



Guided Project: Building a Book Management System with Express.js & Frontend Filtering

This project will **refactor the frontend** and **build a full backend** using **Express.js**, replacing the previous JSON server. Trainees will apply **backend filtering, sorting, and handling CORS**, while reusing the frontend they previously built.



Project Objectives

1. **Build a backend with Express.js** to serve book data via API.
 2. **Enable CORS** for frontend access.
 3. **Implement filtering, sorting, and pagination** on the backend.
 4. **Refactor the frontend** to fetch data from the new backend instead of the JSON server.
 5. **Use frontend JavaScript** to apply dynamic UI filters and sorting.
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Project Structure

pgsql

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/book-management

```
|— /backend
|   |— server.ts (Express backend)
|   |— books.ts (Book data and filtering logic)
|   |— routes.ts (Routes for handling API requests)
|   |— middleware.ts (CORS & error handling)
|   |— package.json
|   |— tsconfig.json
|— /frontend
|   |— index.html (UI for book display)
|   |— style.css (Basic styles)
|   |— index.ts (Handles DOM manipulation)
|   |— api.ts (Handles API requests)
```

```
|   |— bookRenderer.ts (Formats and displays books)
|— README.md
```

Step 1: Setting Up the Backend

Backend Setup

- Install **Express.js**, **TypeScript**, and **CORS**.
- Create a **server** that serves book data via API.

Trainee Tasks

- Set up an **Express.js server** with TypeScript.
 - Create an **API route** (**/api/books**) to serve book data.
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Step 2: Implement Backend Filtering & Sorting

Filtering Books

- Allow filtering by:
 - **Genre** → **/api/books?genre=Fantasy**
 - **Year Published** → **/api/books?year=1950**
 - **Page Count** → **/api/books?pages=500**
- Combine filters dynamically.

Sorting Books

- Sort by year (ascending/descending).
- Sort by number of pages.

Trainee Tasks

- Implement **query parameters** (**req.query**) for filtering and sorting.
 - Ensure the backend returns **filtered & sorted results** dynamically.
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Step 3: Handling CORS & Error Management

Enable CORS

- Allow **frontend requests** (<http://localhost:5173>).
- Use **middleware** to apply CORS policies.

Error Handling

- Handle **invalid requests** (e.g., [400 Bad Request](#)).
- Handle **server errors** (e.g., [500 Internal Server Error](#)).

Trainee Tasks

- Set up **CORS middleware**.
 - Implement **error handling** middleware.
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Step 4: Refactor the Frontend

Update API Calls

- Replace **JSON server calls** with **Express API requests**.

Frontend Filtering & Sorting

- Implement **dropdowns for filtering**.
- Add **buttons for sorting**.
- Use `.map()`, `.filter()`, and `.sort()` on fetched data.

Trainee Tasks

- Update **API requests** in [api.ts](#).
 - Implement **event listeners** for dynamic filtering/sorting.
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Step 5: Dynamic UI Interactions

Live Book Filtering

- User selects "Fantasy" → Only Fantasy books appear.
- User selects "Before 1950" → Only older books appear.

Special Book Messages

- If pages > 500 → Display "Long Read" badge.
- If year < 1900 → Display "Classic Literature" alert.



Trainee Tasks

- Implement **event-driven UI updates**.
- Add **badges for special books**.

Final Task: Building a Powerful Book Searching System

- ✓ Backend serves **filtered & sorted book data**.
- ✓ Frontend dynamically filters **books based on user input**.
- ✓ **CORS enabled** to allow frontend-backend interaction.
- ✓ Books sorted & formatted with **UI enhancements**.



Stretch Goals

- ♦ Implement pagination → `/api/books?page=2&limit=5`
- ♦ Allow multiple filters at once (e.g., `?genre=Fiction&year=1950`).
- ♦ Enhance UI with animations when filtering.



Expected Outcome

By the end of this project, trainees will: ✓ **Build & manage an Express.js backend**
✓ **Filter & sort books on the backend**
✓ **Handle CORS & API requests correctly**
✓ **Implement dynamic UI filtering on the frontend**



Now they have a complete backend-powered book management system! 

