Postman

This article assumes you have a basic level of knowledge of coding and integration experience.

Postman is not officially supported by Fluxx. We recommend reaching out to Postman support or the Fluxx community if you run into any issues with Postman.

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Overview

Postman is a tool that helps integration testing with the Fluxx API. Some features of Postman include repeatable API tests that can be automated, simulation of user interactions (via the API), and an easy to use interface.

Installation

1. Navigate to https://www.postman.com/downloads/.
2. Click on the Download button.
    1. If the site doesn't auto-detect your OS, there are download links just below the Download button.
3. Once downloaded, run the installer.
4. Create an account.

Getting Started

Postman organizes API calls in folders called Collections. In these Collections you can store individual Requests (API calls) or run the Collection as a suite.

Collection

1. Click on the New drop-down in the upper left-hand corner.
2. Select Collection.
3. Give the Collection a meaningful name and description.
    1. You can also fill out other tabs, but they are optional.
4. Click on the Create button.

Request

1. Click on the New drop-down in the upper left-hand corner.
2. Select Request.
3. Give the Request a name and description.
4. Link the Request to an existing Collection
    1. You can also create a new Collection by clicking on the Create Collection hyperlink (under the Collection search bar).
5. Once you've linked a Collection, click on the Save button.

Access Token

An access token allows the user to make API calls to your system.

Please be careful not to share your Application ID, Secret, or Access Token.

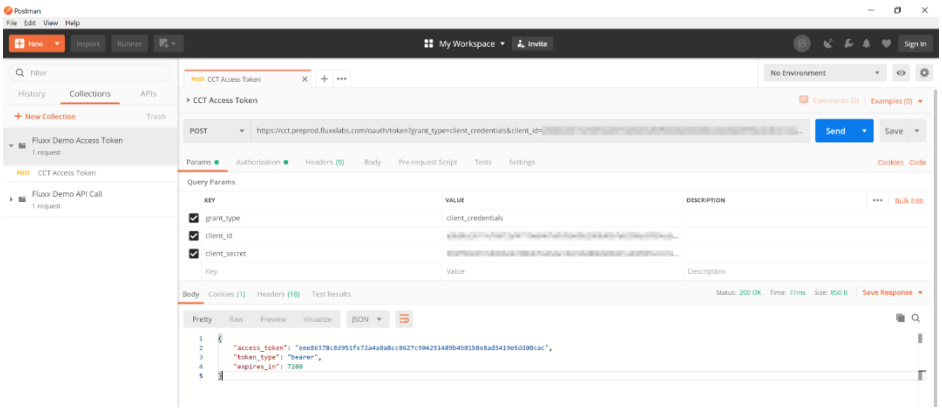
1. Create a new Collection for the Access Token.
2. Create a new Request.
3. In the main workspace, change the method to POST.
4. Enter your Fluxx URL.
5. Append /oauth/token? to the end of your Fluxx URL.
    1. Example: https://<Fluxx URL>.preprod.fluxxlabs.com/oauth/token?
6. In the Params section (just under the method changer), enter the following Keys and Values:
    1. Key: grant_type, Value: client_credentials
    2. Key: client_id, Value: Application ID (this should be the ID from the /oauth/applications page in your Fluxx instance)
    3. Key: client_secret, Value: Secret (this should be the ID from the /oauth/applications page in your Fluxx instance)
7. Click on the Send button.
8. Your Access Token should appear in the Response section of the workspace.

Don’t forget to save your work by clicking on the Save button next to the Send button.

Please be aware that the Access Token only lasts for 2 hours. This is for security reasons.

If you aren’t sure where to find the Application ID or Secret, you can ask your CSM to send you the Getting Started with Fluxx APIs document.

If you intend to share a Collection, we recommend that you create a separate Collection for the Access Token. This is to make sure your Application ID and Secret are not shared with anyone else.



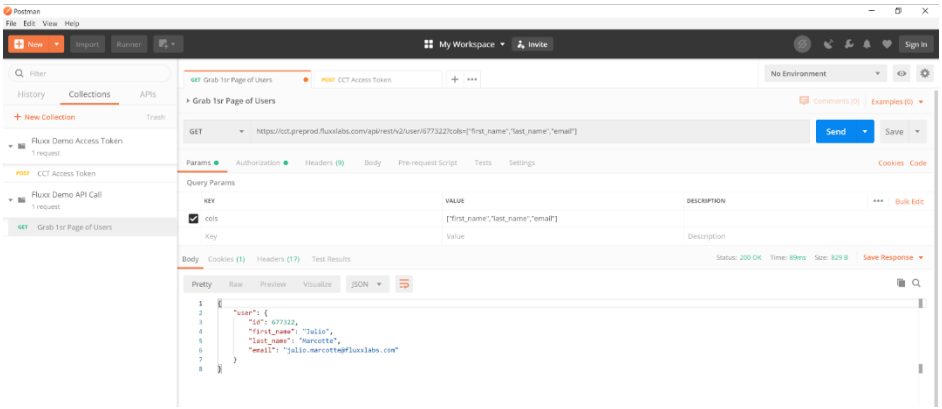
API Call

1. Create a new Collection for the API Calls.
2. Create a new Request.
3. In the main workspace, change the method.
4. Enter your Fluxx URL with api/rest/v2.
    1. Example: https://cct.preprod.fluxxlabs.com/api/rest/v2
5. Append the the class you are using to the end. If you are pulling a specific record add the record ID to the end of the class.
    1. Example: https://cct.preprod.fluxxlabs.com/api/rest/v2/user
    2. Example: https://cct.preprod.fluxxlabs.com/api/rest/v2/user/1
6. In the Params section, define your Fluxx Parameters in the Key and Value section.
    1. Example using the Fluxx Parameter cols: Key: cols, Value: ["first_name","last_name","email"]
    2. You can also build this into the query bar next to the method selector.
7. Click on the Authorization section.
8. Set Type to Bearer Token.
9. Paste the Access Token into the Token field.
10. Click on the Send button.
11. Observe the Body section.

Don’t forget to save your work by clicking on the Save button next to the Send button.

You can learn more about Fluxx Parameters and Classes in the API Documentation.

https://<Fluxx URL>/api/rest/v2/doc



Automate Access Token

You can automate the Access Token process by creating an environment and writing a little bit of custom code. This will pull the Access Token into your API call automatically.

An environment is a set of variables that allow you to switch the context of your requests.[1]

Environment

1. Click on the gear icon in the upper right-hand corner.
2. Click on the Add button.
3. Add an Environment name.
4. Add any variables. (optional)
5. Click on the Add button.
6. Select your environment from the dropdown next to the gear icon in step 1.

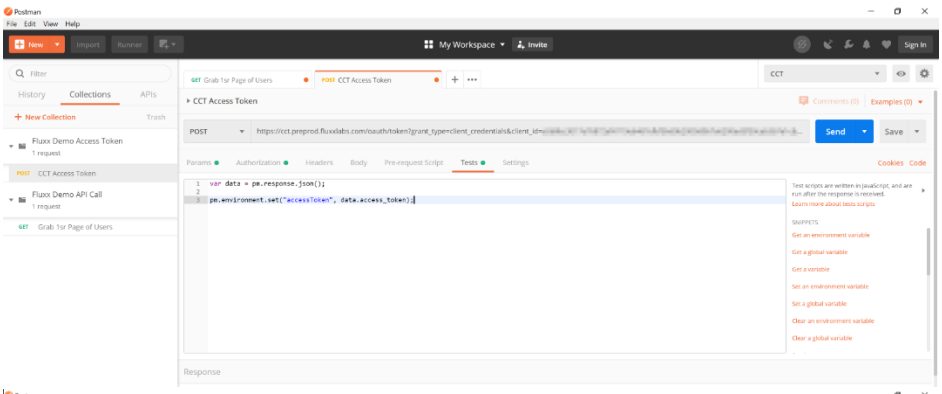
Code

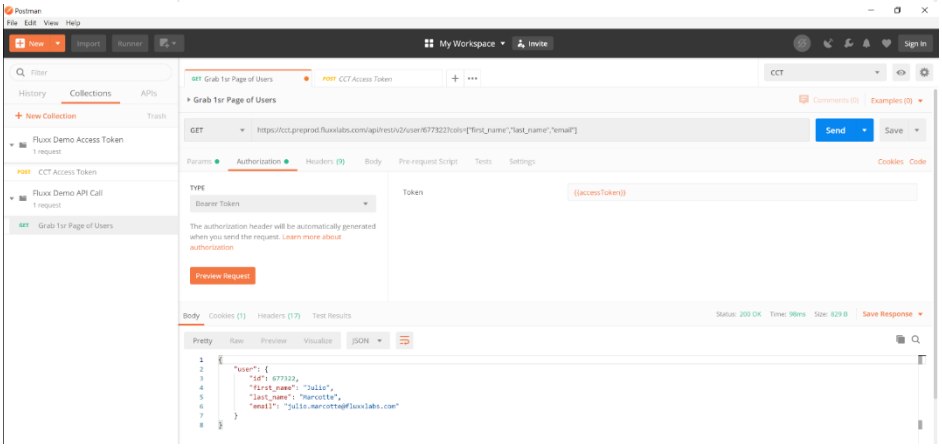
1. Return to the Collection where you setup the Access Token.
2. Click on the Tests section (this is on the same line as Params).
3. Enter the following JavaScript:
    1. var data = pm.response.json();
    2. pm.environment.set("accessToken", data.access_token);
4. Click on the Send button.
5. Return to your API call Collection.
6. Select the Authorization section.
7. Set Type to Bearer Token.
8. For Token, enter {{accessToken}}
9. Click on the Send button.
10. Observe the Body section.

Don't forget to save your work by clicking on the Save button next to the Send button.

Notice the Pre-request Script section. There is a lot more that you can do to increase API testing productivity using environment variables in the Postman application. Check out this post for some additional ideas:
How to automatically set a Bearer Token for your Postman requests

[1] learning.postman.com/docs/postman/collection-runs/using-environments-in-collection-runs/


Postman
File Edit View Help
New
Import
Runner
My Workspace
Invite
Sign In
History
Collections
APIs
New Collection
Trash
Fluxx Demo Access Token
1 request
POST CCT Access Token
Fluxx Demo API Call
1 request
GET Grab 1sr Page of Users
GET Grab 1sr Page of Users
POST CCT Access Token
CCT
CCT Access Token
Comments (0)
Examples (0)
POST
https://cct.preprod.fluxxlabs.com/oauth/token?grant_type=client_credentials&client_id=
Send
Save
Params
Authorization
Headers
Body
Pre-request Script
Tests
Settings
Cookies
Code
1 var data = pm.response.json();
2
3 pm.environment.set("accessToken", data.access_token);
Test scripts are written in JavaScript, and are run after the response is received.
Learn more about tests scripts
SNIPPETS
Get an environment variable
Get a global variable
Get a variable
Set an environment variable
Set a global variable
Clear an environment variable
Clear a global variable
Response


Postman
File Edit View Help
New
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Invite
Sign In
History
Collections
APIs
New Collection
Trash
Fluxx Demo Access Token
1 request
POST CCT Access Token
Fluxx Demo API Call
1 request
GET Grab 1sr Page of Users
GET Grab 1sr Page of Users
POST CCT Access Token
CCT
Grab 1sr Page of Users
Comments (0)
Examples (0)
GET
https://cct.preprod.fluxxlabs.com/api/rest/v2/user/677322?cols=["first_name","last_name","email"]
Send
Save
Params
Authorization
Headers (9)
Body
Pre-request Script
Tests
Settings
Cookies
Code
TYPE
Bearer Token
Token
{{accessToken}}
The authorization header will be automatically generated when you send the request. Learn more about authorization
Preview Request
Body
Cookies (1)
Headers (17)
Test Results
Status: 200 OK
Time: 98ms
Size: 629 B
Save Response
Pretty
Raw
Preview
Visualize
JSON
{
"user": {
"id": 677322,
"first_name": "Julie",
"last_name": "Marcotte",
"email": "julie.marcotte@fluxxlabs.com"
}
}

Notes

- Please be careful not to share your credentials via Postman.

Credits

- A huge thank you to Todd Bleeker from RSM for providing the JavaScript, and a lot of the source material for this article.
