

Node.js + Express Training Program (2 Weeks)

Week 1 – Foundations

Day 1 – Node.js Fundamentals

Why Learn:

Understand Node.js architecture, event loop, and asynchronous programming to build scalable apps.

Tasks:

- Build a CLI tool that prints system info (OS, memory, uptime).
Create a basic HTTP server without Express.
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Day 2 – Express Basics

Why Learn:

Express simplifies web development with routing, middleware, and request/response handling.

Tasks:

- Create routes for users and posts.
 - Write custom middleware for logging request details.
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Day 3 – REST API Design

Why Learn:

Follow REST principles for scalable APIs and standard error handling.

Tasks:

- Build CRUD API for posts.
- Add a centralized error handler for invalid routes and bad requests.

Day 4 – Async Patterns

Why Learn:

Node.js apps rely heavily on asynchronous programming for performance.

Tasks:

- Compare callback vs Promise vs async/await with examples.
 - Implement a worker thread for CPU-heavy tasks.
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Day 5 – Database Integration

Why Learn:

Persisting and querying data is essential for any real-world application.

Tasks:

- Connect Node.js with MongoDB or PostgreSQL.
 - Build CRUD operations for posts using the database.
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Day 6 – Authentication (Part 1)

Why Learn:

Apps need secure user login and authentication.

Tasks:

- Build signup and login APIs.
 - Protect private routes with JWT authentication.
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Day 7 – Authentication (Part 2) + File Uploads

Why Learn:

Handle role-based access (admin/user) and manage media uploads.

Tasks:

- Implement role-based authorization (only admin can delete posts).

- Upload profile picture to AWS S3.
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Day 7.5 – File Processing

Why Learn:

Work with large files efficiently (streams, image processing).

Tasks:

- Implement file streaming for large text files.
 - Resize and compress an image before saving.
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Week 2 – Advanced Features

Day 8 – Emails + SMS + Background Jobs

Why Learn:

Enable notifications and asynchronous job handling in production apps.

Tasks:

- Send verification email using Nodemailer.
 - Send SMS with Twilio API.
 - Use BullMQ to schedule a background job (e.g., welcome email).
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Day 9 – Error Handling + Logging

Why Learn:

Improve debugging and monitoring for production reliability.

Tasks:

- Create centralized error middleware.
 - Implement structured logging with Winston and log rotation.
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Day 10 – Security Best Practices

Why Learn:

Protect applications from real-world security threats (XSS, CSRF, SQL Injection, DoS).

Tasks:

- Add Helmet middleware for HTTP security headers.
 - Implement rate limiting & request validation.
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Day 10.5 – Event-Driven Architecture

Why Learn:

Build scalable systems using events and messaging.

Tasks:

- Use EventEmitter to trigger a welcome email on signup.
 - Implement Redis Pub/Sub for event broadcasting.
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Day 11 – Pagination + Filtering

Why Learn:

Handle large datasets with efficient pagination and filtering.

Tasks:

- Implement API pagination for posts.
 - Add filtering and sorting options.
 - Cache responses with Redis.
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Day 12 – Project Structure + Git

Why Learn:

Maintain clean architecture and collaborate with Git workflows.

Tasks:

- Refactor project into MVC structure.
- Learn Git branching & PR workflow.

Day 12.5 – Clean Code Practices

Why Learn:

Readable and maintainable code is key to long-term success.

Tasks:

- Refactor duplicate code into reusable modules.
 - Apply ESLint rules and format code.
 - Conduct peer code reviews.
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Day 13 – Documentation + Testing

Why Learn:

Testing ensures reliability, and docs help developers use APIs.

Tasks:

- Generate Swagger docs for your APIs.
 - Write unit tests with Jest for critical routes.
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Day 14 – Deployment + Capstone Project

Why Learn:

Deploy projects to the cloud and apply all learned skills in a real-world scenario.

Tasks:

- Deploy app to Render/Heroku/AWS.
- Capstone: Build a **Blog/Events Platform** with auth, CRUD, file upload, notifications, and deployment.

Backend Libraries

1 express

- **Purpose:** Minimal and fast web framework for Node.js.

Install:

```
npm install express
```

Usage:

```
import express from "express";
const app = express();
app.get("/", (_, res) => res.send("Hello"));
app.listen(3000);
```

- **Used for:** Building REST APIs.
-

2 dotenv

- **Purpose:** Loads environment variables from `.env` file.

Install:

```
npm install dotenv
```

Usage:

```
import dotenv from "dotenv";
dotenv.config();
console.log(process.env.PORT);
```

- **Used for:** Configuration management.
-

3 cors

- **Purpose:** Enables cross-origin requests.

Install:

```
npm install cors
```

Usage:

```
import cors from "cors";
```

```
app.use(cors());
```

- **Used for:** Frontend-backend API connections.
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4 eslint & prettier

- **Purpose:** Code linting and formatting.

Install:

```
npm install eslint prettier --save-dev
```

- **Usage:**
Add `.eslintrc.json` and `.prettierrc` files to configure.
 - **Used for:** Clean, consistent code.
-

5 express-validator

- **Purpose:** Validate user inputs in routes.

Install:

```
npm install express-validator
```

Usage:

```
import { body, validationResult } from "express-validator";
app.post("/user", body("email").isEmail(), (req, res) => {
  const errors = validationResult(req);
  if (!errors.isEmpty()) return res.status(400).json(errors.array());
});
```

- **Used for:** Input sanitization.
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6 joi

- **Purpose:** Object schema validation.

Install:

```
npm install joi
```

Usage:

```
import Joi from "joi";
const schema = Joi.object({ name: Joi.string().min(3).required() });
schema.validate({ name: "Pooja" });
```

- **Used for:** Validating API request bodies.
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7 body-parser

- **Purpose:** Parse incoming request bodies.

Install:

```
npm install body-parser
```

Usage:

```
import bodyParser from "body-parser";
app.use(bodyParser.json());
```

- **Used for:** Accessing req.body.
-

8 multer

- **Purpose:** Handle file uploads.

Install:

```
npm install multer
```

Usage:

```
import multer from "multer";
const upload = multer({ dest: "uploads/" });
app.post("/upload", upload.single("file"), (req, res) =>
res.send("Uploaded"));
```

- **Used for:** Handling file uploads.

9 bcrypt / bcryptjs

- **Purpose:** Hash passwords securely.

Install:

```
npm install bcrypt
```

or

```
npm install bcryptjs
```

Usage:

```
import bcrypt from "bcryptjs";
const hash = await bcrypt.hash("password", 10);
```

- **Used for:** Secure authentication.
-

10 jsonwebtoken

- **Purpose:** Create and verify JWT tokens.

Install:

```
npm install jsonwebtoken
```

Usage:

```
import jwt from "jsonwebtoken";
const token = jwt.sign({ userId: 1 }, "secret");
```

- **Used for:** Auth middleware and session control.
-

11 lodash

- **Purpose:** Utility library for arrays, objects, functions.

Install:

```
npm install lodash
```

Usage:

```
import _ from "lodash";
console.log(_.capitalize("hello"));
```

- **Used for:** Data manipulation.
-

12 mongoose

- **Purpose:** ODM for MongoDB (schema + model-based).

Install:

```
npm install mongoose
```

Usage:

```
import mongoose from "mongoose";
mongoose.connect("mongodb://localhost:27017/test");
```

- **Used for:** MongoDB data modeling.
-

13 sequelize

- **Purpose:** ORM for MySQL, Postgres, SQLite.

Install:

```
npm install sequelize mysql2
```

Usage:

```
import { Sequelize } from "sequelize";
const sequelize = new Sequelize("db", "user", "pass", { dialect:
"mysql" });
```

- **Used for:** SQL database abstraction.
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14 prisma

- **Purpose:** Modern ORM for SQL/NoSQL with schema generation.

Install:

```
npm install prisma --save-dev
npx prisma init
```

- **Usage:**

Define models in `schema.prisma`, then run `npx prisma generate`.

- **Used for:** Clean DB management.
-

15 jest

- **Purpose:** Testing framework for JS/Node.

Install:

```
npm install jest --save-dev
```

Usage:

```
test("sum", () => expect(1 + 2).toBe(3));
```

- **Used for:** Unit and integration testing.
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16 nodemailer

- **Purpose:** Send emails easily from Node.js.

Install:

```
npm install nodemailer
```

Usage:

```
import nodemailer from "nodemailer";
const transporter = nodemailer.createTransport({ service: "gmail",
auth: { user: "you@gmail.com", pass: "pass" } });
transporter.sendMail({ to: "test@gmail.com", subject: "Hello", text:
"Hi!" });
```

- **Used for:** Email verification, password resets.