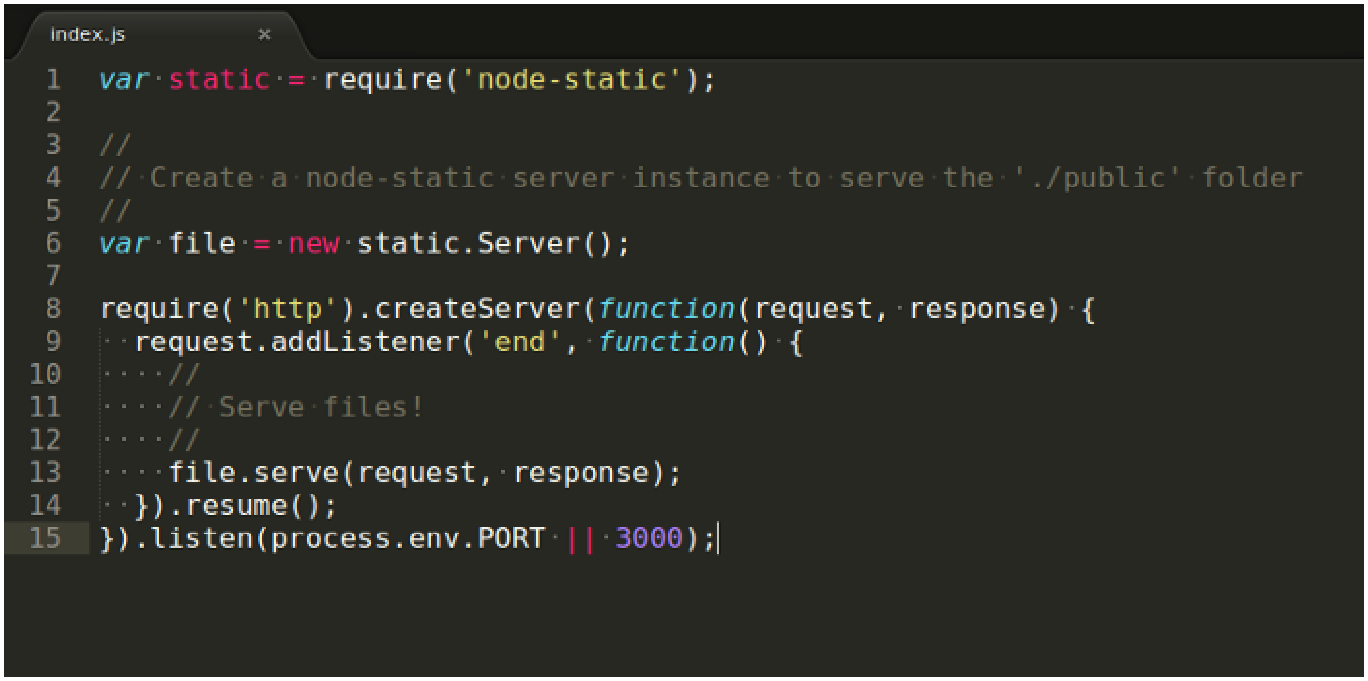

```
var static = require('node-static');

//
// Create a node-static server instance to serve the './public' folder
//
var file = new static.Server();

require('http').createServer(function(request, response) {
  request.addListener('end', function() {
    //
    // Serve files!
    //
    file.serve(request, response);
  }).resume();
}).listen(process.env.PORT || 3000);
```

HTML server on Heroku with a node.js static web server

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As a web developer, it's always good to have your own **web server**, where you can test your apps, webpages, or even serve files.

I found myself in this situation and wanted to use the **Heroku** platform as my server. The problem is that **Heroku** doesn't offer this functionality out of the box, instead it lets you deploy apps in various languages (Ruby, **Node.js**, Python, Java, and PHP).
I'm gonna guide you through how to create a simple **static web server** in **node.js** deployed on **Heroku**!

Why Heroku

Heroku is a **cloud application platform** where you can deploy your web apps in several technologies, including **node.js.** It's easy, it's fast and it's free!

First of all, I'm gonna assume that you got **node.js** installed, created **Heroku** account and also downloaded **Heroku's toolbelt kit**.
If that's not the case, you can refer to the next links in order to have your environment ready:

- You can get **node.js** here
- Create a **Heroku** account (free) here
- Download **Heroku's toolbelt kit** here

Creating a static file server in node.js

For this step, we're gonna use **node-static**. **Node-stati**c is a simple but really useful module for creating **static-file servers**. You can find the repository and documentation here.

- First create a new folder and access it from your terminal.
- Install the **node-static** module and its dependencies by typing:

```
npm install node-static
```

- Run the next line in order to create your **package.json** file. (**Heroku** is going to need it later).

```
npm init
```

- Create an **index.js** file. This file is going to be our server.
- Put the next code on your **index.js** file:

```
var static = require('node-static');
var file = new static.Server();

require('http').createServer(function(request, response) {
  request.addListener('end', function() {
    file.serve(request, response);
  }).resume();
}).listen(process.env.PORT || 3000);
```

Now you got your very own **static-file server**. Add to your project folder the files you want to serve, or even a webpage you want to have online.
Now we need to **deploy** our web app to **Heroku**.

Deploying to Heroku

- In our project folder type:

```
git init
git add .
git commit -am "initial commit"
```

- Login in your **Heroku** account by typing:

```
heroku login
```

- create a new app in **Heroku**

```
heroku create your-app-name
```

- and push it to **Heroku**

```
git push heroku master
```

Almost done, your web app is already deployed! Now we need to set at least one instance of our app running. Type the next line:

```
heroku ps:scale web=1
```

And that’s it! Your app is up and running! Access it via url, it must be something like **your-app-name.herokuapp.com** (you can check it on your **Heroku** dashboard) or you can launch it via terminal by typing

```
heroku open
```

Hope this helps, see ya!