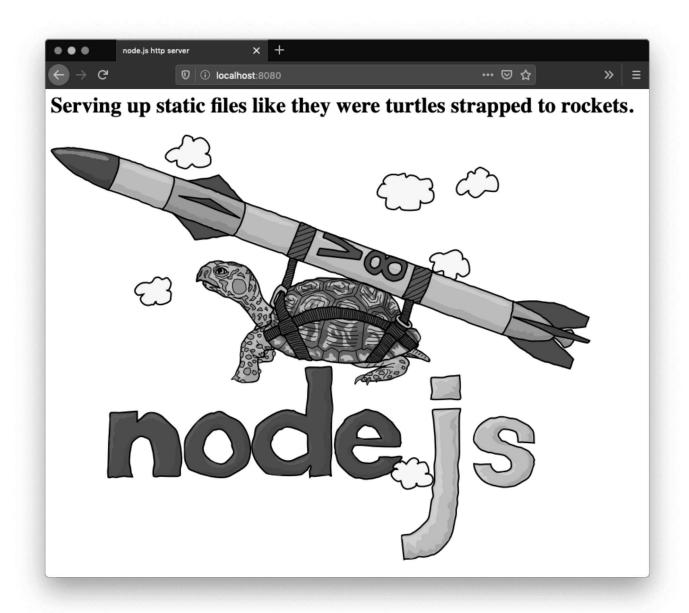


# http-server: a simple static HTTP server

http-server is a simple, zero-configuration command-line static HTTP server. It is powerful enough for production usage, but it's simple and hackable enough to be used for testing, local development and learning.



# **Installation:**

### Running on-demand:

Using npx you can run the script without installing it first:

npx http-server [path] [options]

## Globally via npm

npm install --global http-server

This will install http-server globally so that it may be run from the command line anywhere.

### **Globally via Homebrew**

brew install http-server

## As a dependency in your npm package:

npm install http-server

# Usage:

http-server [path] [options]

[path] defaults to ./public if the folder exists, and ./ otherwise.

Now you can visit http://localhost:8080 to view your server

**Note:** Caching is on by default. Add -c-1 as an option to disable caching.

# **Available Options:**

Command	Description	Defaults
-p or port	Port to use. Use -p 0 to look for an open port, starting at 8080. It will also read from process.env.PORT.	8080
-a	Address to use	0.0.0.0
-d	Show directory listings	true
-i	Display autoIndex	true
-g or gzip	When enabled it will serve ./public/some-file.js.gz in place of ./public/some-file.js when a gzipped version of the file exists and the request accepts gzip encoding. If brotli is also enabled, it will try to serve brotli first.	false

Command	Description	Defaults
-b or brotli	When enabled it will serve ./public/some-file.js.br in place of ./public/some-file.js when a brotli compressed version of the file exists and the request accepts br encoding. If gzip is also enabled, it will try to serve brotli first.	false
-e or ext	Default file extension if none supplied	html
-s or silent	Suppress log messages from output	
cors	Enable CORS via the Access-Control- Allow-Origin header	
-o [path]	Open browser window after starting the server. Optionally provide a URL path to open. e.g.: -o /other/dir/	
-c	Set cache time (in seconds) for cache-control max-age header, e.gc10 for 10 seconds.  To disable caching, use -c-1.	3600
-U or utc	Use UTC time format in log messages.	
log-ip	Enable logging of the client's IP address	false
-P or proxy	Proxies all requests which can't be resolved locally to the given url. e.g.: -P http://someurl.com	
proxy- options	Pass proxy options using nested dotted objects. e.g.:proxy-options.secure false	
 username	Username for basic authentication	

Command	Description	Defaults
 password	Password for basic authentication	
-S,tls orssl	Enable secure request serving with TLS/SSL (HTTPS)	false
-C or cert	Path to ssl cert file	cert.pem
-K or key	Path to ssl key file	key.pem
-r or robots	Automatically provide a /robots.txt (The content of which defaults to User-agent: *\nDisallow: /)	false
no- dotfiles	Do not show dotfiles	
 mimetypes	Path to a .types file for custom mimetype definition	
-h or help	Print this list and exit.	
-v or version	Print the version and exit.	

# **Magic Files**

- index.html will be served as the default file to any directory requests.
- 404.html will be served if a file is not found. This can be used for Single-Page App (SPA) hosting to serve the entry page.

# **Catch-all redirect**

To implement a catch-all redirect, use the index page itself as the proxy with:

```
http-server --proxy http://localhost:8080?
```

Note the ? at the end of the proxy URL. Thanks to @houston3 for this clever hack!

# TLS/SSL

First, you need to make sure that **openssl** is installed correctly, and you have key.pem and cert.pem files. You can generate them using this command:

```
openssl req -newkey rsa:2048 -new -nodes -x509 -days 3650 -keyout ke
```

You will be prompted with a few questions after entering the command. Use 127.0.0.1 as value for Common name if you want to be able to install the certificate in your OS's root certificate store or browser so that it is trusted.

This generates a cert-key pair and it will be valid for 3650 days (about 10 years).

Then you need to run the server with -S for enabling SSL and -C for your certificate file.

```
http-server -S -C cert.pem
```

If you wish to use a passphrase with your private key you can include one in the openssl command via the -passout parameter (using password of foobar)

```
e.g. openssl req -newkey rsa:2048 -passout pass:foobar -keyout key.pem -x509 -days 365 -out cert.pem
```

For security reasons, the passphrase will only be read from the NODE HTTP SERVER SSL PASSPHRASE environment variable.

This is what should be output if successful:

```
Starting up http-server, serving ./ through https http-server settings:
```

CORS: disabled

Cache: 3600 seconds

Connection Timeout: 120 seconds

Directory Listings: visible

AutoIndex: visible

Serve GZIP Files: false Serve Brotli Files: false

Default File Extension: none

#### Available on:

https://127.0.0.1:8080

https://192.168.1.101:8080

https://192.168.1.104:8080

Hit CTRL-C to stop the server

# Development

Checkout this repository locally, then:

\$ npm i

\$ npm start

Now you can visit http://localhost:8080 to view your server

You should see the turtle image in the screenshot above hosted at that URL. See the ./public folder for demo content.

## Keywords

cli command static http https http-server https-server server

#### Install

## Repository

# • github.com/http-party/http-server

### Homepage

 ${\cal S}$  github.com/http-party/http-server#readme

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