POSTMAN Installation

Postman is available in 2 options.

1. As a Chrome app (this is already deprecated and has no support from the Postman developers)
2. Native App for different platforms like Windows, Mac OS, Linux, etc.

As Chrome apps are being deprecated and have a tight coupling with Chrome browser (in a few cases the actual browser version), we will focus mostly using the Native application that gives us more control and has lesser external dependencies.

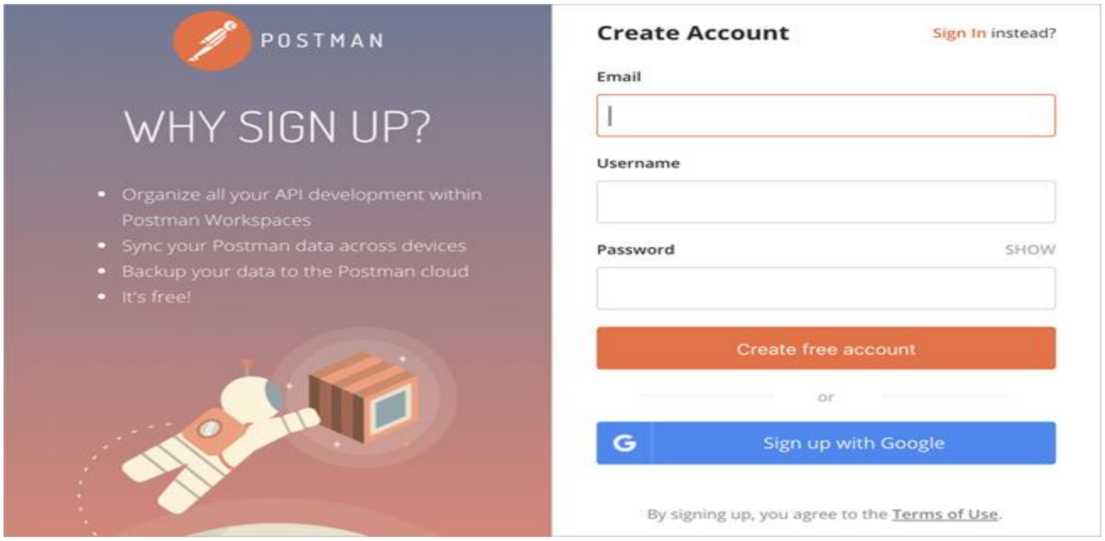
Postman Native App

Postman Native app is a standalone app that is available for download in various OS platforms like Windows, Mac OS, Linux, etc. This can be downloaded just like any other application depending upon the user's platform.
The installation process is pretty straightforward as well. You simply need to double click on the downloaded installer (for Windows and Mac) and follow the instructions.

Once the installation is successful, simply open the Postman Application to get started with.

We will see how to create a simple request for any available open-source API and see the various components of the request and response received when the request is executed using the Postman application.

It's highly recommended, to sign-in/sign-up into the Postman application using an existing email account. A signed-in account preserves all the Postman collections and requests that are saved during the session and ensures that the requests are still available to work with when the same user logs-in next time.



WHY SIGN UP?

- Organize all your API development within Postman Workspaces
- Sync your Postman data across devices
- Backup your data to the Postman cloud
- It's free!

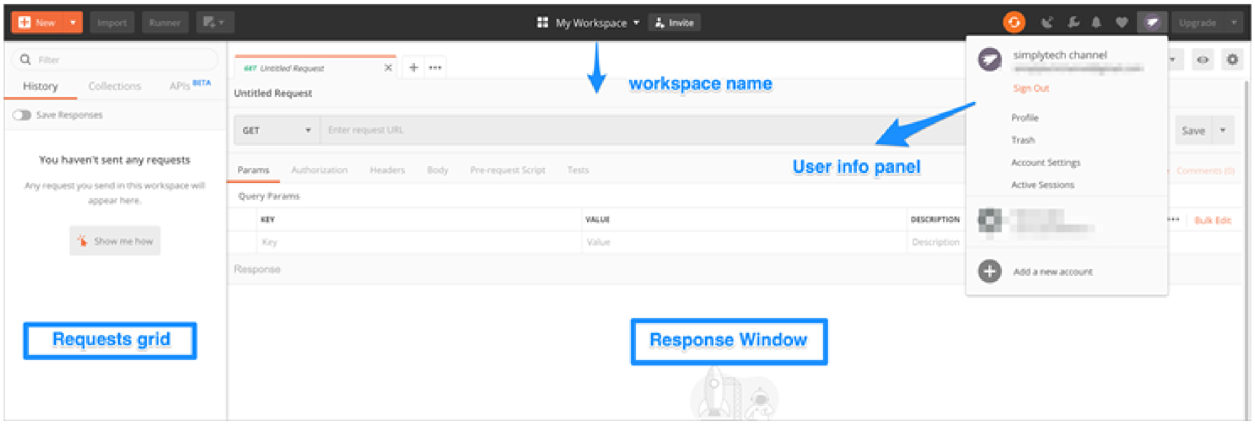
By signing up, you agree to the Terms of Use.

Please refer to the **Note** section to get details about the publicly available fake API endpoint.

We will illustrate a sample GET request to this URL which would return 100 posts in response as a JSON Payload.

Let’s get started and look at the steps that need to be followed:

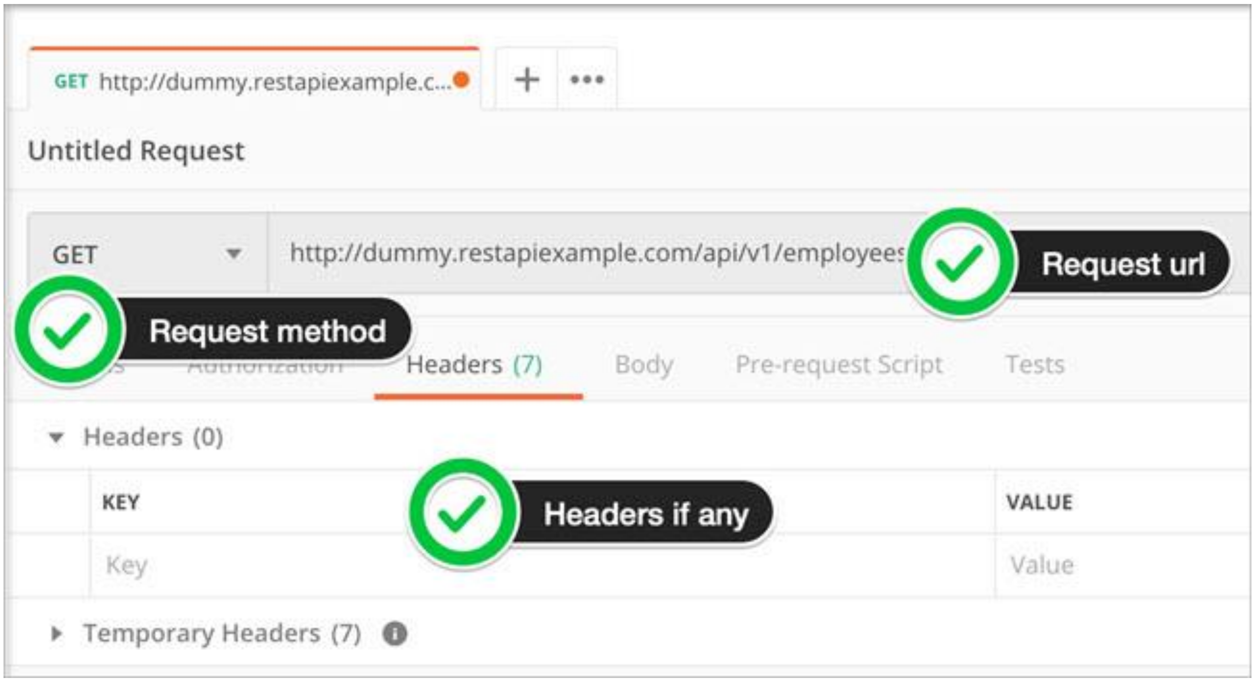
#1) Open the Postman Application (If not already logged in with the existing or new account, first log in with the appropriate credentials).
Given below is the image of the Postman UI initial screen:



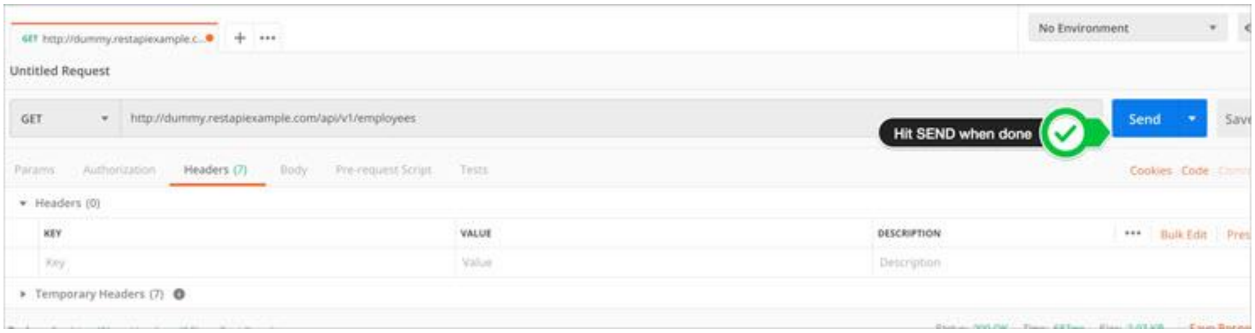
You haven’t sent any requests

Any request you send in this workspace will appear here.

#2) Create a new request and fill in the details as per the endpoint that we will be using for our test or illustration. Let’s test a get request for a REST API endpoint http://dummy.restapiexample.com/api/v1/employees

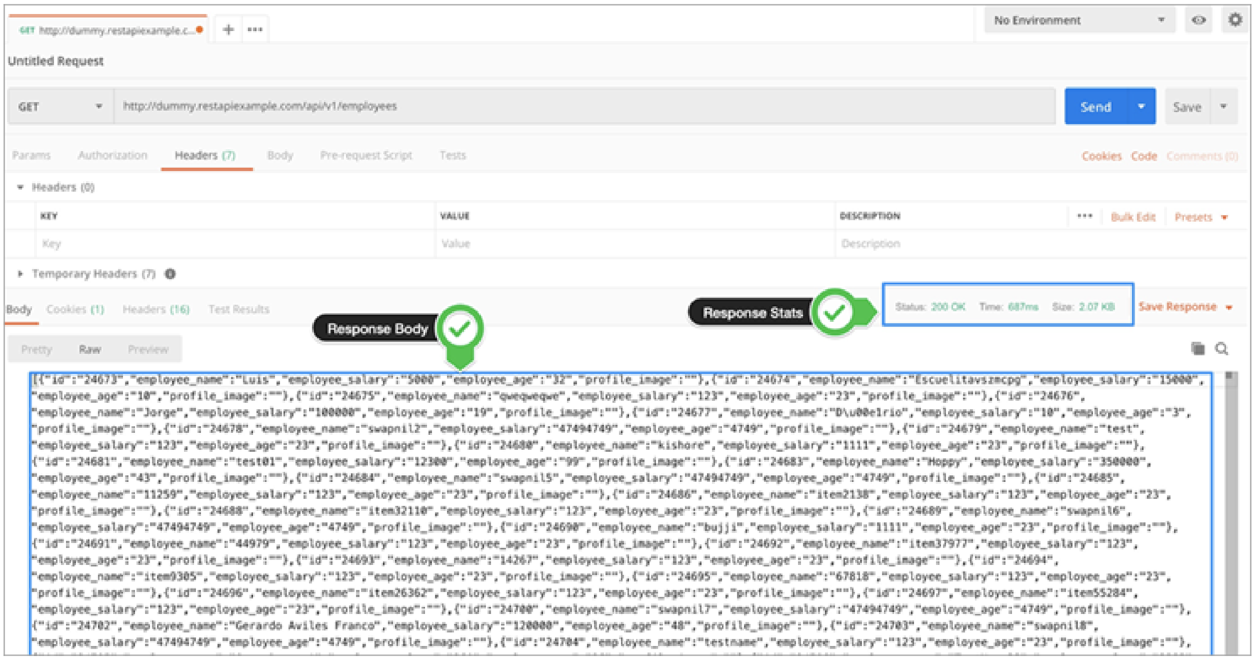


#3) Once the request properties are filled in, hit SEND to execute the request to the server hosting the endpoint.



#4) Once the server responds, we can check the various data around the response. ***Let's see each of them in detail.***

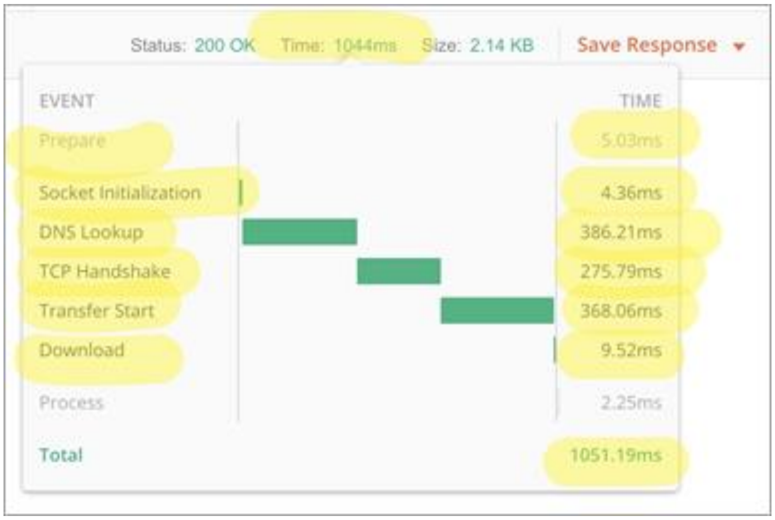
By default, once the response completes, the response body tab is selected and displayed. Other parameters for a response like the response status code, the time taken for the request to complete, the size of the payload is shown just below the request headers (as in the below figure).



```
[{"id":"24673","employee_name":"Luis","employee_salary":"5000","employee_age":"32","profile_image":""},{"id":"24674","employee_name":"Escuelitavszmcpg","employee_salary":"15000",
"employee_age":"10","profile_image":""},{"id":"24675","employee_name":"qweqweqwe","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24676",
"employee_name":"Jorge","employee_salary":"100000","employee_age":"19","profile_image":""},{"id":"24677","employee_name":"D\u00e1rio","employee_salary":"10","employee_age":"3",
"profile_image":""},{"id":"24678","employee_name":"swapnil2","employee_salary":"47494749","employee_age":"4749","profile_image":""},{"id":"24679","employee_name":"test",
"employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24680","employee_name":"kishore","employee_salary":"1111","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},
{"id":"24681","employee_name":"test01","employee_salary":"12300","employee_age":"99","profile_image":""},{"id":"24683","employee_name":"Hoppy","employee_salary":"350000",
"employee_age":"43","profile_image":""},{"id":"24684","employee_name":"swapnil5","employee_salary":"47494749","employee_age":"4749","profile_image":""},{"id":"24685",
"employee_name":"11259","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24686","employee_name":"item2138","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23",
"profile_image":""},{"id":"24688","employee_name":"item32110","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24689","employee_name":"swapnil6",
"employee_salary":"47494749","employee_age":"4749","profile_image":""},{"id":"24690","employee_name":"bujji","employee_salary":"1111","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},
{"id":"24691","employee_name":"44979","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24692","employee_name":"item37977","employee_salary":"123",
"employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24693","employee_name":"14267","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24694",
"employee_name":"item9305","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24695","employee_name":"67818","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23",
"profile_image":""},{"id":"24696","employee_name":"item26362","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24697","employee_name":"item55284",
"employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},{"id":"24700","employee_name":"swapnil7","employee_salary":"47494749","employee_age":"4749","profile_image":""},
{"id":"24702","employee_name":"Gerardo Aviles Franco","employee_salary":"120000","employee_age":"48","profile_image":""},{"id":"24703","employee_name":"swapnil8",
"employee_salary":"47494749","employee_age":"4749","profile_image":""},{"id":"24704","employee_name":"testname","employee_salary":"123","employee_age":"23","profile_image":""},
```

To get fine-grained details about the response parameters like Response size and Response time, you can simply hover over each of those values, and Postman will show you a detailed view with more fine-grained details for each of those properties.

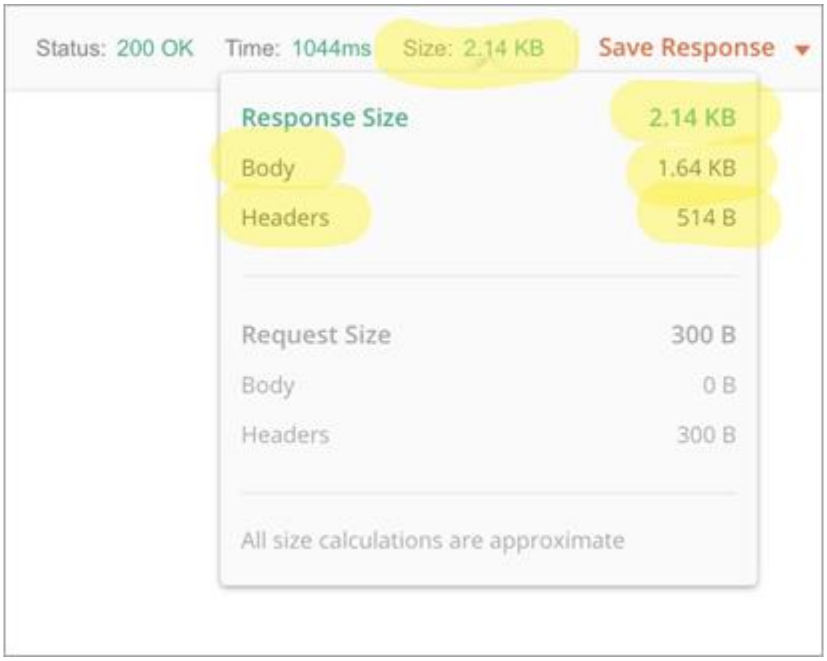
<u>**For example,**</u> for Request time – it will further dissect it into individual components like Connect time, Socket time, DNS lookup, Handshake, etc.



Status: 200 OK Time: 1044ms Size: 2.14 KB Save Response

EVENT	TIME
Prepare	5.03ms
Socket Initialization	4.36ms
DNS Lookup	386.21ms
TCP Handshake	275.79ms
Transfer Start	368.06ms
Download	9.52ms
Process	2.25ms
Total	1051.19ms

Similarly, for Response size, it will show you a breakup of how much size the headers are constituted, and what is the actual response size.

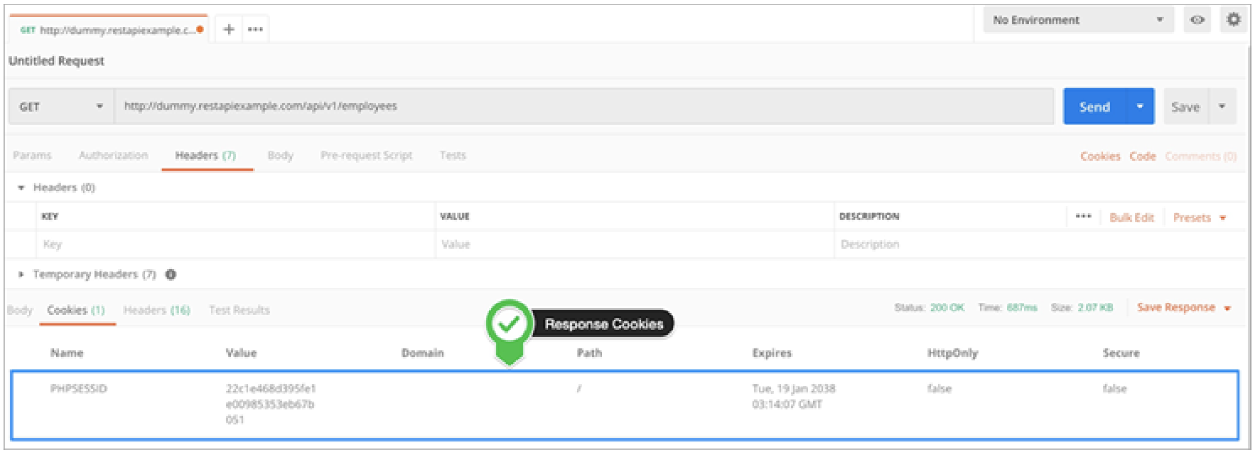


Status: 200 OK Time: 1044ms Size: 2.14 KB Save Response

Response Size	2.14 KB
Body	1.64 KB
Headers	514 B
Request Size	300 B
Body	0 B
Headers	300 B

All size calculations are approximate

Now, let's look at the other response tabs i.e. Cookies and Headers. In the web world, Cookies hold a lot of importance in terms of driving client-side experiences and lots of session related info to get all the information about the cookies that were returned from the server. You can switch to the cookies tab and see this.

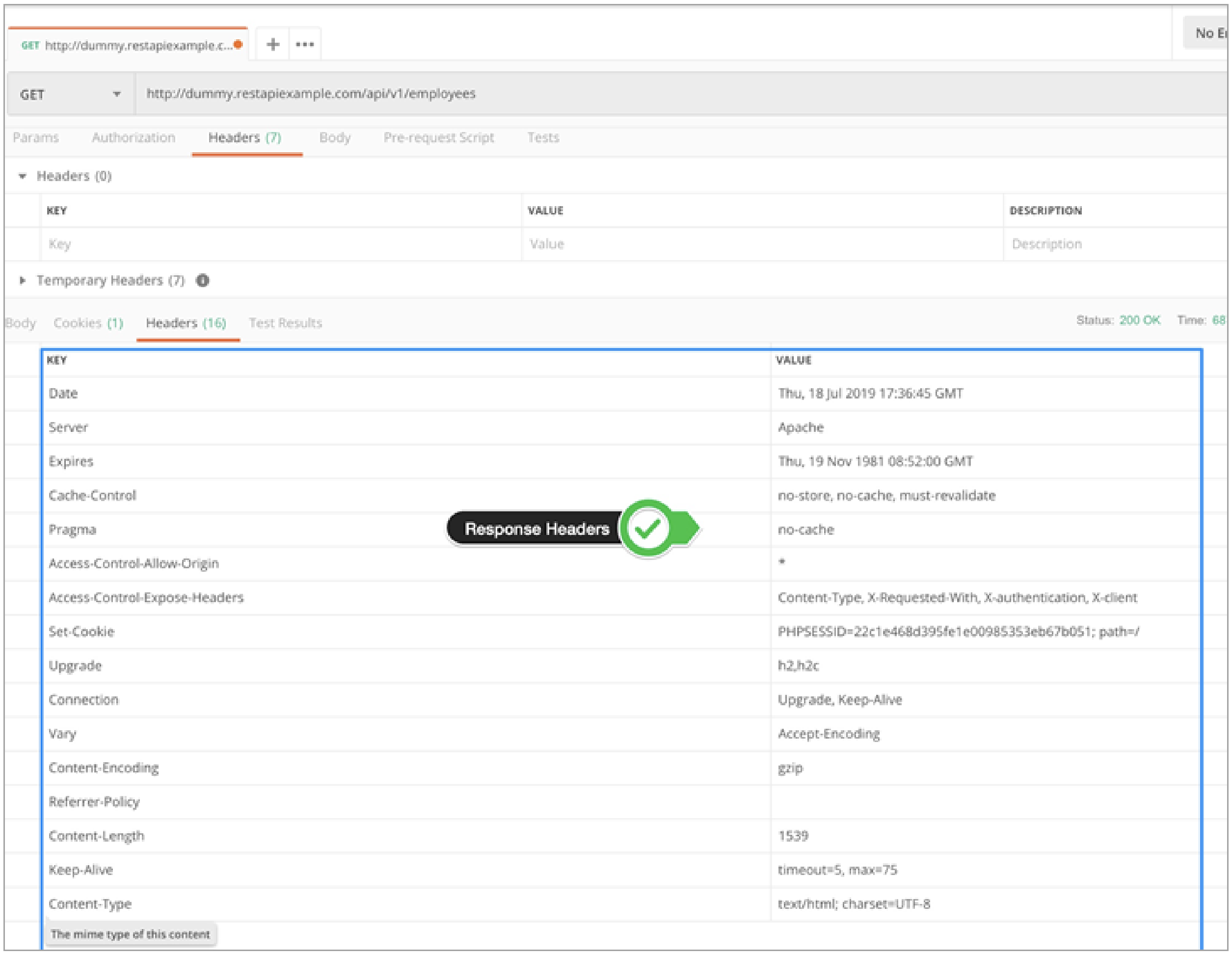


http://dummy.restapiexample.com/api/v1/employees

KEY	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
Key	Value	Description

Name	Value	Domain	Path	Expires	HttpOnly	Secure
PHPSESSID	22c1e468d395fe1e00985353eb67b051		/	Tue, 19 Jan 2038 03:14:07 GMT	false	false

Similarly, response headers contain a lot of beneficial information about the request that got processed. Just navigate to the headers tab in the response section to take a look at the response headers.



http://dummy.restapiexample.com/api/v1/employees

KEY	VALUE	DESCRIPTION
Key	Value	Description

KEY	VALUE
Date	Thu, 18 Jul 2019 17:36:45 GMT
Server	Apache
Expires	Thu, 19 Nov 1981 08:52:00 GMT
Cache-Control	no-store, no-cache, must-revalidate
Pragma	no-cache
Access-Control-Allow-Origin	*
Access-Control-Expose-Headers	Content-Type, X-Requested-With, X-authentication, X-client
Set-Cookie	PHPSESSID=22c1e468d395fe1e00985353eb67b051; path=/
Upgrade	h2,h2c
Connection	Upgrade, Keep-Alive
Vary	Accept-Encoding
Content-Encoding	gzip
Referrer-Policy	
Content-Length	1539
Keep-Alive	timeout=5, max=75
Content-Type	text/html; charset=UTF-8

The mime type of this content

An important point to note here is that all the requests that you make to the server are stored in the Postman history for future reference (The History tab is available on the left side panel of the app).

This helps in preventing the creation of requests every time when you need to get a response for the same request and also helps in avoiding mundane boilerplate tasks. If required, you can refer to the past requests (And responses as well) at a future point of time.

Note: To illustrate sample requests and responses, we will be using publicly available fake API servers that will allow all types of HTTP requests to be made and that return a valid HTTP response.

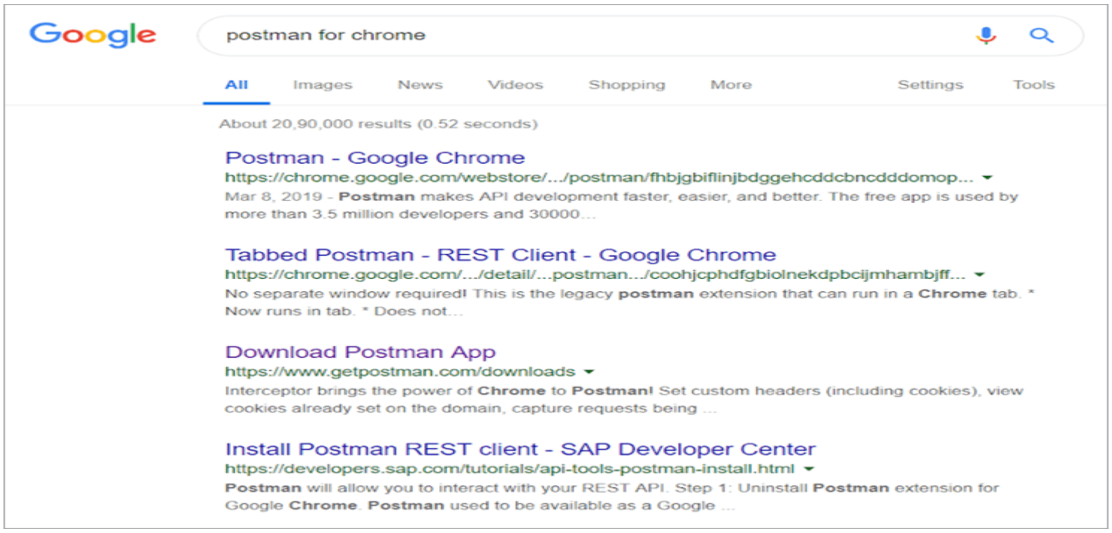
To name a few, we will be using the below fake API endpoint sites as a reference:

1. Rest API Example
2. JSON Placeholder Typicode

Alternative Quick Postman Installation Guide

POSTMAN is an open tool and is available for anyone who surfs the internet. You can follow the below steps and get the POSTMAN tool installed in your local machine.

Step 1: Open Google and search for the POSTMAN tool. You will get the below search-result. Then you can click on Download Postman App and you will be redirected to the getpostman website.



postman for chrome

About 20,90,000 results (0.52 seconds)

Postman - Google Chrome
https://chrome.google.com/webstore/.../postman/fhbjgbiflinjbdggehcddcbncdddomop...
Mar 8, 2019 - **Postman** makes API development faster, easier, and better. The free app is used by more than 3.5 million developers and 30000...

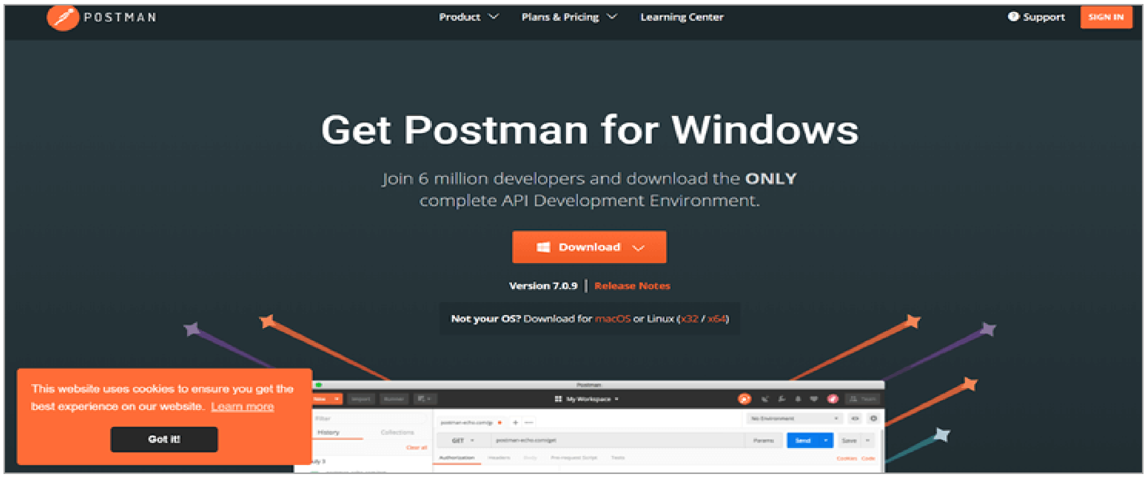
Tabbed Postman - REST Client - Google Chrome
https://chrome.google.com/.../detail/...postman.../coohjcphdfgbiolnekdpbcijmhambjff...
No separate window required! This is the legacy **postman** extension that can run in a **Chrome** tab. * Now runs in tab. * Does not...

Download Postman App
https://www.getpostman.com/downloads
Interceptor brings the power of **Chrome** to **Postman!** Set custom headers (including cookies), view cookies already set on the domain, capture requests being ...

Install Postman REST client - SAP Developer Center
https://developers.sap.com/tutorials/api-tools-postman-install.html
Postman will allow you to interact with your REST API. Step 1: Uninstall **Postman** extension for Google **Chrome**. **Postman** used to be available as a Google ...

Else, you can directly navigate to this URL to get the POSTMAN tool.

Step 2: Select the POSTMAN version based on your operating system. In our case, we are going to use POSTMAN for Windows OS. Moreover, we are using Window-64 bit, so we will download and install POSTMAN for 64 bit.



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Version 7.0.9 | Release Notes

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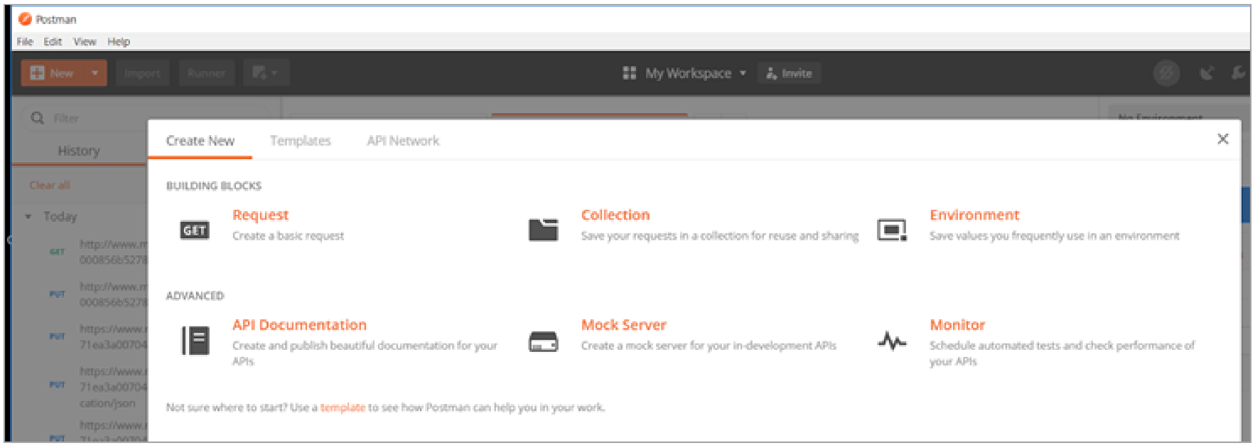
Step 3: Once you have clicked on the Download button, a postman.exe file will be download into your local. Click on that file. It's a one-click installation just like any other application that will let you install the POSTMAN add-on for your browser.

Step 4: After you have installed the application, click on the application (which must be placed on your desktop). As you can see in the below image, we have six different entities for which you will basically need three building blocks i.e. Request, Collection, and Environment which will be discussed in the next section.
That’s it!! We have successfully installed and launched the POSTMAN application.



BUILDING BLOCKS

Request
Create a basic request

Collection
Save your requests in a collection for reuse and sharing

Environment
Save values you frequently use in an environment

ADVANCED

API Documentation
Create and publish beautiful documentation for your APIs

Mock Server
Create a mock server for your in-development APIs

Monitor
Schedule automated tests and check performance of your APIs

Not sure where to start? Use a template to see how Postman can help you in your work.