

Creating an API

This lesson teaches how to create an API to extend web server functionalities and services.

WE'LL COVER THE FOLLOWING ^

- Enabling AJAX Requests

Your web server is pretty limited for now, handling only one route and always returning the same string. Let's create your own little API by publishing some data in **JSON** format.

Enabling AJAX Requests

In a previous chapter, we talked about cross-origin requests (from one domain to another). Authorizing them on your server is mandatory to accept AJAX calls from clients. Enabling CORS on an Express web server is done by a

```
// Enable CORS (see https://enable-cors.org/server_expressjs.html)
app.use((req, res, next) => {
  res.header("Access-Control-Allow-Origin", "*");
  res.header(
    "Access-Control-Allow-Headers",
    "Origin, X-Requested-With, Content-Type, Accept"
  );
  next();
});
```



This is an example of a *middleware*: code that runs somewhere between the reception of the HTTP request and the sending of the HTTP response.