EXPRESS.JSON() AND EXPRESS.URLENCODED()

Express does not read the request body for you by default

What? This means you have to tell Express to do this

Express will then read the HTTP request body and put the parsed body in the Request.body property

how

EXPRESS.JSON() AND EXPRESS.URLENCODED()

You can use express.json() and/or express.urlencoded() as middleware functions

Don't freak out. Middleware is just code that will be run before the server sends back a response to the browser

You only use express.json() and express.urlencoded() for POST and PUT requests

why

EXPRESS.JSON() AND EXPRESS.URLENCODED()

Remember, with both POST and PUT requests, you are sending data to the server as an object

You are asking the server to save this data (object) or update it in some way

The data that is sent to the server is contained in the HTTP request body – this happens by default by the browser

Bottom line: Express gives us middleware to deal with the incoming data (object) in the body of the request

EXPRESS.JSON() AND EXPRESS.URLENCODED()

express.json() tells Express to read the incoming Request Object as a JSON Object

express.urlencoded() tells Express to read the incoming Request Object as a string or array or if it is sent using a form and the Content-Type is x-www-form-urlencoded

Bottom line: right now, we only need to use express.urlencoded() as we will assume a form is being used to submit data to the server via the x-www-form-urlencoded Content-Type