POSTMAN

(a basic guide for REST API Testing)

created Akash Jindal

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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DEEPAK CHANANA

Many Thanks DEEPAK CHANANA for the best of your support, motivation and knowledge you always try to give to your students at very best.

Thank you for taking out your valuable time out of your schedule and bringing out the best of many of us.

Thank you for enhancing the knowledge, boosting up the confidence and shaping the career path of many of us with your continuous support as mentor, as friend, as brother every time and at any time.

Application Programming Interface (API):

Is the way of communication between two applications where applications may differ in their platforms or in terms of technology also.

Features and Resources:

'Feature' is the term used in manual testing to test some functionality and similarly 'Resource' is the term used in API Automation testing referring some functionality.

Types Of API:

There are two types of API Automation, Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) and REST Assured (Representational State Transfer). Both are the web services.

URI - Uniform Resource Indicator:

Uniform resource indicator is a link at which one must perform API testing. It is provided by the developer. It consists of two parts- the Base and the endpoint.

Precisely look at the URI: - "http://localhost:3000/friends"

	http://localhost:3000 -Base	/friends	-End-point
(L	ocation where API is deployed)	(Generally r	esource- functionality)

Example:

http://localhost:3000/friends. Here, "/friends" is the resource and rest of the portion "http://localhost:3000" is the part of Base and is the location where the API is deployed.

HTTP Methods:

HTTP defines a set of request methods to indicate the desired action to be performed for a given resource.

Below are the various http requests or methods we use in API automation testing

Http Request	Description
1. Get	No data is required for this request. it is used to fetch the data from the given resource location.
2. Post	Data is required for this kind of request. It is used to insert the data at the given resource location.
3. Put	Data is required for this request. Whole of the data is passed that is to be updated and the one that is not to be updated. Requires certain ID value too to update that particular record.
4. Patch	Data is required to for this http request also. Only that data is passed whichis required to be updated, requires certain ID value too to update that record
5. Delete	No data is required to this request. It deletes the record (data) from the given resource location. Requires certain ID value too to update that record.

HTTP Response and Status Code:

HTTP Response is the server's information as a result of the client's request.

Status Codes are issued by a server in response to a client's request made to the server.

(Browse the https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_HTTP_status_codes URL for list of HTTP Response Status Codes)

JavaScript Object Notation (JSON):

JSON stands for JavaScript Object Notation. JSON is a lightweight format for storing and transporting data. Just remember two things now that Json have data in the form of object(s) and Array(s).

JSON is a data format/Notation that is used by the web services to transmit over the communication channel for an instance JSON is often used when data is sent from a server to a web page. JSON is "self- describing" and easy to understand.

JSON Example:

```
This example defines a Student object: an array of 3 employee records (objects):

{
"Student":[
{"firstName":"Johny", "lastName":"Doe"},
{"firstName":"Ananiya", "lastName":"Smithy"},
{"firstName":"Raghubir", "lastName":"Singh"}]
}
```

JSON Syntax Rules:

- Data is in name/value pairs.
- Data is separated by commas.
- Curly braces hold objects.
- Square brackets hold arrays.

The JSON format is syntactically identical to the code for creating JavaScript objects. Because of this similarity, a JavaScript program can easily convert JSON data into native JavaScript objects. The JSON syntax is derived from JavaScript object notation syntax, but the JSON format is text only. Code for reading and generating JSON data can be written in any programming language.

JSON data (Simple JSON):

JSON data is written as name/value pairs, just like JavaScript object properties. A name/value pair consists of a field name (in double quotes), followed by a colon, followed by a value:

```
{"firstName":"Johny"}
```

JSON names require double quotes. JavaScript names do not.

JSON Objects (Complex JSON):

JSON objects are written inside curly braces. Just like in JavaScript, objects can contain multiple name/value pairs :

```
"Personal":
{

{"firstName":"Johny",
"lastName":"Doe"
},
"Id":"369",
"Age":"38"
}
```

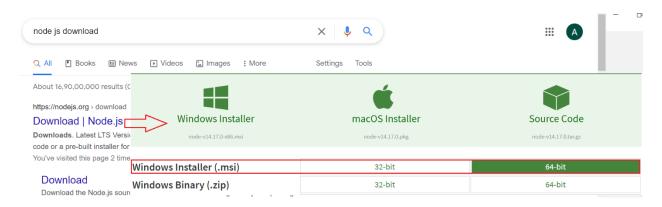
JSON Arrays (JSON in the Form of Array):

JSON arrays are written inside square brackets. Just like in JavaScript, an array can contain objects:

```
"Student": [
{"firstName":"Johny", "lastName":"Doe"},
{"firstName":"Ananiya", "lastName":"Smithy"} ]
```

Steps To Create Dummy API's For Testing

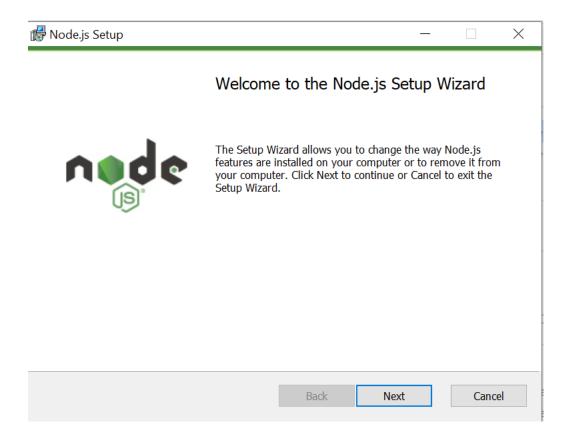
1. Install node js for creating dummy API's. Open a browser and download node js.



- **2.** Download the setup meeting your system requirement.
- 3. Downloaded file will be an executable file:

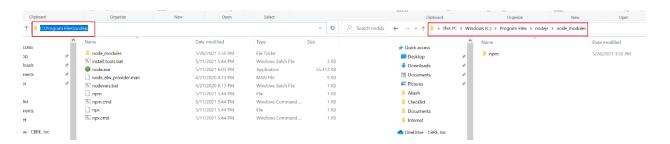


4. Simply click on the setup and install.



This will enable the system with node js setup.

- **5.** Installing the node js setup provide us with the file named : **npm**.
- **6. npm**: **Node Package Manager**: helps us in installing any of the node js package.
- 7. Copy the path of the **node js** setup and **node_modules** directory :



and make an entry of the same under:

System Properties → Environment Variables → System Variables → Path

8. Verify the installed version of the node js under cmd :

command: node --version

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18363.1556]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\akash.jindal>node --version
v14.17.0

C:\Users\akash.jindal>
```

9. Verify the installed version of the npm under cmd :

command: npm --version

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18363.1556]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\akash.jindal>node --version
v14.17.0

C:\Users\akash.jindal>npm --version
6.14.13

C:\Users\akash.jindal>_
```

10. Install the json-server package with the help of npm:

command: npm install -g json-server

```
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18363.1556]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\akash.jindal>node --version
v14.17.0

C:\Users\akash.jindal>npm --version
6.14.13

C:\Users\akash.jindal>npm install -g json-server
C:\Users\akash.jindal\npm install -g json-server
-> C:\Users\akash.jindal\AppData\Roaming\npm\node_modules\json-server\lib\cli\bin.js
+ json-server@0.16.3
added 182 packages from 80 contributors in 62.098s
```

11. Verify the installed version of the json-server under cmd:

command : json-server --version

```
Command Prompt
Microsoft Windows [Version 10.0.18363.1556]
(c) 2019 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved.

C:\Users\akash.jindal>node --version
v14.17.0

C:\Users\akash.jindal>npm --version
6.14.13

C:\Users\akash.jindal>npm install -g json-server
C:\Users\akash.jindal\appData\Roaming\npm\json-server -> C:\Users\akash.jindal\AppData\Roaming\npm\node_modules\json-server\lib\cli\bin.js
+ json-server@0.16.3
added 182 packages from 80 contributors in 62.098s

C:\Users\akash.jindal>json-server --version
0.16.3

C:\Users\akash.jindal>__
```

12. We will create a json file for having our json data:

Json data → key : value relationship

where:

- [] denotes Array Notation
- {} denotes Object Notation

13. Create a .json file using txt file with the data as shown:

Data.json

```
Data.json - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

{
"Batch1" : [],
"Batch2" : []
}
```

14. Start json-server under cmd:

command: json-server –watch 'path of your json file'

```
Select Command Prompt - json-server --watch C:\Users\akash.jindal\Data.json
}
C:\Users\akash.jindal>json-server --watch C:\Users\akash.jindal\Data.json
\{^_^}/ hi!
Loading C:\Users\akash.jindal\Data.json
Done

Resources
http://localhost:3000/Batch1
http://localhost:3000/Batch2

Home
http://localhost:3000

Type s + enter at any time to create a snapshot of the database
Watching...
```

Resources:

http://localhost:3000/Batch1 http://localhost:3000/Batch2

will be our dummy API's or the individual features or functionality or resources.

(use CTRL + C to stop the json-server)

15. Verify the same using browser's tab:



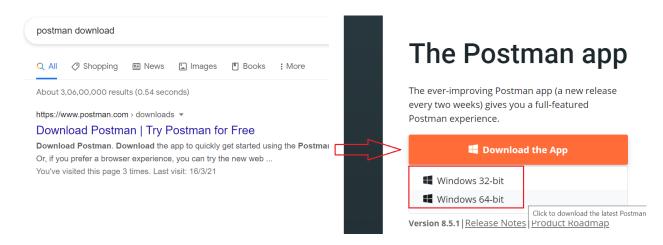
We are going to insert the data under these API's.

POSTMAN

POSTMAN is a tool used for REST API testing manually or through automation.

Getting Started with POSTMAN:

1. Open a browser and download POSTMAN:

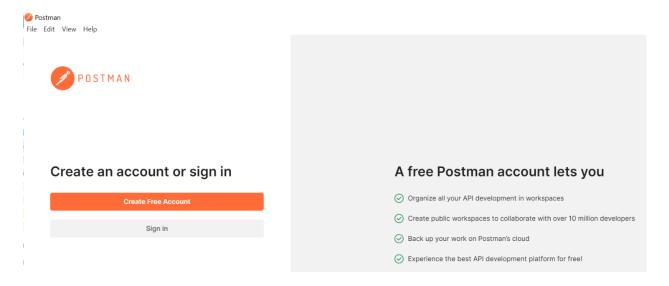


Download the application meeting your system requirement.

2. Downloaded file will be an executable file:

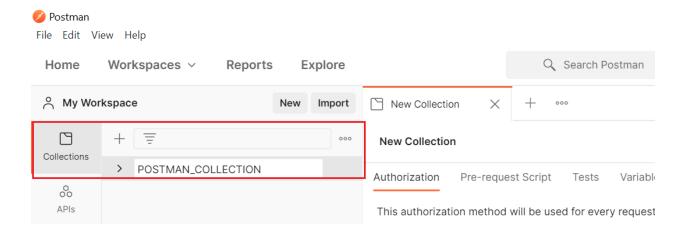


3. Simply click on the setup and install.

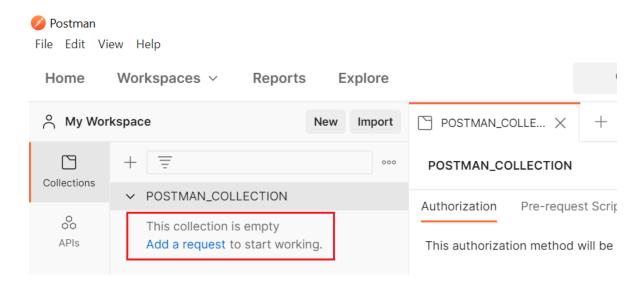


- 4. Create a POSTMAN account and sign in with same.
- 5. Create a **COLLECTIONS** in POSTMAN:

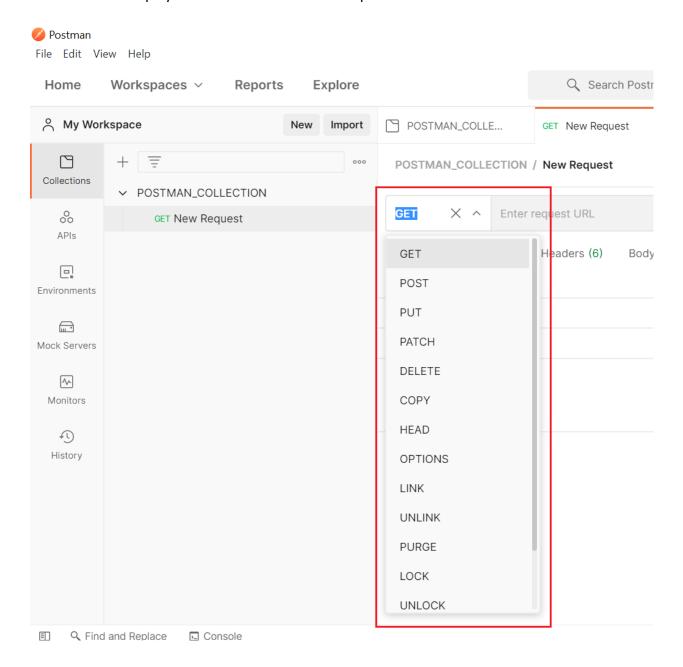
POSTMAN COLLECTIONS are a group of saved requests you can organize into folders.



6. Click **Add a Request** to start using POSTMAN for different **HTTP Requests**:



7. POSTMAN will display the list of different HTTP Requests :



Hitting HTTP REQUESTS Using POSTMAN

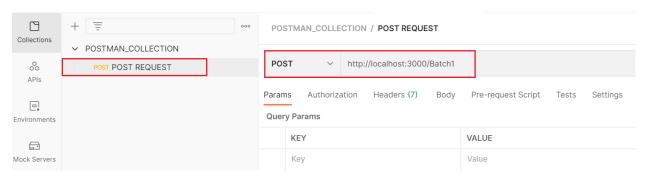
1. POST REQUEST using POSTMAN :

Create a new request under:

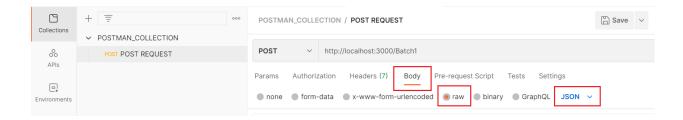
COLLECTIONS → POST REQUEST

Select HTTP Request as POST and enter the dunny API (one we created using json-server):

http://localhost:3000/Batch1



Select Body → raw and JSON as parameters for json body data :



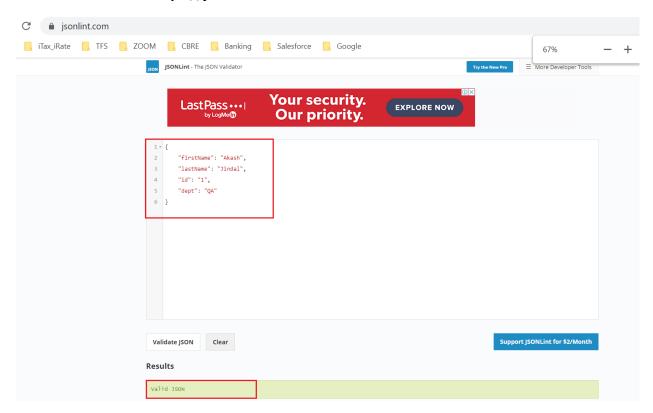
A. POST REQUEST: SIMPLE JSON:

```
Simple JSON DATA:

{

    "firstName": "Akash",
    "lastName": "Jindal",
    "id": "1",
    "dept": "QA"
}
```

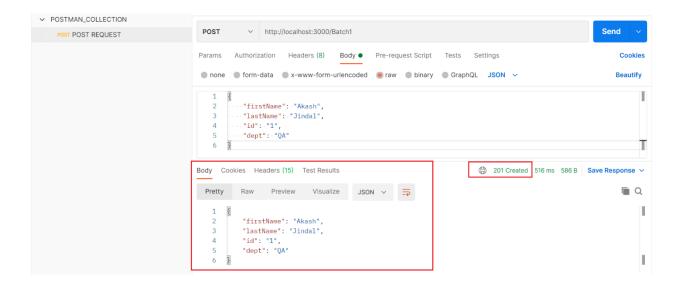
We can make use of https://jsonlint.com to validate the JSON data:



Paste the data under the **Body** in POSTMAN and click **Send**:



Validate the Status Code and the received data:



Validate the same under the Data.json file:

```
Data.json - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

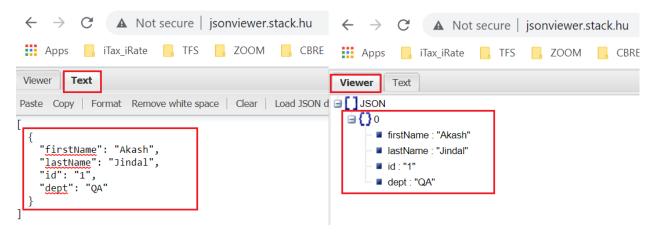
{
    "Batch1": [
        {
            "firstName": "Akash",
            "lastName": "Jindal",
            "id": "1",
            "dept": "QA"
        }
    ],
    "Batch2": []
}
```

Validate the same using browser's tab:

Make sure to use the same API used for POST Request:

Validate the json structure using http://jsonviewer.stack.hu:

Paste the json data and validate:

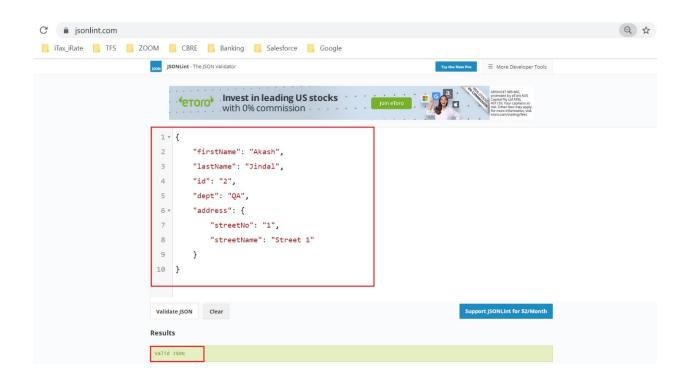


(Please do note that we must make use of "id" which is case-sensitive and unique while using the data to have unique entry of the records just like PRIMARY KEY else a random id will be generated while hitting HTTP requests)

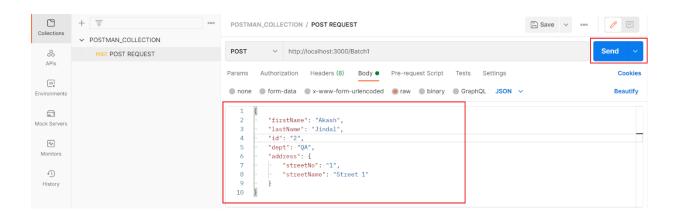
B. POST REQUEST: COMPLEX JSON:

```
Complex JSON DATA:
{
    "firstName": "Akash",
    "lastName": "Jindal",
    "id": "2",
    "dept": "QA",
    "address": {
        "streetNo": "1",
        "streetName": "Street 1"
    }
}
```

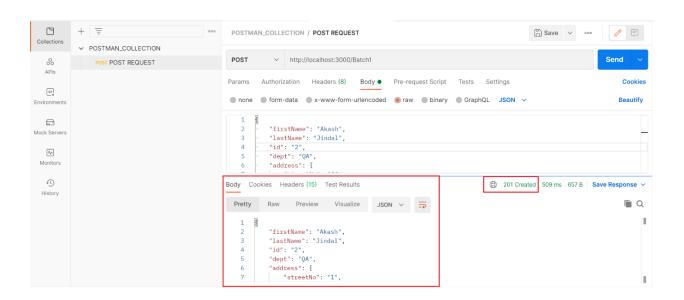
We can make use of https://jsonlint.com to validate the JSON data:



Paste the data under the **Body** in POSTMAN and click **Send**:



Validate the Status Code and the received data:



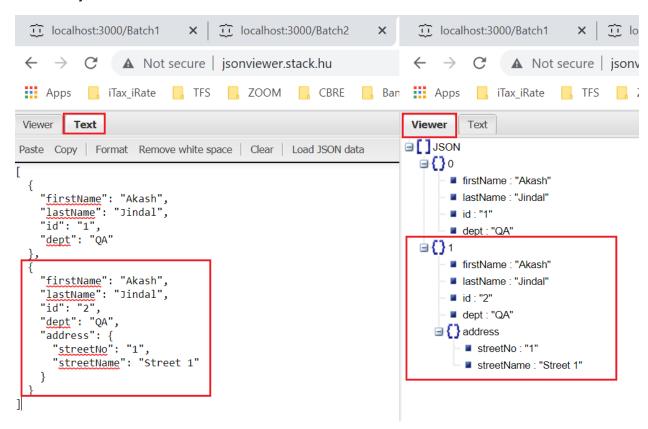
Validate the same under the Data.json file:

Validate the same using browser's tab:

Make sure to use the same API used for POST Request:

Validate the json structure using http://jsonviewer.stack.hu:

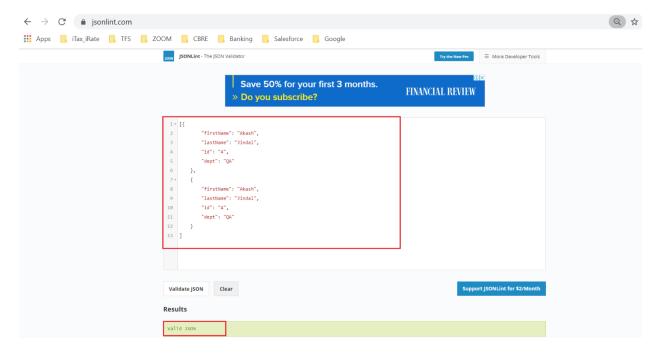
Paste the json data and validate:



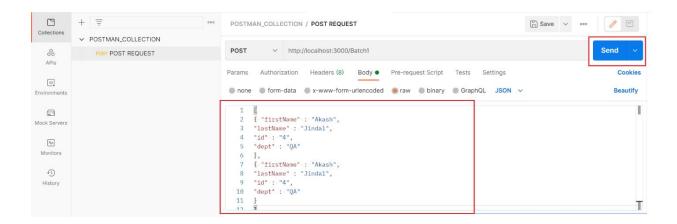
(Please do note that we must make use of "id" which is case-sensitive and unique while using the data to have unique entry of the records just like PRIMARY KEY else a random id will be generated while hitting HTTP requests)

C. POST REQUEST: IN FORM OF ARRAY JSON:

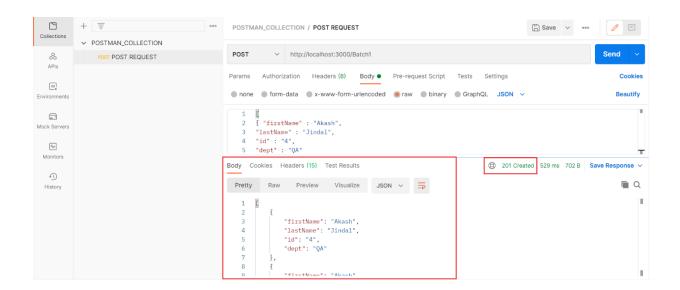
We can make use of https://jsonlint.com to validate the JSON data:



Paste the data under the Body in POSTMAN and click Send :



Validate the **Status Code** and the received data:



Validate the same under the **Data.json** file:

```
Data.json - Notepad
<u>File Edit Format View Help</u>
  "Batch1": [
    {
      "firstName": "Akash",
      "lastName": "Jindal",
      "id": "1",
      "dept": "QA"
    },
      "firstName": "Akash",
      "lastName": "Jindal",
      "id": "2",
      "dept": "QA",
      "address": {
        "streetNo": "1",
        "streetName": "Street 1"
      }
        "firstName": "Akash",
        "lastName": "Jindal",
        "id": "4",
        "dept": "QA"
      },
        "firstName": "Akash",
        "lastName": "Jindal",
        "id": "4",
        "dept": "QA"
    ]
  ],
  "Batch2": []
```

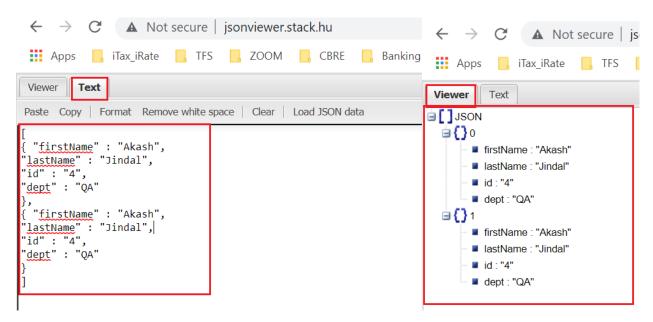
Validate the same using browser's tab:

Make sure to use the same API used for POST Request:

```
localhost:3000/Batch1
                                 II loc
 \leftarrow \rightarrow G
              localhost:3000/Batc
Apps 📙 iTax_iRate 📙 TFS 📙 Z
[
    "firstName": "Akash",
    "lastName": "Jindal",
    "id": "1",
"dept": "QA"
  },
  {
    "firstName": "Akash",
    "lastName": "Jindal",
    "id": "2",
    "dept": "QA",
    "address": {
    "streetNo": "1",
      "streetName": "Street 1"
    }
  "firstName": "Akash",
      "lastName": "Jindal",
      "id": "4",
      "dept": "QA"
    },
      "firstName": "Akash",
      "lastName": "Jindal",
      "id": "4",
      "dept": "QA"
  ],
```

Validate the json structure using http://jsonviewer.stack.hu:

Paste the json data and validate:

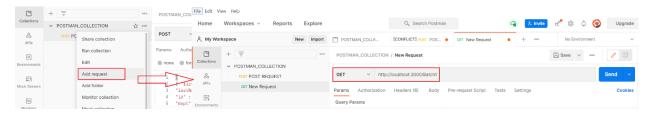


(Please do note that we must make use of "id" which is case-sensitive and unique while using the data to have unique entry of the records just like PRIMARY KEY else a random id will be generated while hitting HTTP requests)

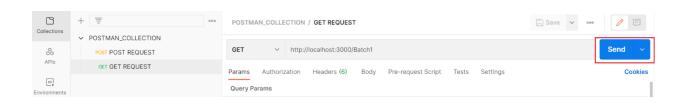
2. **GET REQUEST** using POSTMAN:

Create a new request under COLLECTIONS.

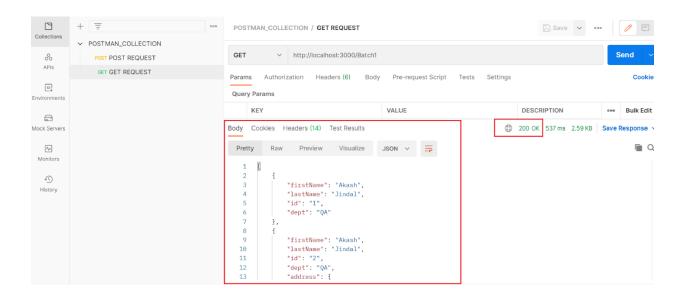
Select GET request from the HTTP Requests list and paste the required API.



Click Send.



Validate the Status Code and the received data:



Result set will be the complete list of data under the specified API as we have not used any **Query Parameter** or **Path Parameter** along with the API.

Query Parameter : Query Parameters are used to control what data is returned in endpoint responses, **denoted by "?"**.

Example:

Use **URI** as: http://localhost:3000/Batch1?firstaName=Akash

Here,

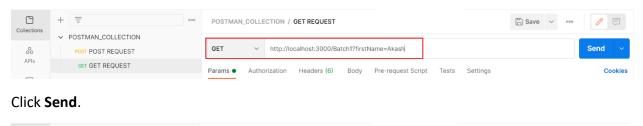
URI: Base + Endpoint + Parameter

Base: http://localhost:3000

Endpoint: /Batch1

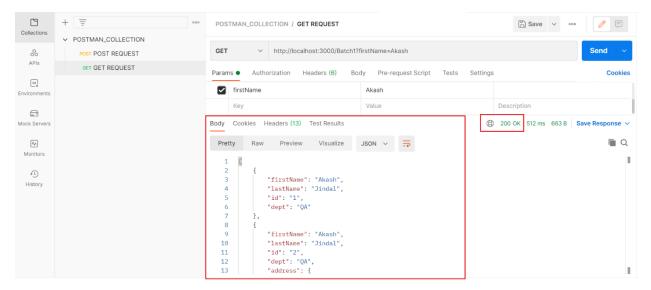
Query Parameter: ?firstName=Akash

Select GET request from the HTTP Requests list and paste the required API.





Validate the Status Code and the received data:



Result set will retrieve the data associated with **firstName**: Akash.

Path Parameter: Path Parameters are used to identify a resource uniquely, **denoted by** "/".

Example:

Use **URI** as: http://localhost:3000/Batch1\1

Here,

URI: Base + Endpoint + Parameter

Base: http://localhost:3000

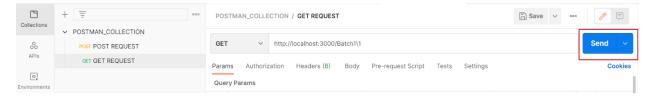
Endpoint:/Batch1

Path Parameter: /1

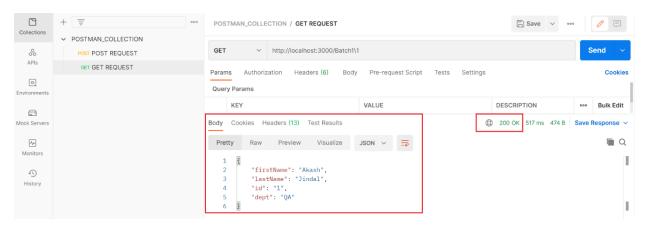
Select **GET request from the HTTP Requests list** and paste the required API.



Click Send.



Validate the Status Code and the received data:



Result set will retrieve the data associated with id: 1.

3. **DELETE REQUEST** using POSTMAN:

Use **URI** as: http://localhost:3000/Batch1\2

Here,

URI: Base + Endpoint + Parameter

Base: http://localhost:3000

Endpoint : /Batch1

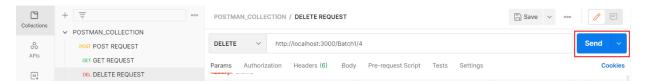
Path Parameter: /2

Create a new request under COLLECTIONS.

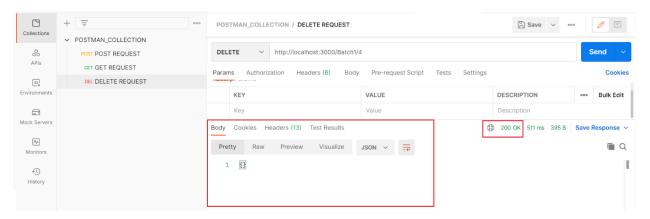
Select GET request from the HTTP Requests list and paste the required API.



Click Send.



Validate the Status Code and the received data:



Executing the command will delete all the records having id: 4.

4. PUT REQUEST using POSTMAN:

Use **URI** as: http://localhost:3000/Batch1\2

Here,

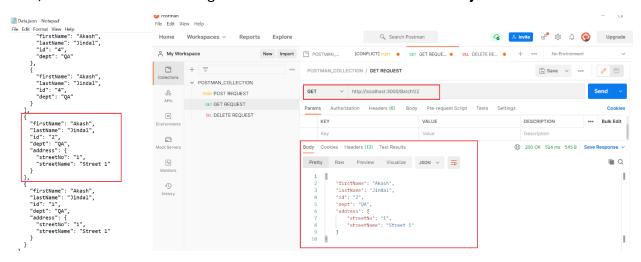
URI: Base + Endpoint + Parameter

Base: http://localhost:3000

Endpoint : /Batch1

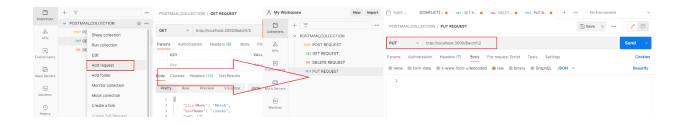
Path Parameter: /2

First, have a look at the existing data associated with id: 2 under Data.json file and POSTMAN:

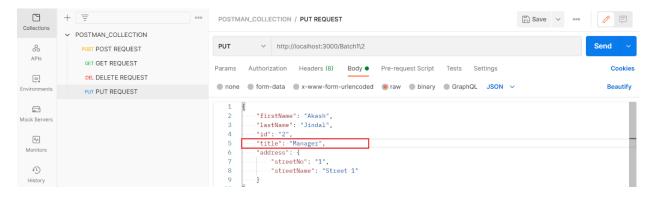


Create a new request under COLLECTIONS.

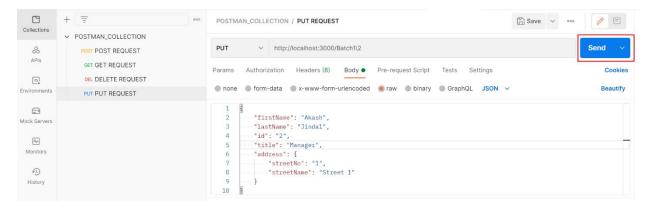
Select **PUT request from the HTTP Requests list** and paste the required API.



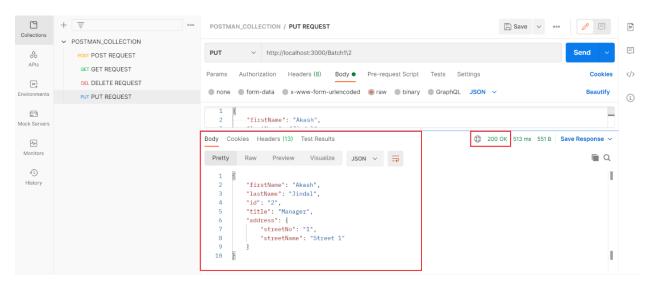
Update the required data : from : dept : QA to : title : Manager :



Click Send.



Validate the Status Code and the received data:



Executing the command will update the record having **id**: 2.

Validate the same under the Data.json file:

```
Poetma
🗐 Data.json - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
        "firstName": "Akash",
        "lastName": "Jindal",
        "id": "4",
        "dept": "QA"
      },
        "firstName": "Akash",
        "lastName": "Jindal",
        "id": "4",
        "dept": "QA"
      }
      "firstName": "Akash",
      "lastName": "Jindal",
      "id": "2",
      "title": "Manager",
      "address": {
        "streetNo": "1",
        "streetName": "Street 1"
      }
    },
      "firstName": "Akash",
      "lastName": "Jindal",
      "id": "1",
      "dept": "QA",
      "address": {
        "streetNo": "1",
        "streetName": "Street 1"
```

Validate the same using browser's tab:

Make sure to use the same API used for PUT Request:

```
localhost:3000/Batch1
              localhost:3000/Ba
Apps
        iTax_iRate
                      TFS
 ],
     "firstName": "Akash",
     "lastName": "Jindal",
     "id": "4",
     "dept": "QA"
   },
     "firstName": "Akash",
     "lastName": "Jindal",
     "id": "4",
     "dept": "QA"
   "firstName": "Akash",
   "lastName": "Jindal",
   "id": "2",
   "title": "Manager",
   "address": {
     "streetNo": "1",
     "streetName": "Street 1"
   "firstName": "Akash",
   "lastName": "Jindal",
```

Important : Following are the points needs to be taken into consideration while using PUT REQUEST :

- We have to pass **id** as path parameter to specify the record to be updated.
- We have to pass the complete data along with the required data to be updated while hitting the PUT request, else only the required data to be updated will be set as the new data in association with the **id** used and all the remaining existing data will be lost.

5. PATCH REQUEST using POSTMAN:

Use **URI** as: http://localhost:3000/Batch1\2

Here,

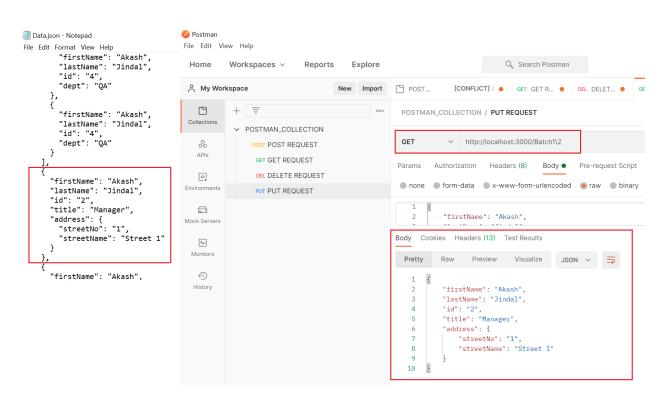
URI: Base + Endpoint + Parameter

Base: http://localhost:3000

Endpoint : /Batch1

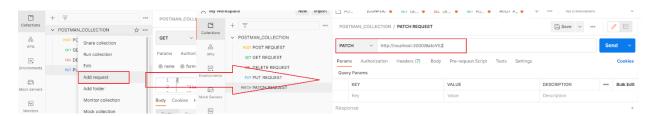
Path Parameter: /2

First, have a look at the existing data associated with id: 2 under Data.json file and POSTMAN:

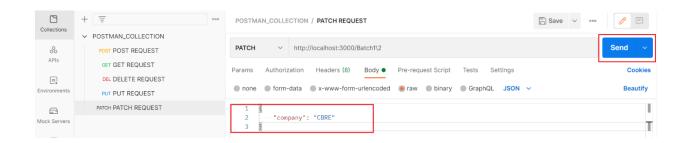


Create a new request under COLLECTIONS.

Select PATCH request from the HTTP Requests list and paste the required API.



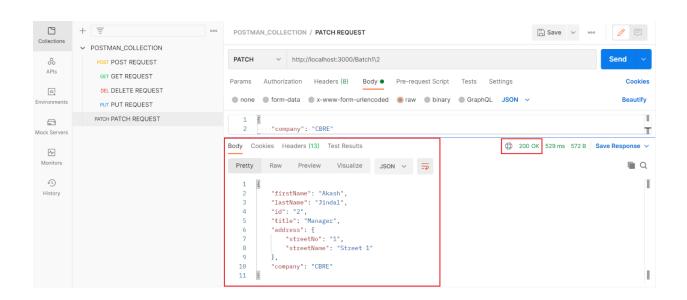
Update the required data : from : title : Manager to : company : CBRE :



Click Send.



Validate the Status Code and the received data:



Executing the command will update the record having id: 2.

Validate the same under the **Data.json** file:

```
Datajson - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

"lastName": "Jindal",
"id": "4",
"dept": "QA"
},

{

"firstName": "Akash",
"lastName": "Jindal",
"id": "4",
"dept": "QA"
}

},

{

"firstName": "Akash",
"lastName": "Jindal",
"id": "2",
"title": "Manager",
"address": {

"streetNo": "1",
"streetName": "Street 1"
},
"company": "CBRE"
},

"firstName": "Akash".
```

Validate the same using browser's tab:

Make sure to use the same API used for PATCH Request:

Important: Following are the points needs to be taken into consideration while using PATCH REQUEST:

- We have to pass **id** as path parameter to specify the record to be updated.
- We can pass only the required data to be added or modified while hitting the PATCH request and no need of passing the complete associated data.