

the Master Course

{C0DENATION}

Backend Development

Intro to Databases



Learning Objectives

To know what a database is.

To create a remote database using MongoDB.

To be able to use Environmental Variables to protect important data.

What is a database?

A database is quite simply a computerised system that stores information.

What is a database?

Databases can hold structured or non-structured data.

Think of a database like a filing cabinet, it could hold information on employees, all with the **same structured information in alphabetical order.**

Or it could hold the mail you've received in a year, all with **different information with no real order to it.**

In order to interact with a database, we need to use something called a **Database Management System or DBMS.**

What is a **DBMS**?

A DBMS is essentially a way for us to manipulate the contents of a database.

A DBMS will provide a variety of ways to manage the data in our database.

Local vs Cloud-Hosted?

We have two main options with databases, we can either host them on our **Local Machine** or use a **Cloud Hosted** option.

Local-Hosted Database

A local database is stored on our personal computer and only accessible via a direct connection to our hardware.

The speed and efficiency of this database is governed by the quality of our hardware.

Cloud Hosted Database

A cloud hosted database is available through the internet, it is hosted on a collection of servers elsewhere, and isn't limited by the speed of our hardware, rather it is governed by the speed of both our internet and the cloud provider.

There are many different DBMS's to choose from.

We are going to use MongoDB.

MongoDB is a NoSQL database, which allows us to store structured or non-structured data.

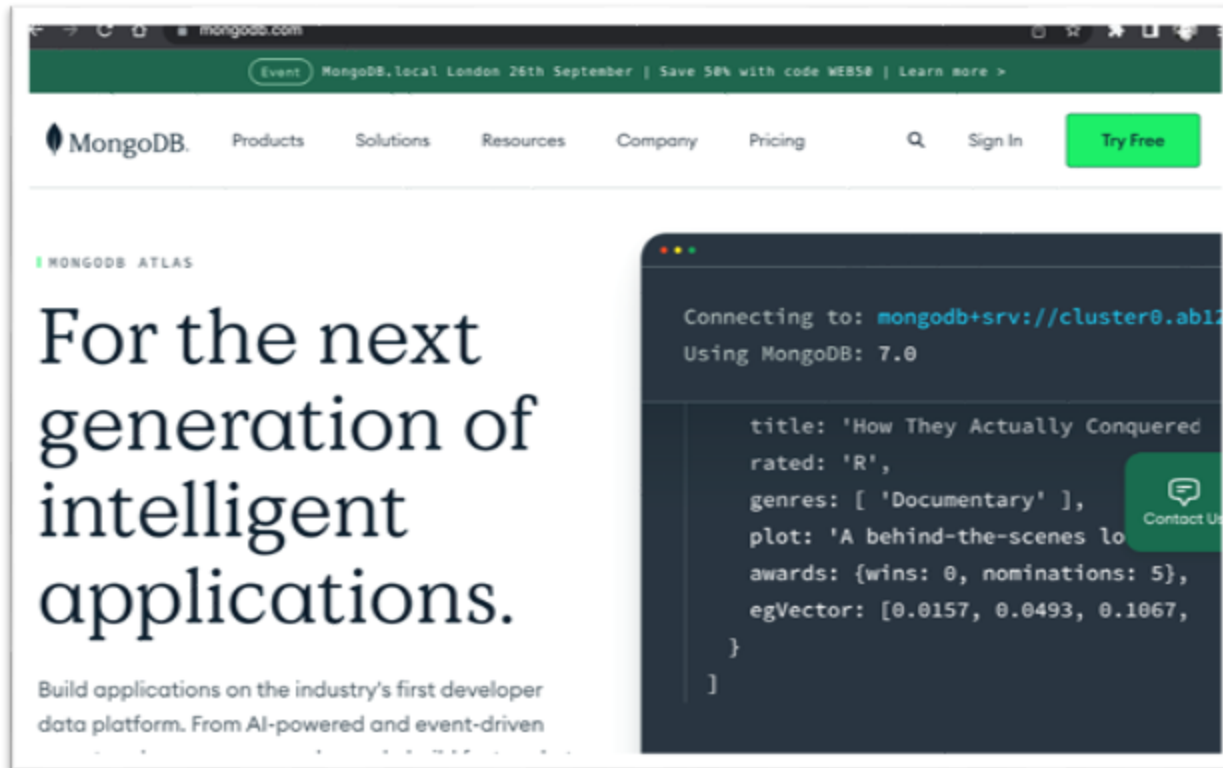
Quick Recap from yesterday...

What were the **CRUD** operations?

How does **CRUD** relate to the **HTTP Verbs** used in a server?



<https://www.mongodb.com>



Please visit this site and setup an account.
It's FREE!



<https://www.mongodb.com>

Here are some of the options to select from the signup process...

What type of application are you building?

Microservices or APIs

What is your preferred language?

We'll use this to customize code samples and content v

JS JavaScript





Select Shared cluster

[CLUSTERS](#) > CREATE A SHARED CLUSTER

Create a Shared Cluster

Serverless

Dedicated

Shared

For learning and exploring MongoDB in a sandbox environment. Basic configuration controls.

No credit card required to start. Upgrade to dedicated clusters for full functionality.
Explore with sample datasets. Limit of one free cluster per project.

Cloud Provider & Region

AWS, Ireland (eu-west-1) ^

aws

Google Cloud

Azure

Select AWS for the
cloud provider



★ Recommended region ⓘ

NORTH AMERICA

🇺🇸 N. Virginia (us-east-1) ★

🇺🇸 Ohio (us-east-2) ★

🇺🇸 N. California (us-west-1)

🇺🇸 Oregon (us-west-2) ★

EUROPE

🇸🇪 Stockholm (eu-north-1) ★

🇮🇪 Ireland (eu-west-1) ★

🇬🇧 London (eu-west-2) ★

🇫🇷 Paris (eu-west-3) ★

AUSTRALIA

🇦🇺 Sydney (ap-southeast-2) ★

🇦🇺 Melbourne (ap-southeast-4) ★

ASIA

🇭🇰 Hong Kong (ap-east-1) ★

Select Ireland as our
nearest loction



Select this to
authenticate!




Username and Password

Certificate

Username

brianharkins

Password 

 Autogenerate Secure Password


 Copy

Create User

Write your Username & Password down safely!




Select 'My Local Environment'



My Local Environment

Use this to add network IP addresses to the IP Access List. This can be modified at any time.

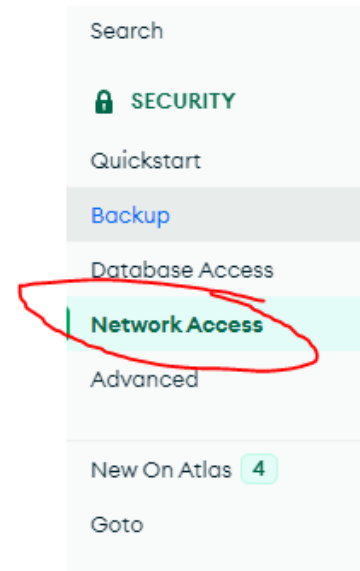
ADVANCED



Cloud Environment

Use this to configure network access between Atlas and your cloud or on-premise environment. Specifically, set up IP Access Lists, Network Peering, and Private Endpoints.

Let's setup your network access...



Click on the 'Add IP Address' button

+ ADD IP ADDRESS

Status	Actions
● Active	EDIT DELETE

Click EDIT

Edit IP Access List Entry

Atlas only allows client connections to a cluster from entries in the project's IP Access List. Each entry should either be a single IP address or a CIDR-notated range of addresses. [Learn more](#)

ALLOW ACCESS FROM ANYWHERE

Access List Entry:

12.23.74.95/32

Comment:

My IP Address

Click 'Allow Access from Anywhere'

If you boot your PC then the likelihood is that you will get a different IP address.



Select 'Database' →

Click on 'Browse Collections' →

Collections are tables of data but there aren't any here at the moment.



Explore Your Data

- **Find:** run queries and interact with documents
- **Indexes:** build and manage indexes
- **Aggregation:** test aggregation pipelines
- **Search:** build search indexes

Load a Sample Dataset

Add My Own Data

[Learn more in Docs and Tutorials](#)

Then click on 'Add My Own Data' →





Enter a name, e.g.,
Test1

Enter a collection
name, e.g., Books

A screenshot of the "Create Database" dialog box in MongoDB. The dialog has a title bar with a close button (X). It contains three input fields: "Database name" with the value "Test1", "Collection name" with the value "Books", and "Additional Preferences" with a dropdown menu showing "Select". At the bottom right are two buttons: "Cancel" and "Create". Green arrows point from the text annotations to the "Database name" field, the "Collection name" field, and the "Create" button.

Create Database

Database name ?
Test1

Collection name ?
Books

Additional Preferences
Select

Cancel Create

Then click on
'Create'

This will help us to create a new
Database with collection.





DATABASES: 1 COLLECTIONS: 1

[+ Create Database](#)

▼ Test1

Books

Test1.Books

STORAGE SIZE: 4KB LOGICAL DATA SIZE: 0B TOTAL DOCUMENTS: 0 INDEXES TOTAL SIZE: 4KB

[Find](#) [Indexes](#) [Schema Anti-Patterns 0](#) [Aggregation](#) [Search Indexes](#)

[INSERT DOCUMENT](#)

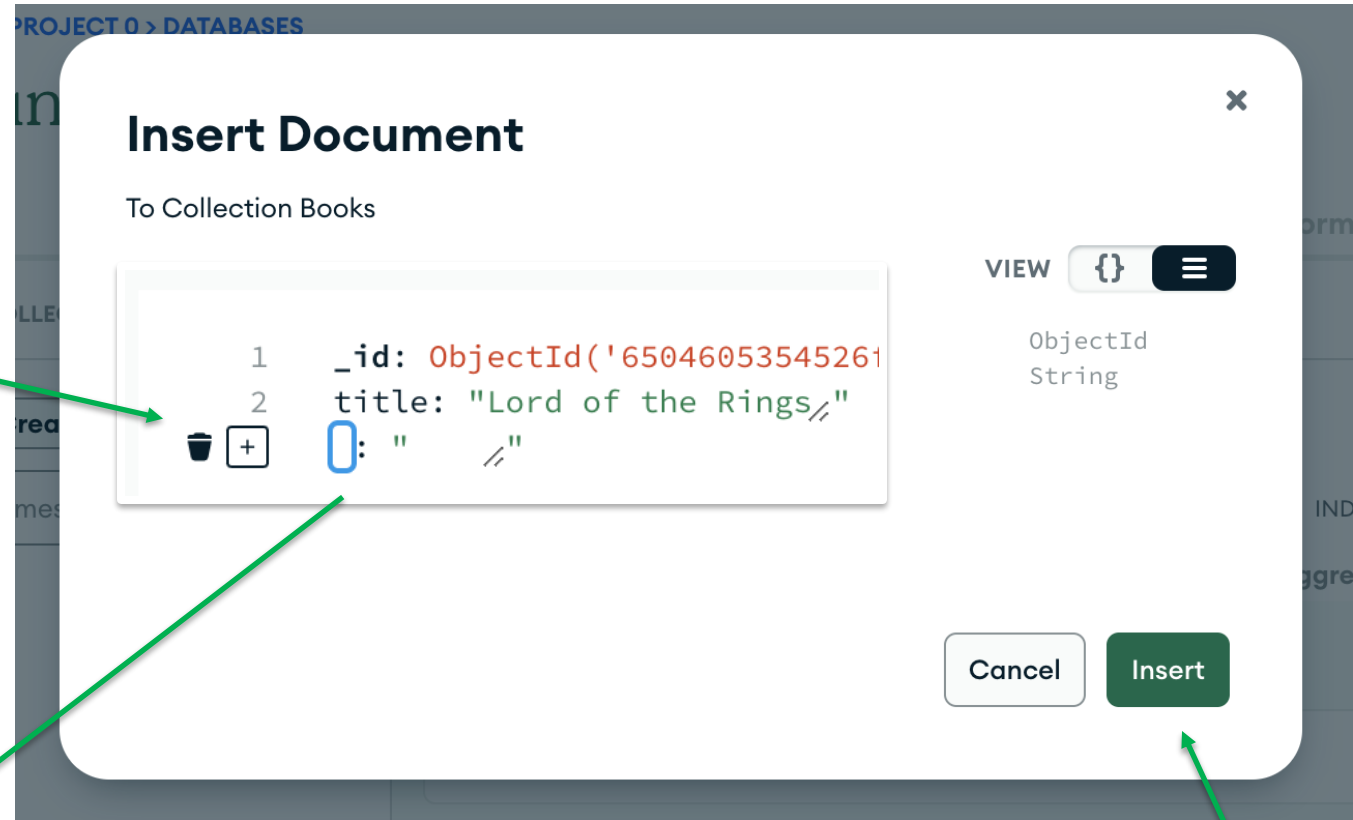
[Filter](#) Type a query: { field: 'value' } [Reset](#) [Apply](#) [More Options](#)

QUERY RESULTS: 0

Click on the 'INSERT DOCUMENT' button.



Click here and enter some fields like the ones we have used earlier...



The image shows the 'Insert Document' dialog in MongoDB. The title is 'Insert Document' with a close button (x) in the top right. Below the title is the text 'To Collection Books'. On the right side, there is a 'VIEW' section with a JSON icon and a menu icon, and a list of fields: 'ObjectId' and 'String'. At the bottom right are 'Cancel' and 'Insert' buttons. The main area contains a list of fields with line numbers 1 and 2. Field 1 is '_id: ObjectId('65046053545261' and field 2 is 'title: "Lord of the Rings"'. There is a trash icon and a plus icon to the left of the fields. A blue box highlights the start of the second field.

```
_id: ObjectId('6504605354526f05149e5b88')  
title: "Lord of the Rings"  
author: "J.R.R. Tolkein"  
genre: "Fantasy"
```

When ready, click on the 'INSERT' button.



Project 0

DEPLOYMENT

Database

Data Lake

SERVICES

Device Sync

Triggers

Select 'Database',
again.

Press on the 'Connect'
button.

CODE NATION > PROJECT 0

Database Deployments

Find a database deployment...

Brian42 [Connect](#) [View Monitoring](#) [Browse Collections](#) [...](#)

R 0.007
W 0
Last 32 minutes
0.05/s

Connections 5.0
Last 37 minutes
12.0

In 6
Out
Last 32
1.6 KB/s

Select 'Drivers'.



Connect to Brian42

✓

2


3

Set up connection security

Choose a connection method

Connect

Connect to your application



Drivers
Access your Atlas data using MongoDB's native drivers (e.g. Node.js, Go, etc.)

>

Access your data through tools

This will allow us to access our data through Node.js



In part 3, we can see our connection string with username and password placeholders.

Driver: Node.js | Version: 5.5 or later

2. Install your driver

Run the following on the command line

```
npm install mongodb
```

[View MongoDB Node.js Driver installation instructions.](#)

3. Add your connection string into your application code

☐ View full code sample

```
mongodb+srv://brianharkinsCN:<password>@brian42.uvq8y9x.mongodb.net/?  
retryWrites=true&w=majority
```

Replace **<password>** with the password for the **brianharkinsCN** user. Ensure any option params are

You will need this connection string in your server code, later on ...

Well Done!



New Server

Let's setup a new server...

1. Create a new project folder
2. Setup the new project for npm (npm init -y)
3. Install Express.js. (npm install express)
4. Install Mongoose. (npm install mongoose)
5. Install Environmental Variables (npm install dotenv)

We will delve into 4 & 5 soon


```
{ } package.json > ...
1  {
2    "name": "day2",
3    "version": "1.0.0",
4    "description": "",
5    "main": "index.js",
6    "scripts": {
7      "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\"",
8    },
9    "keywords": [],
10   "author": "",
11   "license": "ISC",
12   "dependencies": {
13     "dotenv": "^16.3.1",
14     "express": "^4.18.2",
15     "mongoose": "^7.5.1"
16   }
17 }
18
```

In the package.json file, we now have the express, mongoose and dotenv dependencies.

mongoose

In the node_modules folder, we can see the mongodb folders.

We didn't have to install MongoDB separately.



```
> mime
> mime-db
> mime-types
> mongodb
> mongodb-connection-string-url
> mongoose
> mpath
> mquery
```

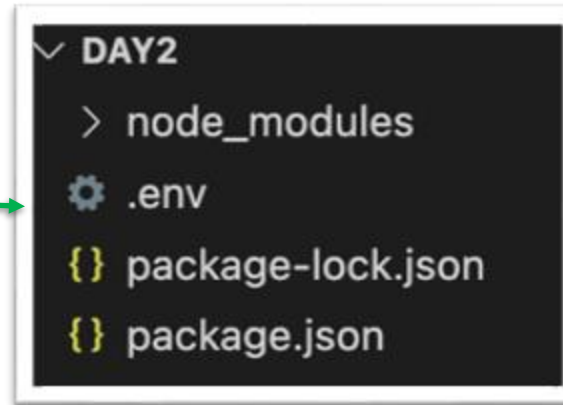

Environmental Variables

The dotenv package is a safe way to keep passwords, API keys, and other sensitive data out of your code – especially when using source control like GitHub.com.

It allows you to create environment variables in a `.env` file instead of putting them in your code.

Environmental Variables

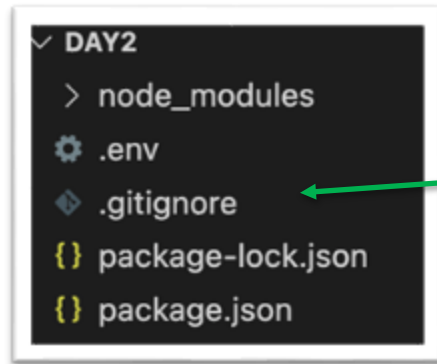
Add a new file
called **.env**



This is the place where we store what we call Environment Variables. Things like userId, passwords, any specific variable that we might want to keep secret.

We will be putting things in here later.

.gitignore folder



Add a new file called **.gitignore**

As well as the important .env file, we don't want the **node_modules** folder to get pushed up to GitHub as it is too big.

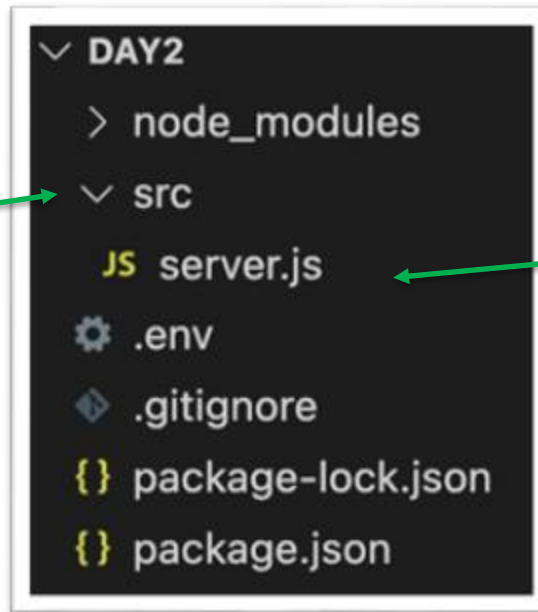


Add node_modules and .env to the .gitignore file.

Mongoose in our server

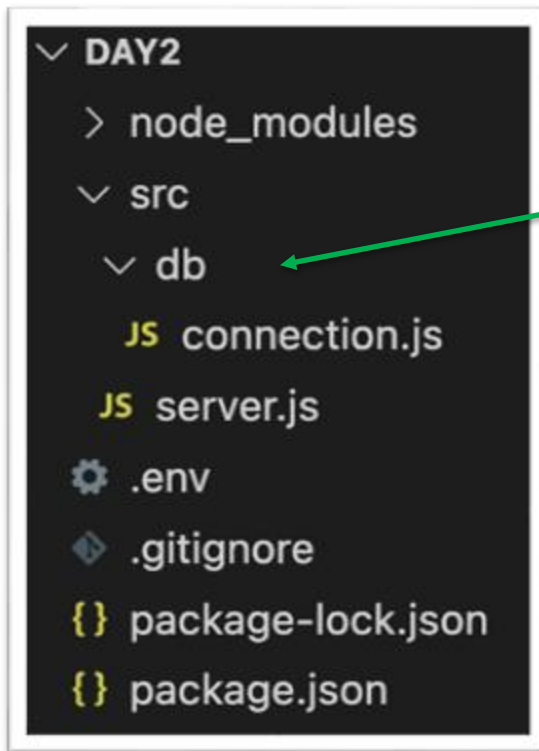
Mongoose is a Node.js-based Object Data Modeling (ODM) library for MongoDB. It allows us to talk to a database server somewhere else.

Add a new folder called 'src'



Inside src, add a new file called server.js

Mongoose in our server



Add a new folder called 'db'

Inside db, add a new file called 'connection.js'

Mongoose in our server

In the new connection.js file, add the following code to prepare our connection to the remote database ...

```
src > db > JS connection.js > ...  
1  const mongoose = require('mongoose');  
2  
3  async function connection() {  
4    |    await mongoose.connect("");  
5  };  
    
```



We don't know how long it will take to connect with the database and so we will have to make it an asynchronous function.

We will paste our connection string from MongoDB in here...

Mongoose in our server

```
src > db > JS connection.js > ...  
1  const mongoose = require('mongoose');  
2  
3  async function connection() {  
4      await mongoose.connect("mongodb+srv://  
        brianharkinsCN:UNIQUEPASSWORD@brian42.uvq8y9x.mongodb.net/?  
        retryWrites=true&w=majority");  
5  };
```

Use the MongoDB website connectionString and paste it into here. Change username and <password>. Your info can be found in the MongoDB Atlas website.

If there was an error in our connection string, or code, how could we check for errors?

Try Catch Block

```
Try {  
    //...  
} catch (e) {  
    //...  
}
```

A try statement lets you test a block of code for errors.

A catch statement lets you handle that error.

Let's apply this to our connection.js code...

Mongoose in our server

Try this
code

```
src > db > JS connection.js > ...
1  const mongoose = require('mongoose');
2
3  async function connection() {
4      try {
5          await mongoose.connect("mongodb+srv://
brianharkinsCN:UNIQUEPASSWORD@brian42.uvq8y9x.mongodb.net/?
retryWrites=true&w=majority");
6      } catch (error) {
7          console.log(error);
8      }
9  };
10
11  connection();
```

Call the
function here.

Catch and report the error

Note: If you forget your
password, then you can go
to the MongoDB.com page:

Security → Database
Access → EDIT

and change the password.

Let's test it ...

We normally run `src/server.js` but we will independently test this function by running the following line in Terminal:

```
node src/db/connection.js
```

Environmental Variables

This connection string in our code is too revealing. It was good to test it but now we want to put this whole string into the **.env** file.

In our **.env** file create a variable to hold this string ...

```
gear .env  
1 MONGO_URI = mongodb+srv://brianharkinsCN:UNIQUEPASSWORD@brian42.  
uvq8y9x.mongodb.net/?retryWrites=true&w=majority
```

We can now reference this MONGO_URI in our code ...

Environmental Variables

src > db > JS connection.js > ...

```
1  const mongoose = require('mongoose');
2  require('dotenv').config();
3
4  async function connection() {
5    try {
6      await mongoose.connect(process.env.MONGO_URI);
7      console.log('Successfully connected to the database.')
```

Prepare
dotenv for
use

Reference the
new env. var.

Add a console
log.

Essentially, we have injected the .env file variable into this connection

We have successfully connected to our own database.

Next Steps...

Work with our database, etc

Learning Objectives

To know what a database is.

To create a remote database using MongoDB.

To be able to use Environmental Variables to protect important data.