we will use mongoose.

We have many templates for express like pug, Handlebars, EJS

We will use express-handleBars

We need template engine to show our data in our frontend.

Express-handlebars is different than handler-bars



Express-handlebars is a npm package

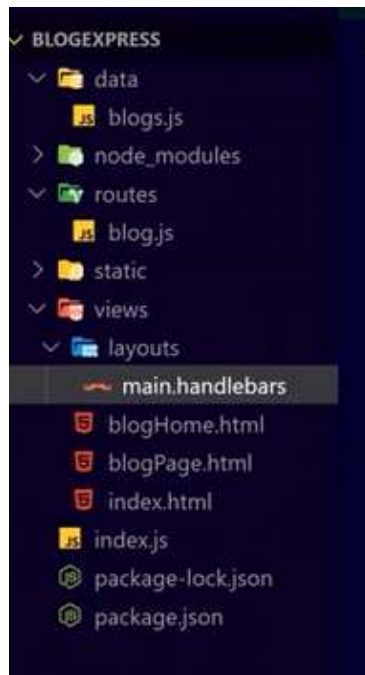


We do npm i express-handlebars

Directory structure of handlesbars is



We need to make views folder and we make layout folder.
We make main.handlebars

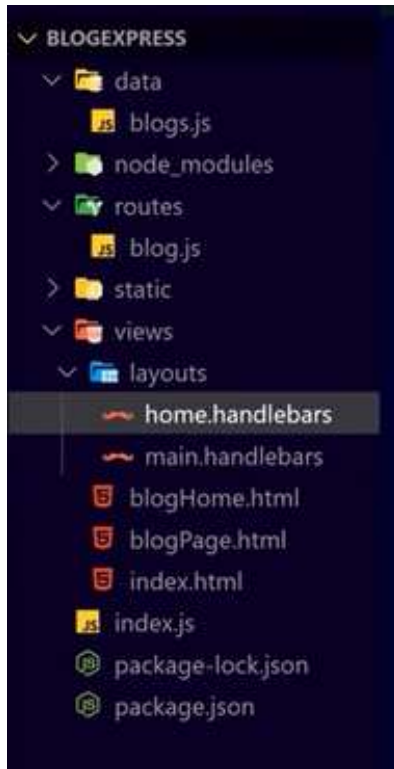


```
views > layouts > main.handlebars > html
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="utf-8">
5   <title>Example App</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8
9   {{{body}}}
10
11 </body>
12 </html>
```

Inside index.js we need to require it also.

```
index.js > ...
1 const express = require('express')
2 var exphbs = require('express-handlebars');
3
4
5 const path = require('path')
6 const app = express()
7 const port = 3000
8
9 app.engine('handlebars', exphbs());
10 app.set('view engine', 'handlebars');
11
12 app.use(express.static(path.join(__dirname, "static")))
13 app.use('/', require(path.join(__dirname, 'routes/blog.js')))
14
15
16 app.listen(port, () => {
17   console.log('Blog app listening at http://localhost:${port}')
18 })
```

To start using handlebars we need to make home.handlebars inside views folder.



Now instead of res.sendFile we will use res.render

In our blog.js



What we are doing is

While using res.render('../home')

We are saying, jo bhi home.handlebars ke andar hai usko main.handlebars ki {{body}} ke andar daal do baaki same template of main.handlebars hi render kro when we hit '/' endpoint. So ab hum kuch bhi render kra skte h {{body}} ke andar.


```
views > layouts > main.handlebars > html > body
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html>
3 <head>
4   <meta charset="utf-8">
5   <title>Example App</title>
6 </head>
7 <body>
8
9   {{{body}}}
10
11 </body>
12 </html>
```

Now let us put some bootstrap in our main.handlebar and home.handlebars

```
views > layouts > main.handlebars > html > body
1 <!doctype html>
2 <html lang="en">
3   <head>
4     <!-- Required meta tags -->
5     <meta charset="utf-8">
6     <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1">
7
8     <!-- Bootstrap CSS -->
9     <link href="https://cdn.jsdelivr.net/npm/bootstrap@5.0.2/dist/css/bootstrap.min.css" rel="stylesheet"
10    integrity="sha384-EVSTQN3/azprG1Anm3QDgpJLIm9Nao0Yz1ztcQTwTfspd3yD65VohhpuuCOMLAsjC" crossorigin=
11
12    <title>Hello, world!</title>
13  </head>
14  <body>
15    {{{body}}}
16
17    <!-- Optional JavaScript; choose one of the two! -->
18
19    <!-- Option 1: Bootstrap Bundle with Popper -->
20    <script src="https://cdn.jsdelivr.net/npm/bootstrap@5.0.2/dist/js/bootstrap.bundle.min.js"
```

Let us put a navbar in main.handlebars before {{body}}

Now, let us put some bootstrap in our home.handlebars

```

12 </head>
13 <body>
14 <nav class="navbar navbar-expand-lg navbar-light bg-light">
15 <div class="container-fluid">
16 <a class="navbar-brand" href="/">Coding Thunder</a>
17 <button class="navbar-toggler" type="button" data-bs-toggle="collapse" data-bs-target="#navbarSupportedContent"
18   aria-controls="navbarSupportedContent" aria-expanded="false" aria-label="Toggle navigation">
19   <span class="navbar-toggler-icon"></span>
20 </button>
21 <div class="collapse navbar-collapse" id="navbarSupportedContent">
22 <ul class="navbar-nav me-auto mb-2 mb-lg-0">
23 <li class="nav-item">
24 <a class="nav-link active" aria-current="page" href="/">Home</a>
25 </li>
26 <li class="nav-item">
27 <a class="nav-link" href="/blog">Blog</a>
28 </li>
29 </ul>
30 <form class="d-flex">
31 <input class="form-control me-2" type="search" placeholder="Search" aria-label="Search">
32 <button class="btn btn-outline-success" type="submit">Search</button>
33 </form>
34 </div>
35 </div>
36 </body>
37 </html>

```

Now we make `blogHome.handlebars`


```

router.get('/', (req, res) => {
  // res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/index.html'))
  res.render('home');
})

router.get('/blog', (req, res) => {
  // res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/bloghome.html'))
  res.render('blogHome');
})

```

Inside blogHome.handlebars we will render our blogs
We can use Built-in helpers to write if-else or each etc helpers to make our page working.

Now we have blogs in blog.js

```

routes > blog.js > blogs
1  const express = require('express')
2  const path = require('path')
3  const blogs = require('../data/blogs')
4

```

What we want is, when we hit /blog endpoint. We need to render blogHome.handlebars but we need to pass blogs to it also for rendering them.

We see docs for it.

```

router.get('/blog', (req, res) => {
  // res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/bloghome.html'))
  res.render('blogHome', {
    blogs: blogs
  });
})

```

```

views > blogHome.handlebars > ...
1  {{#each blogs}}
2  <div class="blog">
3    <h2>{{this.title}}</h2>
4  </div>
5  {{/each}}

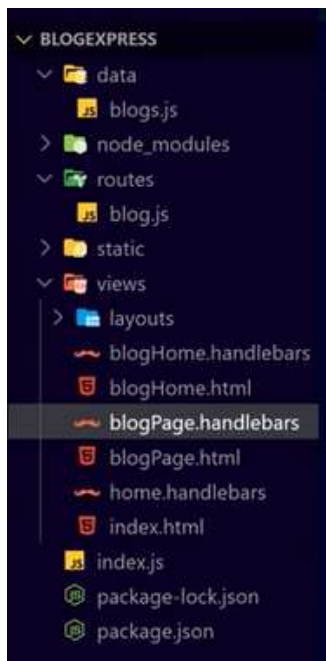
```



We only put main.handlebars inside views/layout folder

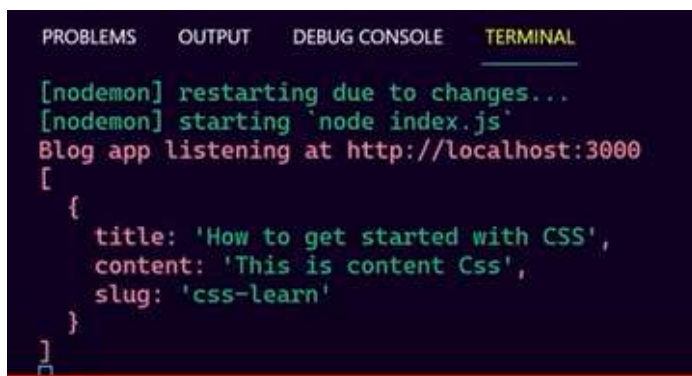
Else all files like home.handlebars etc will be only inside views folder, not inside layout folder.

We make a blogPage.handlebars to show any specific blog based on it slug



```
router.get('/blogpost/:slug', (req, res) => {
  myBlog = blogs.filter((e) => {
    return e.slug == req.params.slug
  })
  console.log(myBlog)
  res.render('blogPage', {
    title: myBlog[0].title,
    content: myBlog[0].content
  });
  // res.sendFile(path.join(__dirname, '../templates/blogPage.html'))
})
```

myBlog is an array so we use myBlog[0] to show the result of filter method



```
views > blogPage.handlebars > div.container
1 <div class="container">
2   <h2>{{title}}</h2>
3   <p>
4     {{content}}
5   </p>
6 </div>
```

Output

