

Getting Started with Flask

FIRST STEPS



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Overview



Introducing Flask

Requirements

Create a web app and run it

How do URL mappings work?

Common problems

Debugger



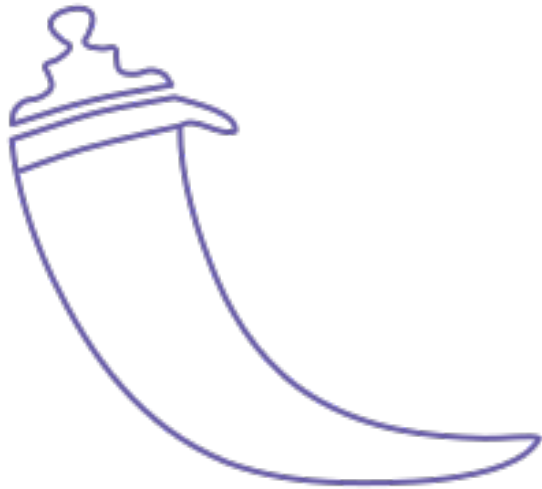
Microframework

Minimal features

Minimal code



Why Choose Flask?



Clean and Simple

- Small app in a single Python file

Un-opinionated

- Flexible
- Choose the components you need

Well-documented

Popular

Included with Flask

Jinja 2
Templates

Werkzeug
HTTP and routing

Development server
and debugger

Unit testing support



Prerequisites



Basics of
Python, pip

Latest version of Python 3



Basics of
Web Development

HTML, CSS, (HTTP)



Demo



Install Flask

Create a web application

Run the web application

View the site in a browser



Demo



Flask and the flow of control

Understanding URL mapping

The debugger



Control flow is dictated by incoming HTTP Requests

A view function is only called if its URL is requested (visited in browser)



```
python -m pip install flask
```

Installing Flask

Make sure to install in an active virtual environment

PyCharm creates the environment for you

Anaconda comes with Flask installed by default



```
from flask import Flask
```

```
app = Flask(__name__)
```

Creating the Flask Application Object

The app object represents our web application



```
@app.route("/my_url")  
def my_view_func():  
    return "This is an example page."
```

View Functions

URLs must start with a slash

There is no connection between URL and function name

When a request comes in for `/my_url`, the function will be called



```
# Location of module containing our application
export FLASK_APP=flashcards.py
# Enable development features like debugging
export FLASK_ENV=development
flask run
```

Running Flask

On windows use **set** instead of **export**

Don't add spaces around equals sign

If server does not start, try **python -m flask run**

Press Ctrl + C to stop the server



Do NOT use the Flask
development server
in production



Course Materials

<https://github.com/codesensei/flask-getting-started>



Summary



Introducing Flask

Create a web app and run it

View functions

URL mappings with `app.route()`

