Project Summary: JWT Auth + RBAC API using FastAPI and SQLModel

Tech Stack

• Backend Framework: FastAPI

• **ORM**: SQLModel (based on SQLAlchemy + Pydantic)

• Database: PostgreSQL (configurable via DATABASE_URL)

Authentication: JWT (JSON Web Token)
Password Hashing: passlib (bcrypt)
Config Management: Pydantic Settings

• Token Decoding: python-jose

• **Dependency Injection**: FastAPI's **Depends**

Project Dependencies

Backend Framework

FastAPI is used as the backend framework. It helps build APIs.



Database

PostgreSQL is the database, configurable via DATABASE_URL`. It stores the application data.



Password Hashing

`passlib` (bcrypt) is used for password hashing. It protects user credentials.



Token Decoding

`python-jose` is used for token decoding. It validates user tokens.





ORM

SQLModel, based on SQLAlchemy and Pydantic, is used. It simplifies database interactions.



Authentication

JWT (JSON Web Token) is used for authentication. It secures the application.



Config Management

Pydantic Settings is used for configuration. It manages application settings.



Dependency Injection

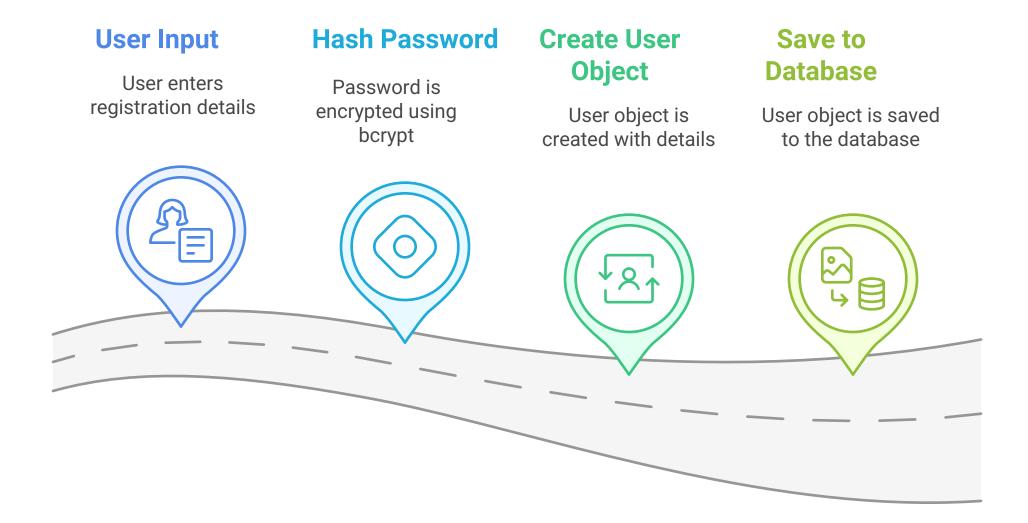
FastAPI's `Depends` is used. It manages dependencies within the application.

Core Features

1. User Registration (/register)

- Creates a new user with:
 - username
 - password (hashed with bcrypt)
 - role (e.g., "admin", "user")
- Saves the user to the database using SQLModel.

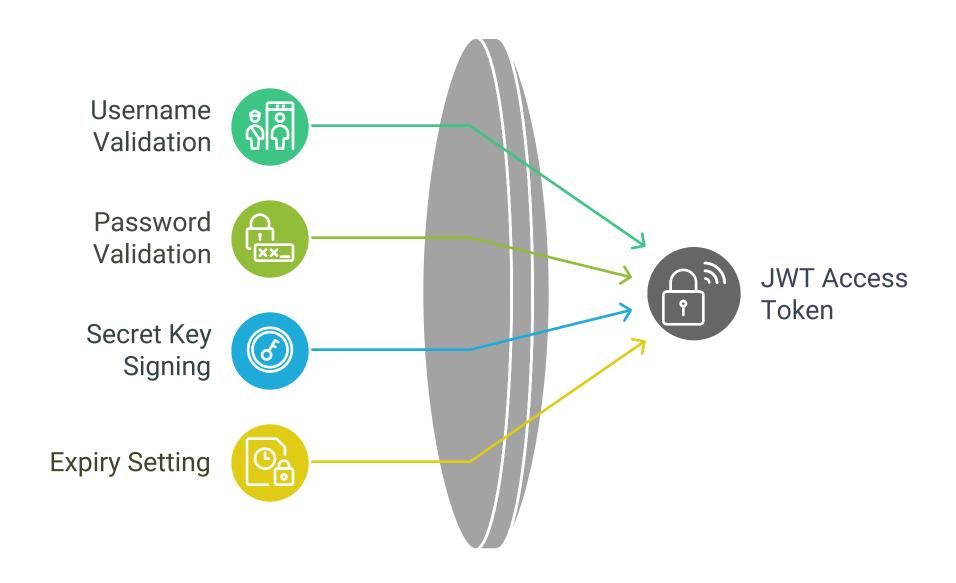
User Registration Process



2. Login (/login)

- Validates the username and password.
- If successful, returns a **JWT access token** signed with a secret key and expiry.

Secure Authentication Process



3. JWT Token Handling

- Uses the **create_access_token** function to generate tokens with expiry and **sub** (subject) claim set to the username.
- Token is required for accessing protected routes.
- The token is decoded in **get_current_user** to retrieve the user from DB.

JWT Token Generation and Verification

Generate JWT Token

The system creates a JWT token with expiry and subject claim.

Access Protected Route

The user attempts to access a protected route using the token.

Decode Token

The system decodes the token to extract user information.

Retrieve User from DB

The system retrieves the user from the database using the decoded information.









4. Role-Based Access Control (RBAC)

- require_role(role: str) is a reusable dependency that:
 - Verifies the authenticated user has the required role.
 - Raises **403 Forbidden** if access is denied.
- This is useful for endpoints like:
- @router.get("/admin-dashboard")
- def admin_only(user: User = Depends(require_role("admin"))):
- return {"message": "Welcome admin"}

Access Control Framework





User Authentication

Verifies user identity for secure access



Role Verification

Ensures users have the necessary permissions



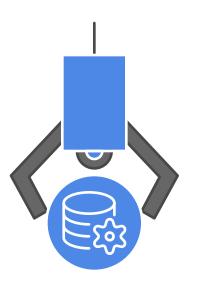
Access Denial

Prevents unauthorized access with error messages

5. Database Setup

- SQLModel-based models and database engine setup (engine)
- create_db_and_tables() to initialize tables
- **get_session()** dependency for session injection in routes/services

Database Setup Components



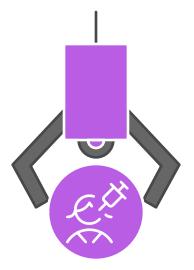
SQLModel Setup

Models and engine configuration.



Initialize Tables

Function to create database tables.



Session Dependency

Dependency injection for database sessions.

6. Security Utilities

- Password hashing and verification (get_password_hash, verify_password)
- JWT creation and decoding using **python-jose**

Security functions

JWT processing

Creation and decoding of JSON web tokens.





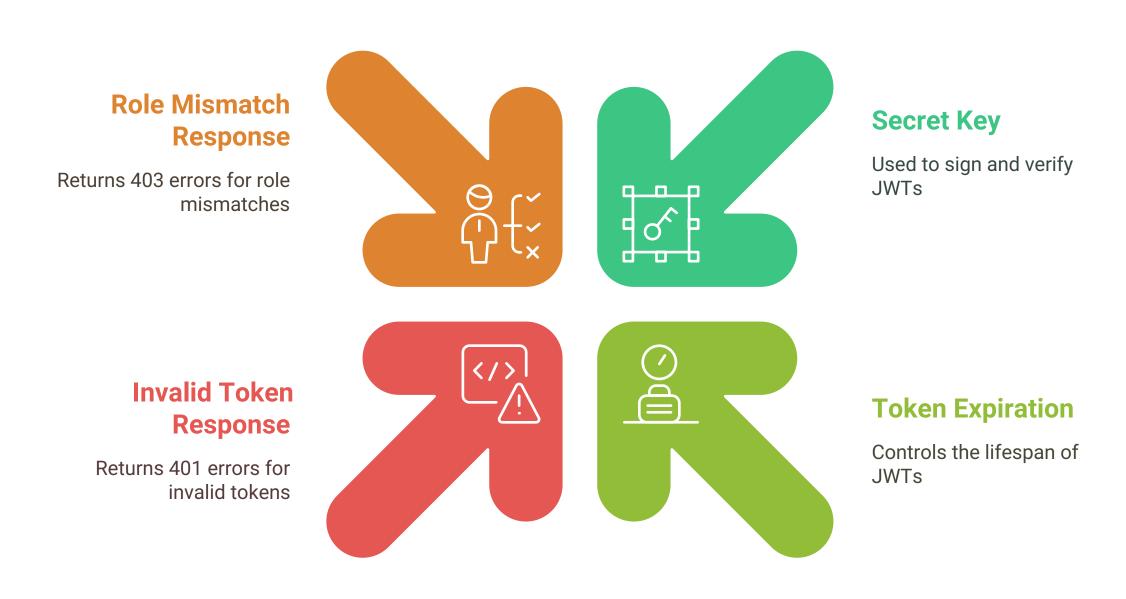
Password handling

Hashing and verification of passwords.

Security Highlights

- Tokens are signed with **SECRET_KEY** using the algorithm defined in **.env** (**HS256**, etc.)
- Token expiration is controlled via **ACCESS_TOKEN_EXPIRE_MINUTES**
- Invalid or expired tokens return appropriate 401 responses
- Role mismatches return **403** errors

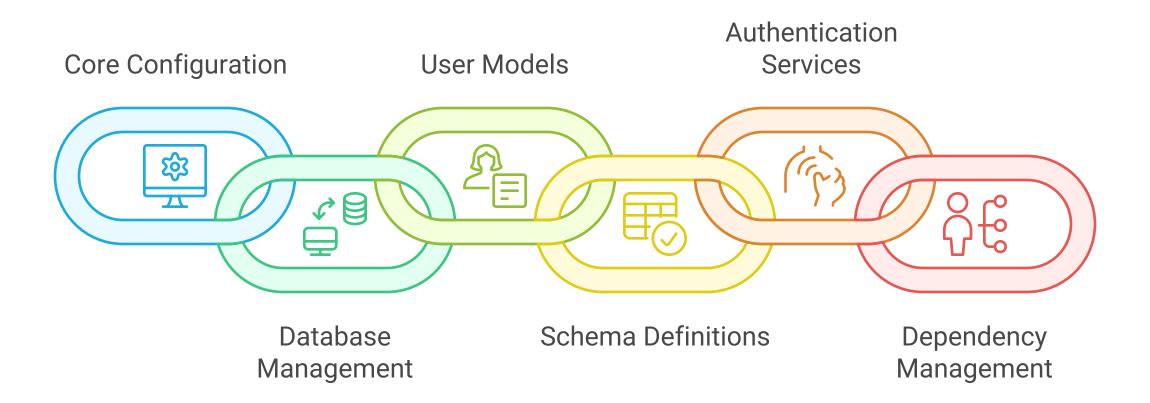
Security Measures for JWT Authentication



Code Structure

```
# Loads environment config
   - config.py
   └── security.py
                     # Handles password hashing and JWT logic
   - db/
   └── database.py
                      # DB engine, session, and table creation
   – models/
                   # SQLModel user model
   └── user.py
   - schemas/
   user_schema.py # Pydantic schemas for request/response
   - services/
  —— auth_service.py # Business logic for login, register
   - dependencies/
     — auth.py
                   # get_current_user and require_role
```

Core Components of JWT Auth API



Typical Flow

- 1. User registers → hashed_password is stored in DB.
- 2. User logs in \rightarrow token is issued.
- 3. Authenticated requests \rightarrow token is passed in **Authorization: Bearer <token>**.
- 4. FastAPI uses dependency injection to validate token and role before processing route logic.

JWT Authentication and Authorization Flow



User Registers

User creates an account



Store Hashed Password

Password is encrypted and saved



User Logs In

User enters credentials to log in



Issue Token

System generates a JWT token



Authenticated Request

User sends a request with the token



Validate Token

FastAPI checks the token's validity



Check Role

FastAPI verifies user's role



Process Route Logic

FastAPI executes the route logic

