Laracasts - PHP for Beginners

Episode 15: Basic Routing

Episode 15 Summary

1. Main Goal:

Until now, we've loaded views like index.view.php, about.view.php, contact.view.php directly.

Now we'll create a manual routing system to determine which controller to load based on the URL.

2. Getting the current path:

$uri = $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI'];

This gives you the current requested path, such as /laracast-php/about.

3. Controllers Directory:

We have controllers like:

controllers/

    index.php

    about.php

    contact.php

Each one loads a view. Example:

view("about");

4. Manual Routing using if/elseif:

$uri = $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI'];

```
if ($uri === '/laracast-php/') {
    require 'controllers/index.php';
} elseif ($uri === '/laracast-php/about') {
    require 'controllers/about.php';
} elseif ($uri === '/laracast-php/contact') {
```

```
    require 'controllers/contact.php';
} else {
    require 'controllers/404.php';
}
```

5. Handling Unmatched Routes:

Create a 404 controller:

view('404');

And a corresponding 404.view.php view file that says "Page Not Found".

6. What's Next:

Later in the series, we'll improve this with arrays and better route dispatchers.

Summary:

- $_SERVER['REQUEST_URI']: gets current URL path

- if/elseif to route requests

- Controller files manage each page logic

- view() renders views

- 404.php for unknown paths