

Day 45

"Web Development + Security"

Response, Request and Routers in Express:

What Are Requests and Responses?

Every time a client (like your browser or frontend app) interacts with your Express server:

CLIENT → [HTTP REQUEST] → SERVER (Express)

SERVER → [HTTP RESPONSE] → CLIENT

Request (req)

It represents data coming into the server (from the client).

It can include:

- URL → /home, /about, etc.
- Method → GET, POST, PUT, DELETE
- Query parameters → ?id=10&name=Aditya
- Body data → JSON or form data in a POST request
- Headers, cookies, etc.

Response (res)

This is what the server sends back to the client — can be text, JSON, HTML, or status codes.

Common methods:

- res.send() → Send text, JSON, or HTML
- res.json() → Send JSON data
- res.status(code) → Set HTTP status code
- res.redirect() → Redirect to another URL

Routers in Express (From Basics)

When your app grows, you'll have many routes — /, /login, /products, etc. Putting them all in one file makes it messy.

Routers help organize routes into smaller, modular files.

Summary

Concept	Description	Example
req	Request object → contains info sent by client	req.query, req.params, req.body
res	Response object → used to send data back	res.send("Hello"), res.json({...})
Router	Helps organize routes into smaller files	app.use("/users", userRoutes)

What Are HTTP Request Methods?

When a client (browser, frontend, or app) sends data to your Express.js server, it does so using different HTTP methods — each representing a different kind of operation.

Think of it like:

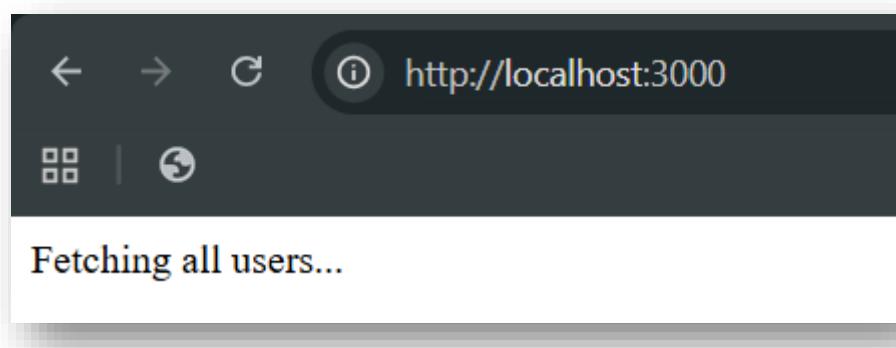
- ◆ GET = Ask for info
 - ◆ POST = Send new info
 - ◆ PUT = Update existing info
 - ◆ DELETE = Remove info
- 1) GET Request – can be checked by browser

Purpose: Used to retrieve data from the server. It does not modify anything — just reads data.

Example: of get request

```
JS main.js > ...
1 const express = require('express')
2 const app = express()
3 const port = 3000
4
5 app.get('/', (req, res) => {
6   res.send('Fetching all users...')
7 }
8
9 app.listen(port, () => {
10   console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
11 })
12
```

Output:

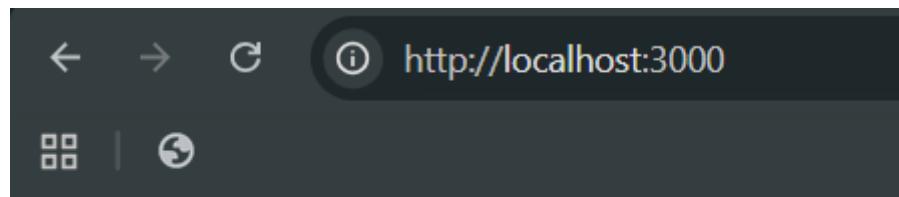


Now, printing something in the terminal we will use the console.log():

Code:

```
JS main.js > ⚙ app.get('/') callback
1 const express = require('express')
2 const app = express()
3 const port = 3000
4
5 app.get('/', (req, res) => {
6   console.log("Hey it is a get request")
7   res.send('Fetching all users...')
8 })
9
10 app.listen(port, () => {
11   console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
12 })
```

Output: Browser



Fetching all users...

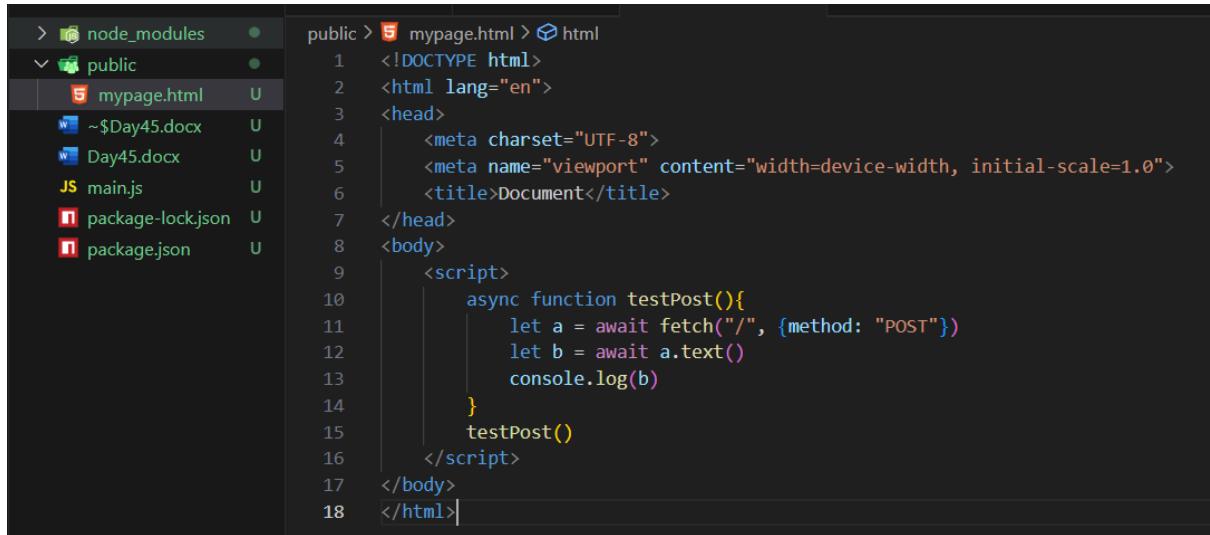
Output: terminal. Clearly, console.log prints on the terminal and res.send prints on the browser window.

```
[nodemon] restarting due to changes...
[nodemon] starting `node main.js`
Example app listening on port 3000
Hey it is a get request
□
```

2) POST Request – can be checked when by creating a public folder

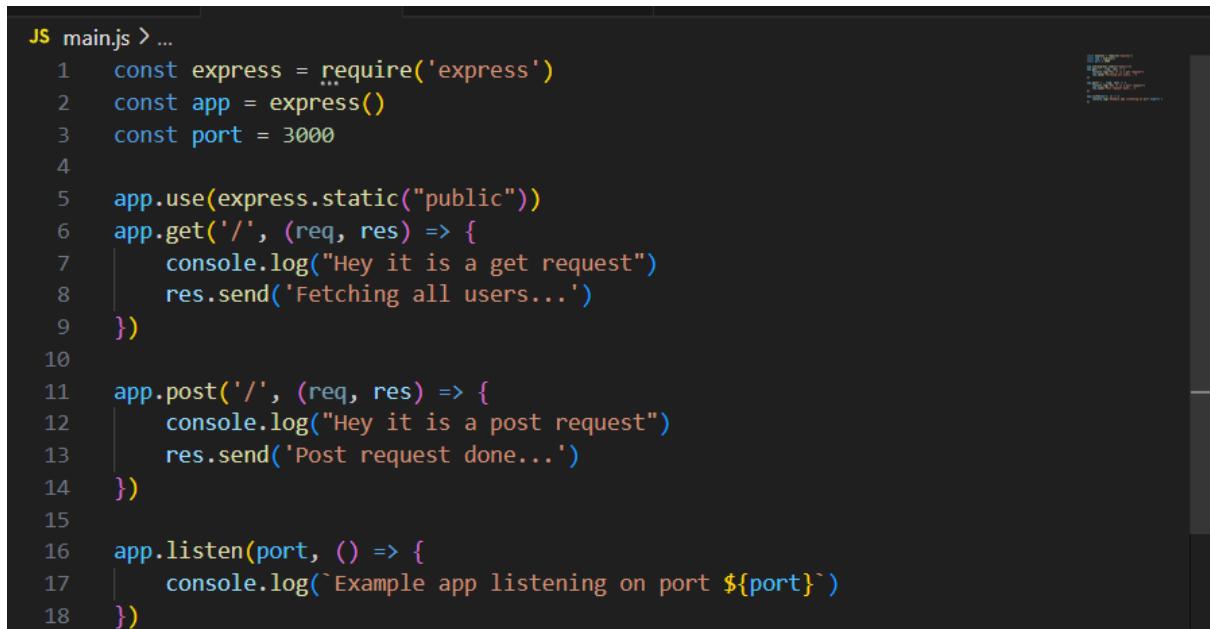
Purpose: Used to send or create new data on the server. Usually used with forms or JSON bodies.

Example: of post request. For which we will be creating a public folder and creating mypage.html inside it.



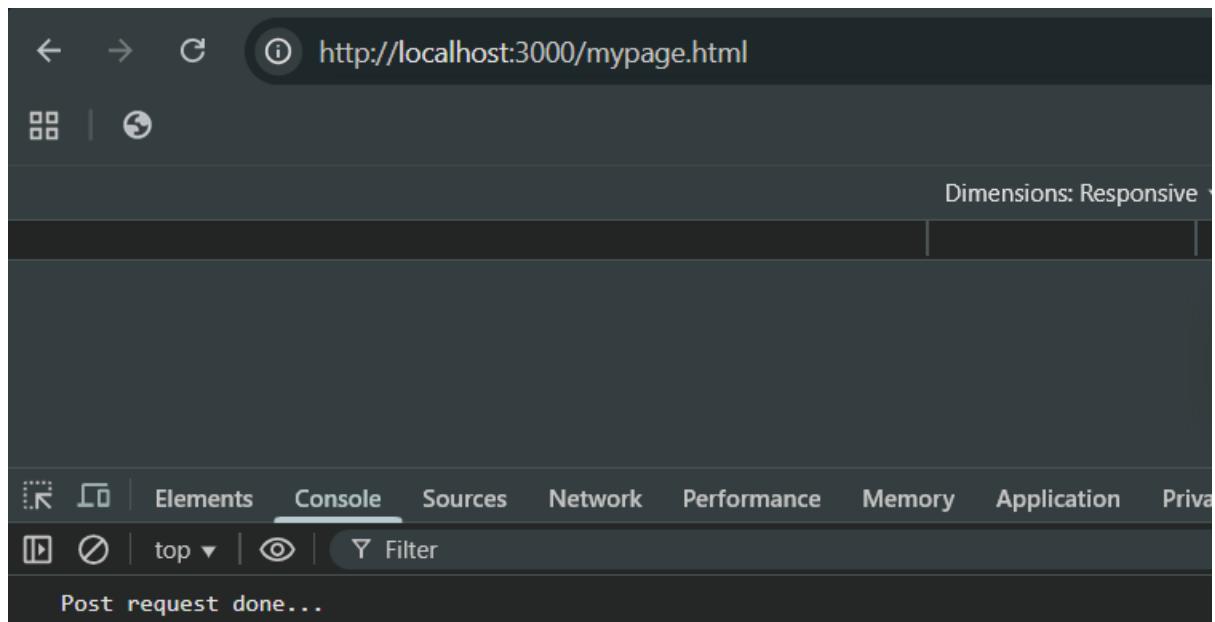
```
> node_modules
  public > mypage.html > html
    mypage.html
      !DOCTYPE html>
      <html lang="en">
        <head>
          <meta charset="UTF-8">
          <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
          <title>Document</title>
        </head>
        <body>
          <script>
            async function testPost(){
              let a = await fetch("/", {method: "POST"})
              let b = await a.text()
              console.log(b)
            }
            testPost()
          </script>
        </body>
      </html>
```

Also, we will be writing the post request code in the main.js:



```
main.js > ...
1 const express = require('express')
2 const app = express()
3 const port = 3000
4
5 app.use(express.static("public"))
6 app.get('/', (req, res) => {
7   console.log("Hey it is a get request")
8   res.send('Fetching all users...')
9 })
10
11 app.post('/', (req, res) => {
12   console.log("Hey it is a post request")
13   res.send('Post request done...')
14 })
15
16 app.listen(port, () => {
17   console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
18 })
```

Output: in console when we visit the mypage.html in the website via local host



Terminal output:

```
[nodemon] restarting due to changes...
[nodemon] starting `node main.js`
Example app listening on port 3000
Hey it is a post request
```

3) PUT Request – try to change the value we had given by post

Purpose: Used to update or replace an existing resource completely.

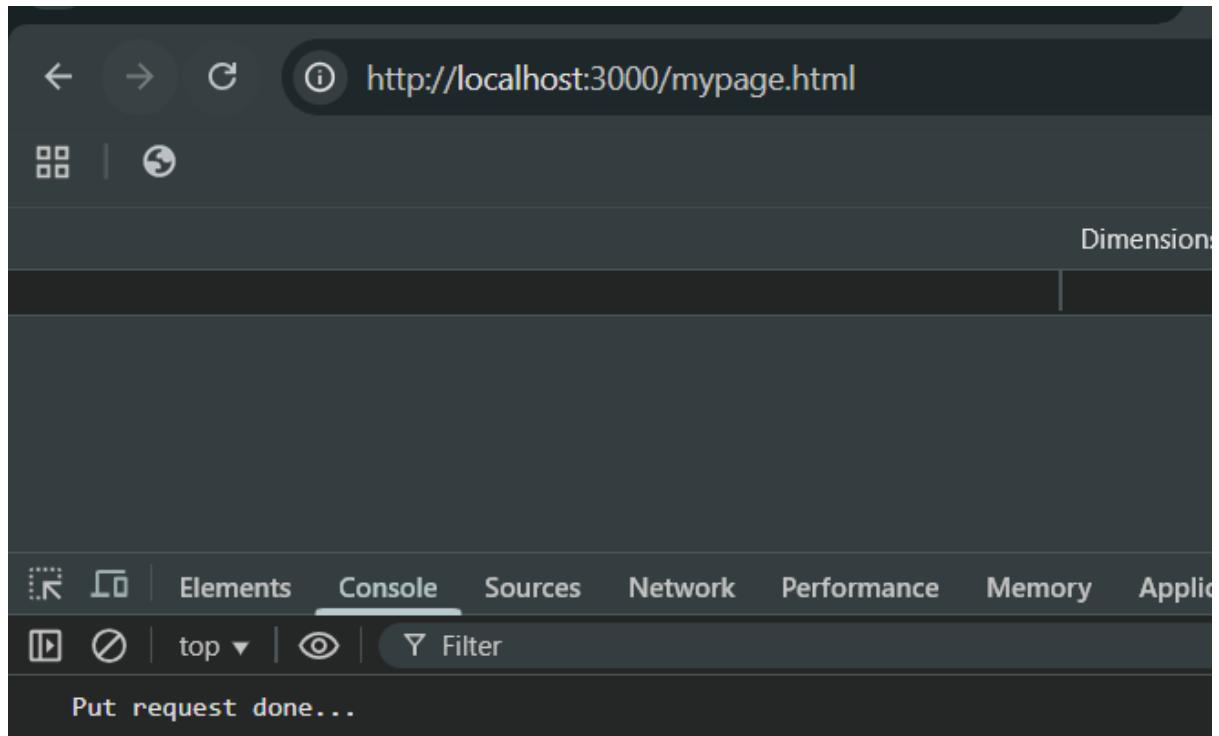
Mypage.html: we wrote “PUT” over the method name.

```
public > 5 mypage.html > 6 html
  1  <!DOCTYPE html>
  2  <html lang="en">
  3  <head>
  4    <meta charset="UTF-8">
  5    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
  6    <title>Document</title>
  7  </head>
  8  <body>
  9    <script>
10      async function testPost(){
11        let a = await fetch("/", {method: "PUT"})
12        let b = await a.text()
13        console.log(b)
14      }
15      testPost()
16    </script>
17  </body>
18 </html>
```

Main.js: we added put request

```
JS main.js > ...
1  const express = require('express')
2  const app = express()
3  const port = 3000
4
5  app.use(express.static("public"))
6  app.get('/', (req, res) => {
7    console.log("Hey it is a get request")
8    res.send('Fetching all users...')
9  })
10
11 app.post('/', (req, res) => {
12   console.log("Hey it is a post request")
13   res.send('Post request done...')
14 })
15
16 app.put('/', (req, res) => {
17   console.log("Hey it is a put request")
18   res.send('Put request done...')
19 })
20
21 app.listen(port, () => {
22   console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
23 })
```

Output: console



Output: terminal

```
[nodemon] restarting due to changes...
[nodemon] starting `node main.js`
Example app listening on port 3000
Hey it is a put request
[]
```

Now, we can also make the chain of the request. It is basically the other way of writing the code we wrote till now:

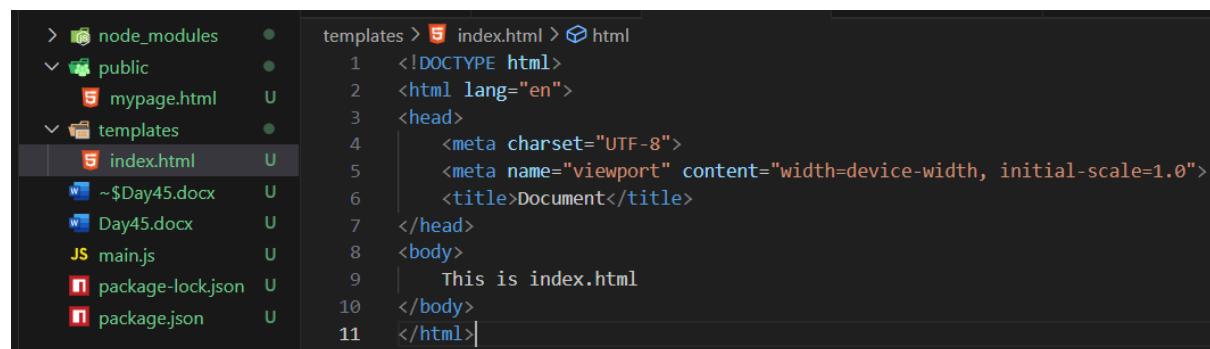
Main.js: we just remove “app” from each .post, .put and made a chain.

```
26 //Chaining of request
27 const express = require('express')
28 const app = express()
29 const port = 3000
30
31 app.use(express.static("public"))
32 app.get('/', (req, res) => {
33   console.log("Hey it is a get request")
34   res.send('Fetching all users...')
35 }).post('/', (req, res) => {
36   console.log("Hey it is a post request")
37   res.send('Post request done...')
38 }).put('/', (req, res) => {
39   console.log("Hey it is a put request")
40   res.send('Put request done...')
41 })
42
43 app.listen(port, () => {
44   console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
45 })
```

Now, suppose **we want to serve the HTML**:

Then to do so, we should first create a template folder, and inside it we will create the index.html.

Index.html:



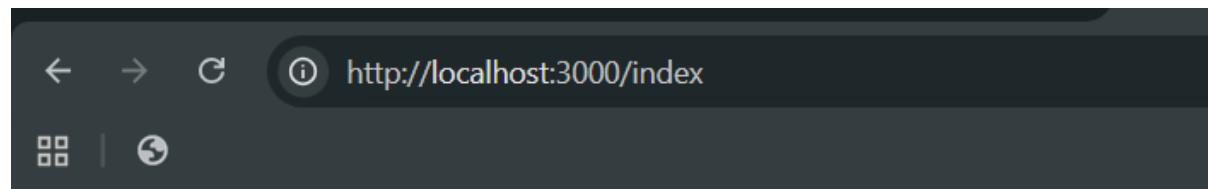
```
node_modules
public
  mypage.html
templates
  index.html
  ~$Day45.docx
  Day45.docx
  main.js
  package-lock.json
  package.json
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
  <meta charset="UTF-8">
  <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
  <title>Document</title>
</head>
<body>
  This is index.html
</body>
</html>
```

Main.js:

```
JS main.js > ...
47 //Serving the index.html
48
49 const express = require('express')
50 const app = express()
51 const port = 3000
52
53 app.use(express.static("public"))
54 app.get('/', (req, res) => {
55   console.log("Hey it is a get request")
56   res.send("Fetching all users...")
57 })
58
59 app.post('/', (req, res) => {
60   console.log("Hey it is a post request")
61   res.send("Post request done...")
62 })
63
64 app.put('/', (req, res) => {
65   console.log("Hey it is a put request")
66   res.send("Put request done...")
67 })
68
69 //to get the index.html
70 app.get('/index', (req, res) => {
71   console.log("Hey its index")
72   res.send('Hello world index!')
73 })
74 app.listen(port, () => {
75   console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
76 })
```

Output: at browser when we visited index



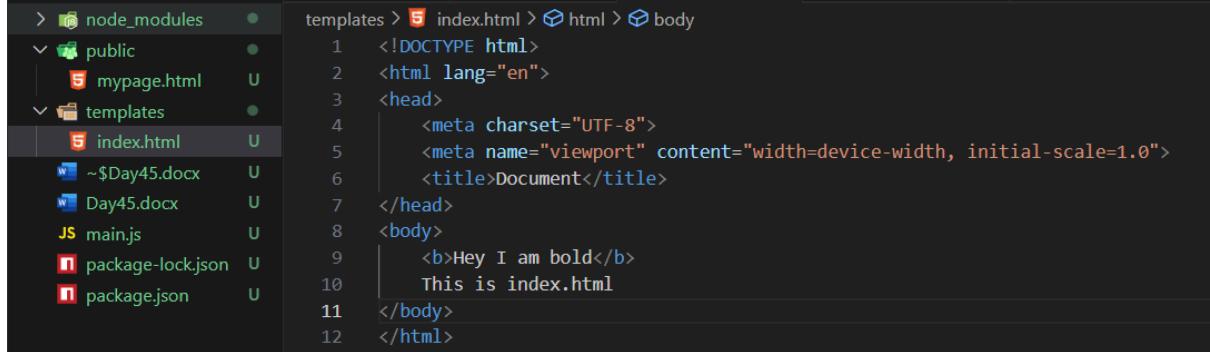
Hello world index!

Output: console

```
[nodemon] restarting due to changes...
[nodemon] starting `node main.js`
Example app listening on port 3000
Hey its index
[]
```

Now, suppose we want to render the HTML properly, then we will use .sendFile as shown below:

Index.html:



The screenshot shows a file explorer window with the following structure:

- node_modules
- public
 - mypage.html
- templates
 - index.html
 - ~\$Day45.docx
 - Day45.docx
 - main.js
 - package-lock.json
 - package.json

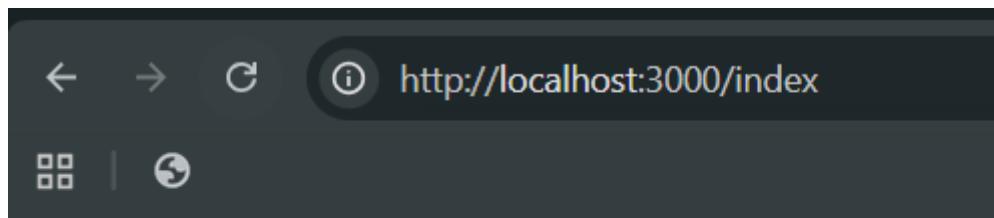
On the right, the content of index.html is displayed:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
<head>
    <meta charset="UTF-8">
    <meta name="viewport" content="width=device-width, initial-scale=1.0">
    <title>Document</title>
</head>
<body>
    <b>Hey I am bold</b>
    This is index.html
</body>
</html>
```

Main.js:

```
47 //Serving the index.html
48
49 const express = require('express')
50 const app = express()
51 const port = 3000
52
53 app.use(express.static("public"))
54 app.get('/', (req, res) => {
55     console.log("Hey it is a get request")
56     res.send('Fetching all users...')
57 })
58
59 app.post('/', (req, res) => {
60     console.log("Hey it is a post request")
61     res.send('Post request done...')
62 })
63
64 app.put('/', (req, res) => {
65     console.log("Hey it is a put request")
66     res.send('Put request done...')
67 })
68
69 //to get the index.html properly rendered
70 app.get('/index', (req, res) => [
71     console.log("Hey its index")
72     res.sendFile('templates/index.html', {root: __dirname})
73 ])
74 app.listen(port, () => {
75     console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
76 })
```

Output: browser



Hey I am bold This is index.html

Output: terminal

```
Example app listening on port 3000
[nodemon] restarting due to changes...
[nodemon] starting `node main.js`
Example app listening on port 3000
Hey its index
[]
```

Also,

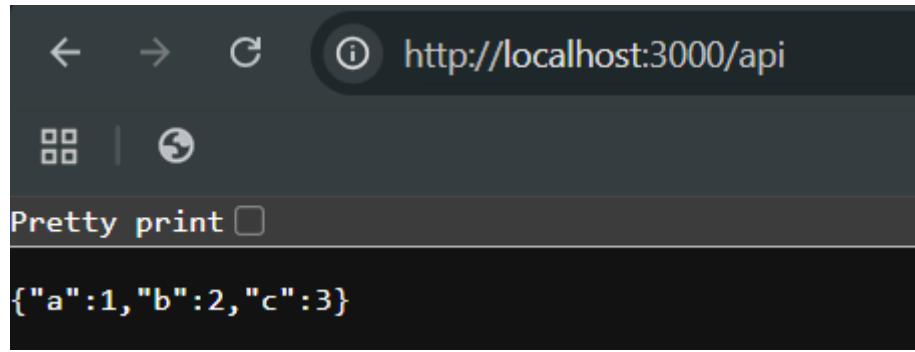
Method	Description
res.download()	Prompt a file to be downloaded.
res.end()	End the response process.
res.json()	Send a JSON response.
res.jsonp()	Send a JSON response with JSONP support.
res.redirect()	Redirect a request.
res.render()	Render a view template.
res.send()	Send a response of various types.
res.sendFile()	Send a file as an octet stream.
res.sendStatus()	Set the response status code and send its string representation as the response body.

Now, suppose we want that “/api” should return the JSON.

Main.js:

```
49  const express = require('express')
50  const app = express()
51  const port = 3000
52
53  app.use(express.static("public"))
54  app.get('/', (req, res) => {
55    console.log("Hey it is a get request")
56    res.send('Fetching all users...')
57  })
58
59  app.post('/', (req, res) => {
60    console.log("Hey it is a post request")
61    res.send('Post request done...')
62  })
63
64  app.put('/', (req, res) => {
65    console.log("Hey it is a put request")
66    res.send('Put request done...')
67  })
68
69 //to get the index.html properly rendered
70 // app.get('/index', (req, res) => {
71 //   console.log("Hey its index")
72 //   res.sendFile('templates/index.html', {root: __dirname})
73 // })
74
75 // for api and JSON
76 app.get('/api', (req, res) => {
77   console.log("Hey its index")
78   res.json({a:1, b:2, c:3}, {root: __dirname})
79 })
80 app.listen(port, () => {
81   console.log(`Example app listening on port ${port}`)
82 })
```

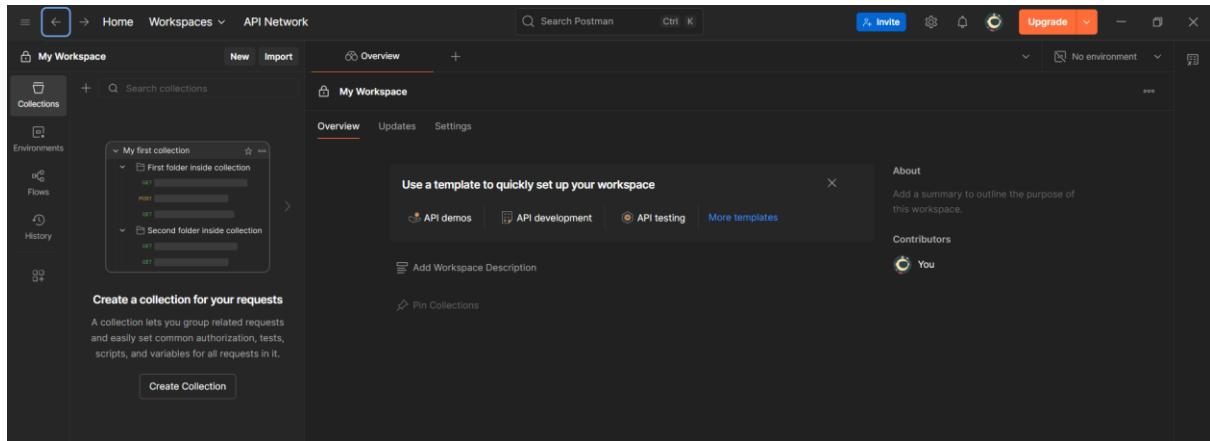
Output: browser



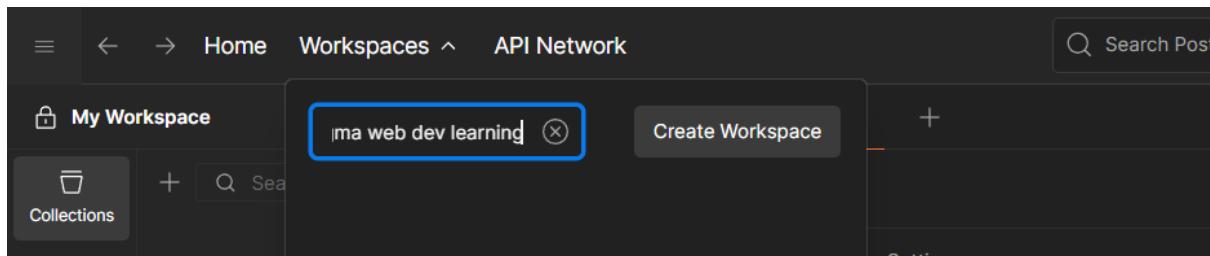
A screenshot of a web browser window. The address bar shows the URL `http://localhost:3000/api`. Below the address bar is a toolbar with icons for back, forward, and refresh. The main content area has a "Pretty print" checkbox checked. The JSON response `{"a":1,"b":2,"c":3}` is displayed in the browser's text area.

Now, postman:

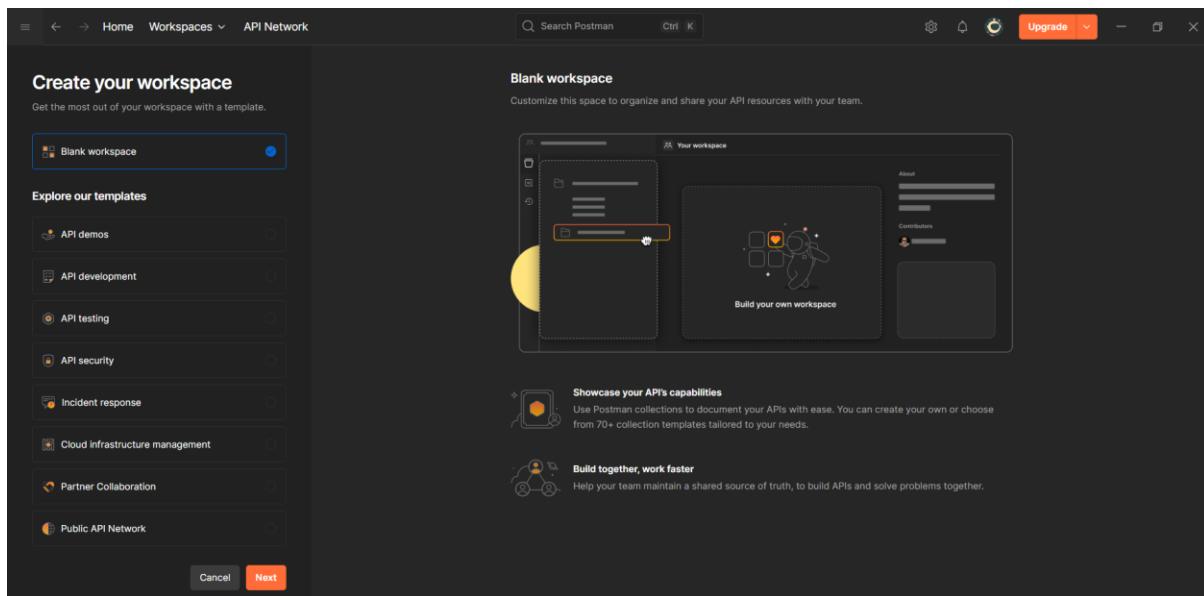
Creating a new workspace in the Postman:



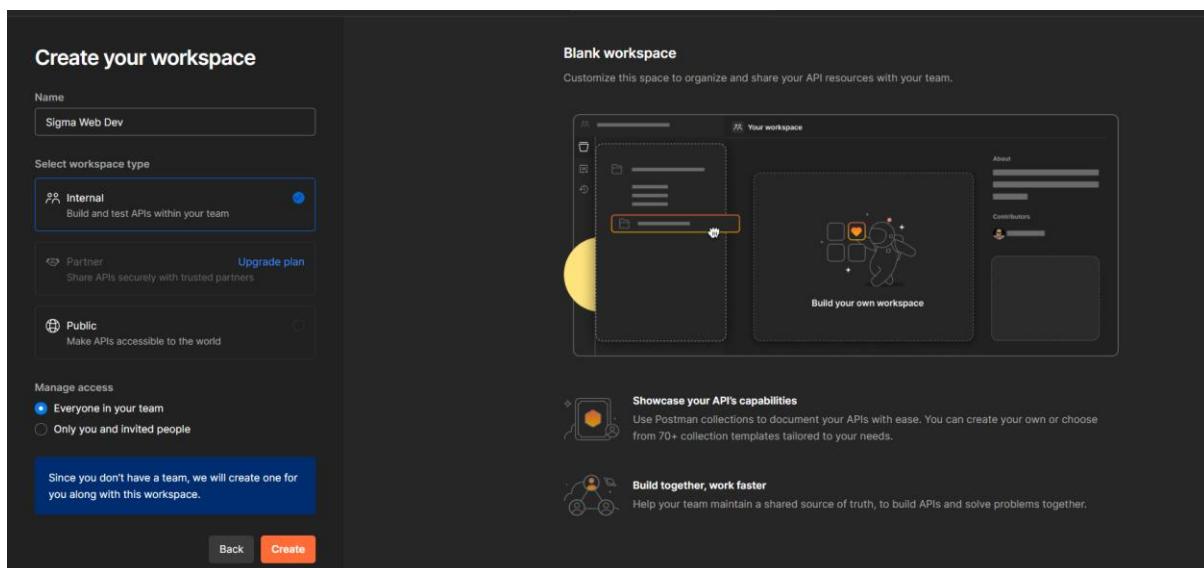
Type the name:



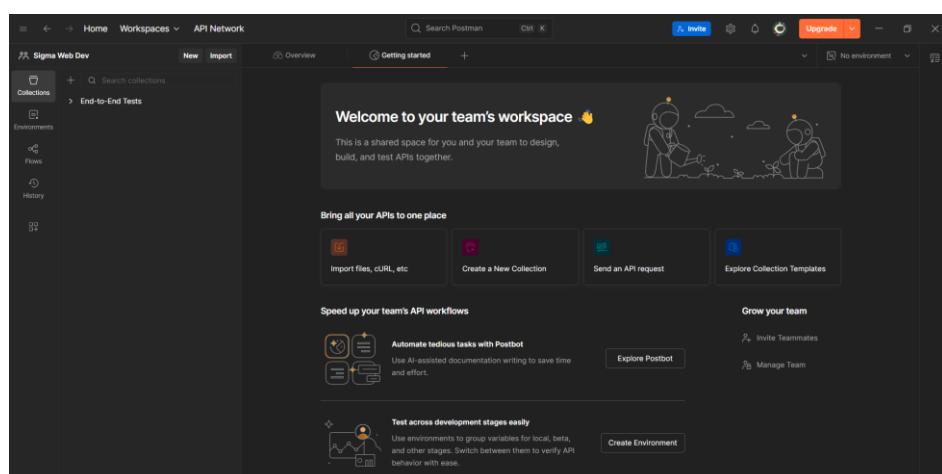
Following window will appear: click on the “blank workspace” option.



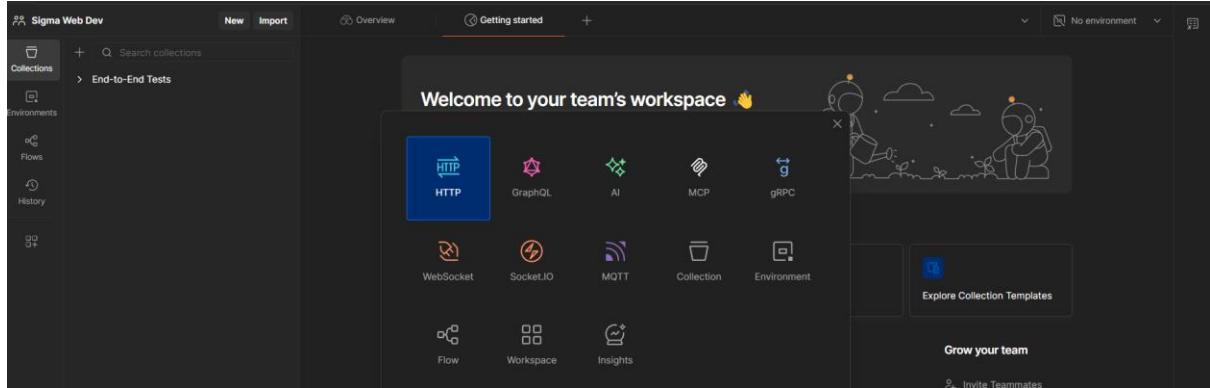
Specify the name:



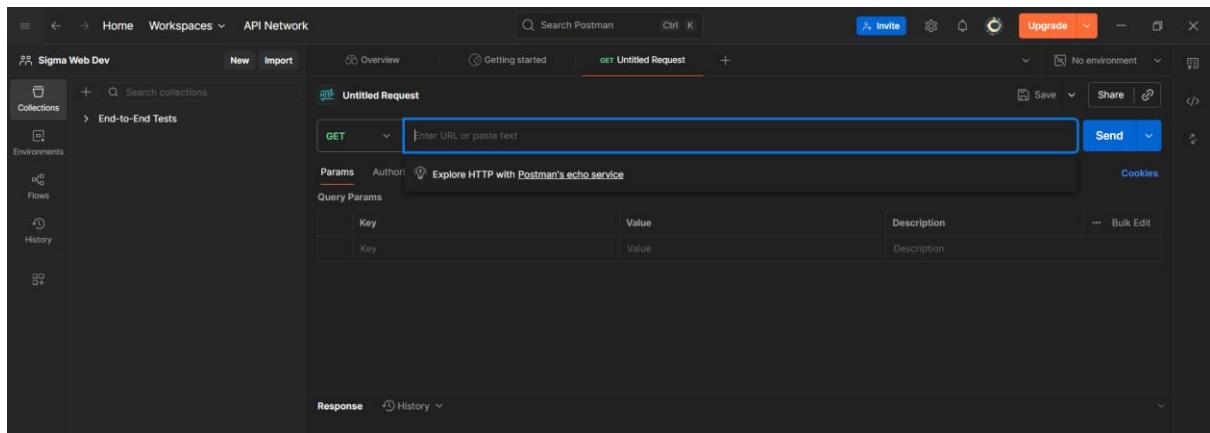
Following window confirms that workspace is created.



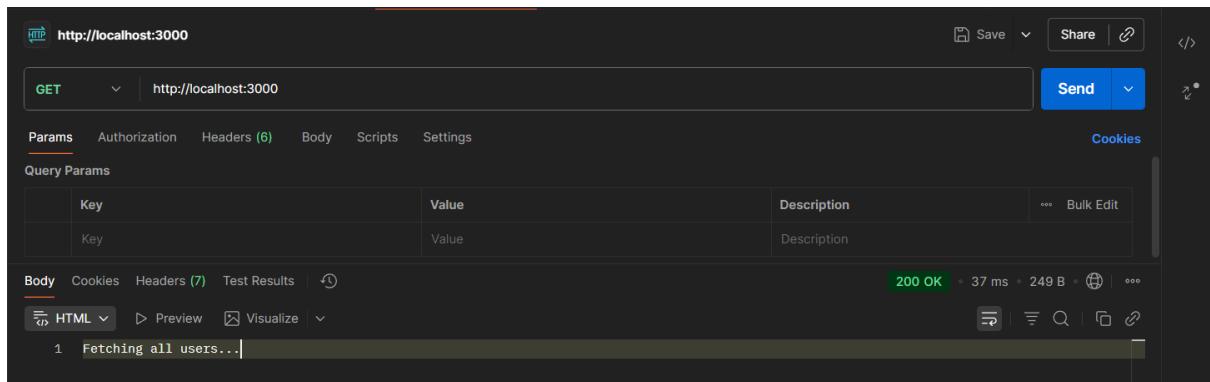
Now, click on the “New”, following options will occur:



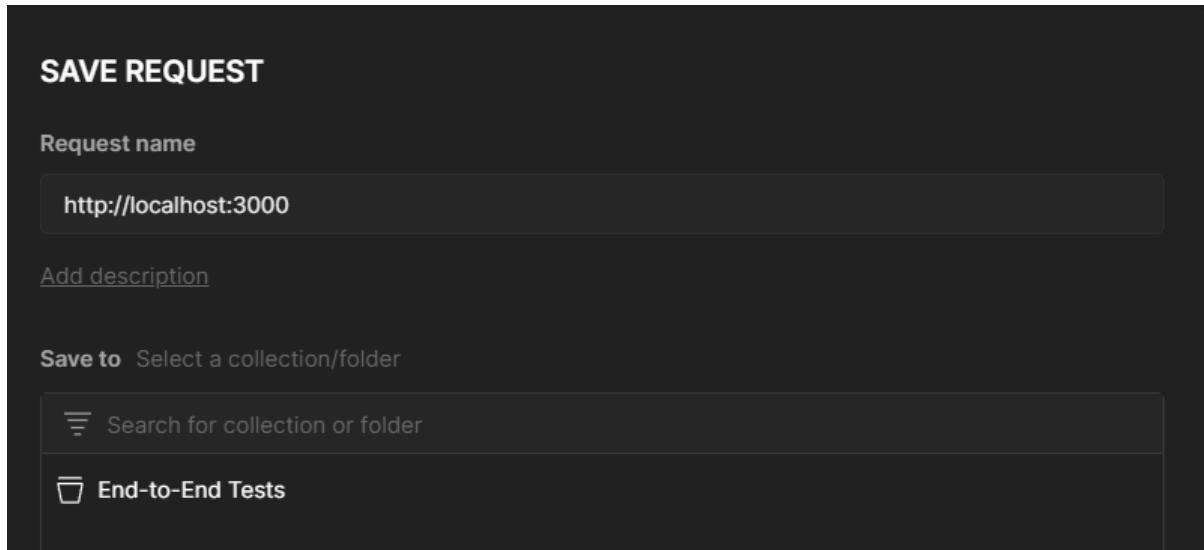
Click on the “HTTP”: following window will appear



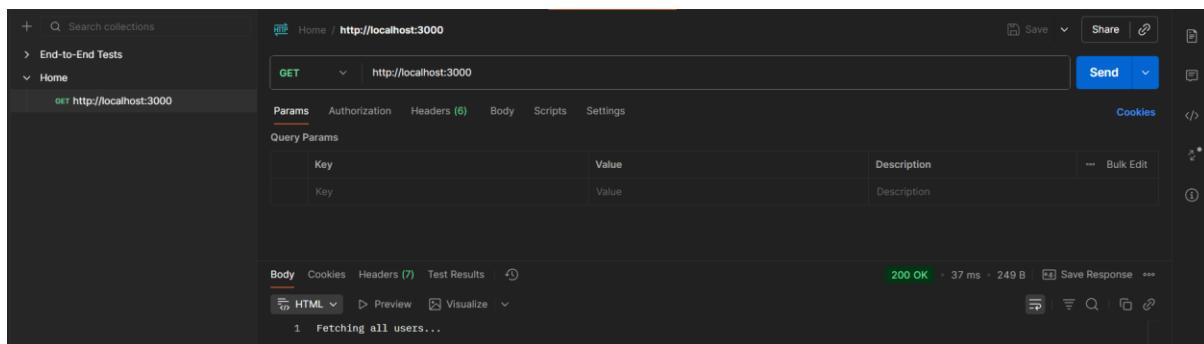
Now, just type the local host address in the search box: clearly, it worked



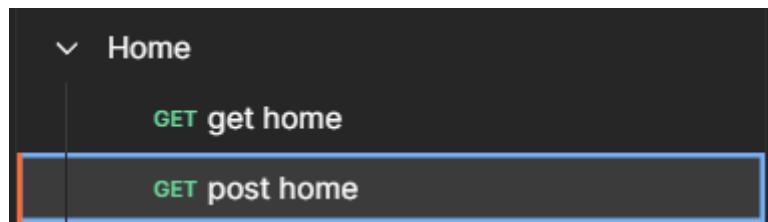
Now, we can also collect and arrange the requests in the postman, just click on “save” button: following screen will appear



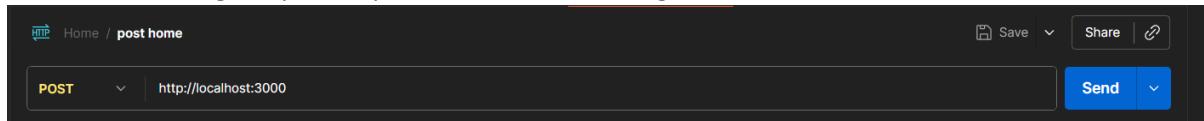
Suppose we create “home” named workspace and saved the content.



We can also rename and duplicate:



Now, we are doing the post request on the Home, using the



Just click on the “Send” button to test: clearly, it worked

The screenshot shows a POST request in the Postman application. The URL is `http://localhost:3000`. The "Params" tab is selected, showing a single query parameter "Key" with the value "Value". The "Body" tab is also visible. The response status is "200 OK" with a response time of 10 ms and a body size of 248 B. The response content is "Post request done...".

--The End--