Intro

Since the beginning of this course, we were dealing with static data, oftentimes hard-coded. But in real life applications, we need to pull data from an external resource.

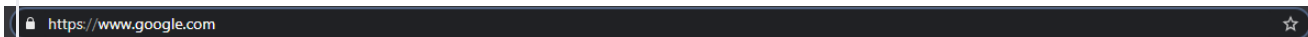What if we want to handle data from an API? That's the purpose of this section.

Specifically, we'll make use of the Fetch API and axios as examples for how to request and use data.

Example APIs

ProgrammableWeb is a site that tracks more than 15,500 APIs. Google Maps, Twitter, YouTube, Flickr and Amazon Product Advertising as some of the most popular APIs. The following list contains several examples of popular APIs:

1. Google Maps API: Google Maps APIs lets developers embed Google Maps on webpages using a JavaScript or Flash interface. The Google Maps API is designed to work on mobile devices and desktop browsers. Link to API: Link

2. YouTube APIs: Google's APIs lets developers integrate YouTube videos and functionality into websites or applications. It includes the YouTube Analytics API, YouTube Data API, YouTube Live Streaming API, YouTube Player APIs... link to youtube API: Link

3. Flickr API: The Flickr API is used by developers to access the Flick photo sharing community data. The Flickr API consists of a set of callable methods, and some API endpoints. Link to API: Link

4. Twitter APIs: Twitter offers two APIs.

   - The REST API allows developers to access Twitter's core data. Link
   - The Search API provides methods for developers to interact with Twitter Search and trends data.Link to APIs: Link

5. Amazon Product Advertising API: Amazon's Product Advertising API gives developers access to Amazon's product selection and discovery functionality to advertise Amazon products to

What is a base URL?

A base URL is basically the consistent part of your web address.

For example, you'll note that the address section https://www.google.com/ always appears in the address bar.

This is the base URL. Everything that follows it is known as a URL path.

To find the base URL of your website, go to the site's front page. What you see in the address bar on your site's front page is the base URL of your website.

The base URL example

The following is an example of a well-formed REST URL:

https://284-RPR-133.mktorest.com/rest/v1/lead/318581.json?
fields=email,firstName,lastName

Which is composed of the following parts:

Base URL: https://284-RPR-133.mktorest.com/rest

Path: /v1/lead/

Resource: 318582.json

Query parameter: fields=email,firstName,lastName