

Welcome to Flask's documentation. Get started with <u>Installation</u> and then get an overview with the <u>Quickstart</u>. There is also a more detailed <u>Tutorial</u> that shows how to create a small but complete application with Flask. Common patterns are described in the <u>Patterns for Flask</u> section. The rest of the docs describe each component of Flask in detail, with a full reference in the <u>API</u> section.

Flask depends on the <u>Jinja</u> template engine and the <u>Werkzeug</u> WSGI toolkit. The documentation for these libraries can be found at:

- Jinja documentation
- Werkzeug documentation

User's Guide

This part of the documentation, which is mostly prose, begins with some background information about Flask, then focuses on step-by-step instructions for web development with Flask.

- Foreword
 - What does "micro" mean?
 - Configuration and Conventions
 - Growing with Flask
- Foreword for Experienced Programmers
 - Thread-Locals in Flask
 - Develop for the Web with Caution
- Installation
 - o Python Version
 - Dependencies
 - Virtual environments
 - o Install Flask
 - o Install virtualenv

Quickstart

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- A Minimal Application
- What to do if the Server does not Start
- Debug Mode
- Routing
- Static Files
- Rendering Templates
- Accessing Request Data
- Redirects and Errors
- About Responses
- o Sessions
- o Message Flashing
- Logging
- o Hooking in WSGI Middleware
- Using Flask Extensions
- Deploying to a Web Server

• Tutorial

- o Project Layout
- Application Setup
- o Define and Access the Database
- o Blueprints and Views
- Templates
- o Static Files
- o Blog Blueprint
- o Make the Project Installable
- Test Coverage
- Deploy to Production
- Keep Developing!

• Templates

- Jinja Setup
- Standard Context
- Standard Filters
- o Controlling Autoescaping
- Registering Filters
- Context Processors

• Testing Flask Applications

- o The Application
- The Testing Skeleton

- o The First Test
- o Logging In and Out
- Test Adding Messages
- Other Testing Tricks
- Faking Resources and Context
- Keeping the Context Around
- Accessing and Modifying Sessions
- Testing JSON APIs
- Testing CLI Commands

• Application Errors

- Error Logging Tools
- o Error handlers
- Logging

• Debugging Application Errors

- o When in Doubt, Run Manually
- Working with Debuggers

• Logging

- o Basic Configuration
- Email Errors to Admins
- Injecting Request Information
- Other Libraries

• Configuration Handling

- Configuration Basics
- Environment and Debug Features
- o Builtin Configuration Values
- Configuring from Files
- o Configuring from Environment Variables
- Configuration Best Practices
- Development / Production
- o Instance Folders

• Signals

- Subscribing to Signals
- Creating Signals
- o Sending Signals
- o Signals and Flask's Request Context
- Decorator Based Signal Subscriptions

- o Core Signals
- Pluggable Views
 - o Basic Principle
 - Method Hints
 - Method Based Dispatching
 - o Decorating Views
 - Method Views for APIs
- The Application Context
 - Purpose of the Context
 - Lifetime of the Context
 - Manually Push a Context
 - o Storing Data
 - o Events and Signals
- The Request Context
 - o Purpose of the Context
 - Lifetime of the Context
 - o Manually Push a Context
 - How the Context Works
 - Callbacks and Errors
 - Context Preservation on Error
 - Notes On Proxies
- Modular Applications with Blueprints
 - Why Blueprints?
 - The Concept of Blueprints
 - My First Blueprint
 - Registering Blueprints
 - Blueprint Resources
 - o Building URLs
 - Error Handlers
- Extensions
 - Finding Extensions
 - Using Extensions
 - Building Extensions
- Command Line Interface
 - Application Discovery

- o Run the Development Server
- Open a Shell
- Environments
- Debug Mode
- o Environment Variables From dotenv
- Environment Variables From virtualenv
- Custom Commands
- o Plugins
- Custom Scripts
- o PyCharm Integration

• Development Server

- o Command Line
- o In Code

• Working with the Shell

- Command Line Interface
- o Creating a Request Context
- Firing Before/After Request
- o Further Improving the Shell Experience

• Patterns for Flask

- Larger Applications
- Application Factories
- Application Dispatching
- o Implementing API Exceptions
- Using URL Processors
- Deploying with Setuptools
- Deploying with Fabric
- Using SQLite 3 with Flask
- o SQLAlchemy in Flask
- Uploading Files
- Caching
- View Decorators
- Form Validation with WTForms
- Template Inheritance
- Message Flashing
- o AJAX with jQuery
- Custom Error Pages
- Lazily Loading Views

- MongoDB with MongoEngine
- Adding a favicon
- Streaming Contents
- Deferred Request Callbacks
- Adding HTTP Method Overrides
- Request Content Checksums
- Celery Background Tasks
- Subclassing Flask
- Single-Page Applications
- Deployment Options
 - Hosted options
 - Self-hosted options
- Becoming Big
 - o Read the Source.
 - o Hook. Extend.
 - o Subclass.
 - Wrap with middleware.
 - o Fork.
 - Scale like a pro.
 - Discuss with the community.

API Reference

If you are looking for information on a specific function, class or method, this part of the documentation is for you.

- API
 - Application Object
 - Blueprint Objects
 - Incoming Request Data
 - Response Objects
 - Sessions
 - Session Interface
 - o Test Client
 - o Test CLI Runner
 - Application Globals
 - Useful Functions and Classes
 - Message Flashing

- o JSON Support
- o Template Rendering
- Configuration
- Stream Helpers
- Useful Internals
- Signals
- o Class-Based Views
- URL Route Registrations
- View Function Options
- Command Line Interface

Additional Notes

Design notes, legal information and changelog are here for the interested.

- Design Decisions in Flask
 - The Explicit Application Object
 - o The Routing System
 - One Template Engine
 - o Micro with Dependencies
 - o Thread Locals
 - What Flask is, What Flask is Not
- HTML/XHTML FAQ
 - History of XHTML
 - History of HTML5
 - HTML versus XHTML
 - What does "strict" mean?
 - New technologies in HTML5
 - What should be used?
- Security Considerations
 - o Cross-Site Scripting (XSS)
 - Cross-Site Request Forgery (CSRF)
 - JSON Security
 - Security Headers
- Unicode in Flask
 - Automatic Conversion
 - o The Golden Rule

- o Encoding and Decoding Yourself
- Configuring Editors

• Flask Extension Development

- Anatomy of an Extension
- o "Hello Flaskext!"
- Initializing Extensions
- The Extension Code
- Using _app_ctx_stack
- o Learn from Others
- o Approved Extensions

• Pocoo Styleguide

- o General Layout
- o Expressions and Statements
- Naming Conventions
- Docstrings
- Comments

• Upgrading to Newer Releases

- Version 0.12
- Version 0.11
- Version 0.10
- Version 0.9
- Version 0.8
- Version 0.7
- Version 0.6
- o Version 0.5
- Version 0.4
- Version 0.3

• Changelog

- Version 1.1.2
- Version 1.1.1
- Version 1.1.0
- o Version 1.0.4
- Version 1.0.3
- Version 1.0.2
- Version 1.0.1
- Version 1.0

- Version 0.12.4
- Version 0.12.3
- Version 0.12.2
- <u>Version 0.12.1</u>
- Version 0.12
- Version 0.11.1
- Version 0.11
- Version 0.10.1
- Version 0.10
- Version 0.9
- o Version 0.8.1
- Version 0.8
- Version 0.7.2
- o Version 0.7.1
- Version 0.7
- Version 0.6.1
- Version 0.6
- Version 0.5.2
- Version 0.5.1
- Version 0.5
- Version 0.4
- o Version 0.3.1
- Version 0.3
- Version 0.2
- Version 0.1

License

- o Source License
- Artwork License
- How to contribute to Flask
 - Support questions
 - Reporting issues
 - Submitting patches
 - o Caution: zero-padded file modes

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