

Backend – Setup & Run Commands

1. **Navigate to the backend/server directory:**

```
cd server
```

2. **Install dependencies** (only once):

```
npm install
```

3. **Start the server:**


```
npm start
```

 Or, for auto-restart during development (if nodemon is installed):

```
npx nodemon server.js
```

4. **Verify it's running** (default port):

```
http://localhost:5000
```

 Make sure your .env file includes:

```
PORT=5000
```

```
MONGO_URI=your_mongodb_connection_string
```

```
JWT_SECRET=your_jwt_secret
```