

NESTJS RATE LIMITING SERIES



Framework: NestJS v11.0.5

- Packages:
@nestjs/throttler: ^6.4.0

Part 2

- Customizing Rate Limits in NestJS

Let's take rate limiting a step further

In real-world APIs, some routes may need stricter or looser limits, or none at all. NestJS gives us the tools to fine-tune that.

In this part, you'll learn:

- ✓ How to override global rate limits using @Throttle()
- ✓ How to exclude routes from throttling using @SkipThrottle()
- ✓ Why per-route control is essential in real-world APIs

NestJS gives you all the tools. Let's see them in action! ✓

@SkipThrottle() Decorator

What is @SkipThrottle()?

It's a decorator provided by @nestjs/throttler that tells NestJS to ignore rate limiting for the decorated route or controller.

What it does:

- ✔ Disables throttling temporarily for specific endpoints or entire controllers.
- ✔ Useful for public routes like /login, /signup, or /healthcheck.

How it works:

Scope	Example Use Case
Method-level	Apply to a single endpoint only
Controller-level	All routes inside the controller are excluded

@SkipThrottle() Usage Examples

Skipping Throttling (Controller-Level)

Apply **@SkipThrottle()** to the whole controller

```
2 | import { SkipThrottle } from '@nestjs/throttler';
3 |
4 | @SkipThrottle()
5 | @Controller()
6 | export class AppController {
7 |   @Get()
8 |   getHome(): string {
9 |     return 'Welcome to the API!';
10 |   }
11 |
12 |   @Get('products')
13 |   getProducts(): string {
14 |     return 'Here are some products!';
15 |   }
16 |
17 |   @Post('auth/login')
18 |   login(@Body() body: { username: string; password: string }): string {
19 |     return `Login attempt for user: ${body.username} with password: ${body.password}`;
20 |   }
21 | }
```

✓ Effect:

- No throttling on any route in this controller.
- Great for public/open-access APIs.

@SkipThrottle() Usage Examples

Skipping Throttling (Method-Level Only)

Apply **@SkipThrottle()** to a specific route

```
src > TS app.controller.ts > AppController > login
1  import { Controller, Get, Post, Body } from '@nestjs/common';
2  import { SkipThrottle } from '@nestjs/throttler';
3
4  @Controller()
5  export class AppController {
6    @Get()
7    getHome(): string {
8      return 'Welcome to the API!';
9    }
10
11    @Get('products')
12    getProducts(): string {
13      return 'Here are some products!';
14    }
15
16    @SkipThrottle()
17    @Post('auth/login')
18    login(@Body() body: { username: string; password: string }): string {
19      return `Login attempt for user: ${body.username} with password: ${body.password}`;
20    }
21  }
```

✓ Effect:

- Only the /auth/login route bypasses throttling.
- All other routes are still rate-limited globally.

@Throttle() Decorator

What is @Throttle()?

A decorator from **@nestjs/throttler** that overrides the default/global rate limits for specific routes or controllers.

What It Does:

- Apply custom rate limits (requests and time) per:
 - Endpoint (method-level)
 - Whole controller (controller-level)
- Useful when:
 - Some routes need stricter or looser rate limits

Syntax:

```
@Throttle({  
  default: { ttl: numberInSeconds, limit: number },  
})
```

@Throttle() Usage Examples

Controller-Level @Throttle() Example

```
c > TS app.controller.ts > AppController
1  import { Controller, Get, Post, Body } from '@nestjs/common';
2  import { seconds, Throttle } from '@nestjs/throttler';
3
4  @Throttle({
5    default: { ttl: seconds(10), limit: 2 }, // Override default throttler
6  })
7  @Controller()
8  export class AppController {
9    @Get()
10    getHome(): string {
11      return 'Welcome to the API!';
12    }
13
14    @Get('products')
15    getProducts(): string {
16      return 'Here are some products!';
17    }
18
19    @Post('auth/login')
20    login(@Body() body: { username: string; password: string }): string {
21      return `Login attempt for user: ${body.username} with password: ${body.password}`;
22    }
23  }
```

✓ Effect:

- All routes in this controller limited to 2 requests every 10 seconds

@Throttle() Usage Examples

Method-Level @Throttle() Example

```
src > TS app.controller.ts > ⚙️ AppController > 📦 login
1  import { Controller, Get, Post, Body } from '@nestjs/common';
2  import { seconds, Throttle } from '@nestjs/throttler';
3
4  @Controller()
5  export class AppController {
6    @Get()
7    getHome(): string {
8      return 'Welcome to the API!';
9    }
10
11    @Get('products')
12    getProducts(): string {
13      return 'Here are some products!';
14    }
15
16    @Throttle({
17      ⚡ default: { ttl: seconds(10), limit: 2 }, // Override default throttler
18    })
19    @Post('auth/login')
20    login(@Body() body: { username: string; password: string }): string {
21      return `Login attempt for user: ${body.username} with password: ${body.password}`;
22    }
23  }
```

✓ Effect:

- Only /auth/login is limited to 2 request every 10 seconds
- Other routes follow the global limit

What's Coming Next — Advanced Throttling in NestJS

In the upcoming advanced section of this series, we'll take rate limiting to the next level using powerful features provided by `@nestjs/throttler`.

Here's a preview of what we'll be exploring:

- ✓ **Named Throttlers:** create multiple throttling strategies for different scenarios
- ✓ **Overriding Named Throttlers:** apply the right limit for the right route
- ✓ **Using `@SkipThrottle()` with Named Throttlers:** fine-grained control
- ✓ **Custom `@Throttle()` with Named Contexts:** smart, targeted protection
- ✓ **Storage Backends:**
 - In-Memory (easy to start)
 - Redis (best for scalability & real-world apps)

Ready to build truly robust API protection?

Stay tuned. We're just getting started with NestJS throttling!