

API Testing Documentation: Flask To-Do List CRUD API

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Introduction

This project involves developing and testing a simple To-Do List REST API using Python Flask framework and testing it manually using Postman. The API supports basic CRUD operations: creating, reading, updating, and deleting to-do tasks.

Test Methodology

Manual testing is done with Postman, where each API endpoint is tested with valid, invalid, boundary, and negative cases. Automated tests cover repetitive validation of CRUD operations using Python testing libraries.

Manual Testing

Objective

To verify the functionality and robustness of the API endpoints for managing to-do tasks

Test Environment

- Operating System: Windows 10 or Ubuntu Linux
- Development: Python 3., Flask framework
- Testing Tool: Postman
- Automation: pytest

Test Case ID	Endpoint	HTTP Method	Description	Request Body (JSON)	Expected Status Code	Expected Response	Actual Status Code	Actual Response	Pass/Fail
TC_001	/tasks	GET	Get all tasks	None	200	Empty JSON array or list of task objects	200	[]	Pass
TC_002	/tasks	POST	Create new task with valid data	{"title": "Finish project", "description": "Complete by Monday"}	201	Newly created task object with id and status	201	Created task JSON	Pass
TC_003	/tasks	POST	Create new task with missing title	{"description": "No title"}	400	Error message: "Title is required"	400	Error JSON	Pass
TC_004	/tasks/1	GET	Get task by valid ID	None	200	Task object with id 1	200	Task JSON	Pass
TC_005	/tasks/999	GET	Get task by invalid ID	None	404	Error message: "Task not found"	404	Error JSON	Pass
TC_006	/tasks/1	PUT	Update task status	{"status": "completed"}	200	Updated task object	200	Updated task JSON	Pass
TC_007	/tasks/999	PUT	Update nonexistent task	{"status": "pending"}	404	Error message: "Task not found"	404	Error JSON	Pass
TC_008	/tasks/1	DELETE	Delete task by valid ID	None	200	Message: "Task deleted"	200	Deletion confirmation	Pass
TC_009	/tasks/999	DELETE	Delete nonexistent task	None	200	Message: "Task deleted" (idempotent behavior)	200	Deletion confirmation	Pass

- During the testing phase, no significant bugs were identified indicating a stable and well functioning API within the covered test scenarios. This reflects the robustness of the API implementation. However, testing should be an ongoing process including load testing, and exploratory testing.

Nov 9 01:05 ● http://127.0.0.1:5000/tasks - Amisha's Workspace

```
amisha@amisha-Lenovo-ideapad-330-15IKB:~/backttest$ cd backttest/
(venv) amisha@amisha-Lenovo-ideapad-330-15IKB:~/backttest$ python3 app.py
 * Serving Flask app 'app'
 * Debug mode: on
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment. Use a production WSGI server instead.
 * Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000
Press CTRL+c to quit
 * Restarting with stat
 * Debugger is active!
 * Debugger PIN: 467-301-940
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 00:38:17] "GET /tasks" 200
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 00:38:35] "POST /tasks" 405
HTTP/1.1" 404
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 01:00:25] "POST /tasks" 405
HTTP/1.1" 415
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 01:04:09] "POST /tasks" 201
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 01:04:44] "POST /tasks" 201
HTTP/1.1" 201
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 01:05:39] "GET /tasks" 200
HTTP/1.1" 200
```

Nov 9 01:08 ● 127.0.0.1:5000/tasks - Amisha's Workspace

File Edit View Help

Amisha's Workspace New Import

Collections > My Collection

Environments

Flows

amisha@amisha-Lenovo-ideapad-330-15IKB:~/backttest\$ POST /tasks HTTP/1.1 415 -
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 01:04:09]
"POST /tasks HTTP/1.1" 201 -
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 01:04:44]
"POST /tasks HTTP/1.1" 201 -
127.0.0.1 - - [09/Nov/2025 01:05:39]
"GET /tasks HTTP/1.1" 200 -

Nov 9 01:08 ● 127.0.0.1:5000/tasks - Postman - Browser Based API Testing

Get data - Amisha's Workspace

127.0.0.1:5000/tasks

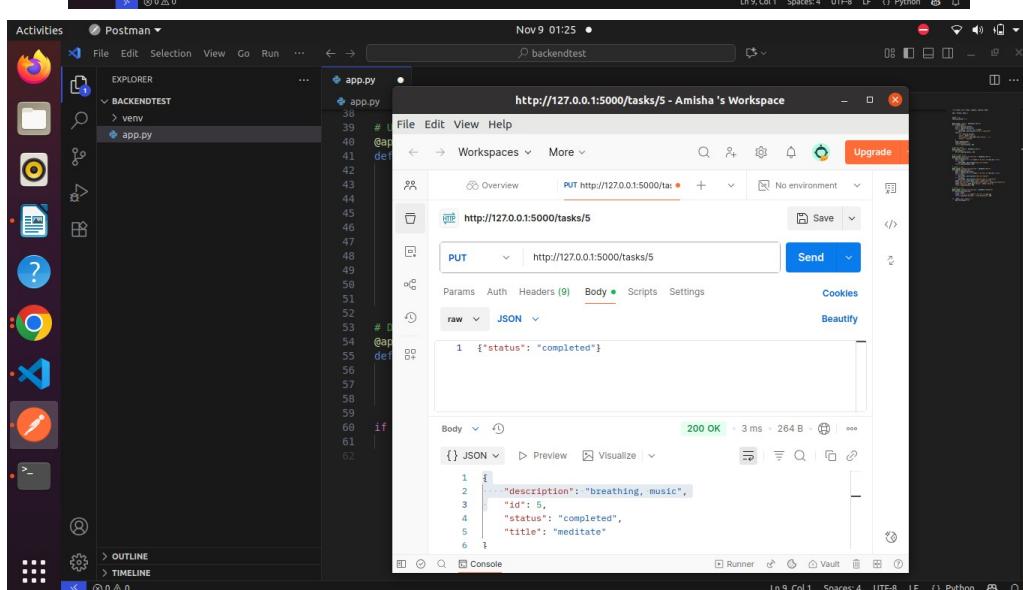
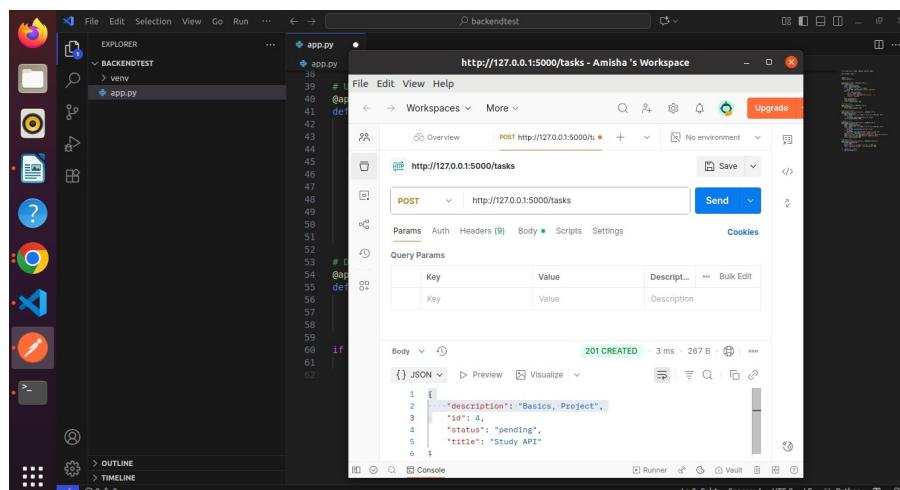
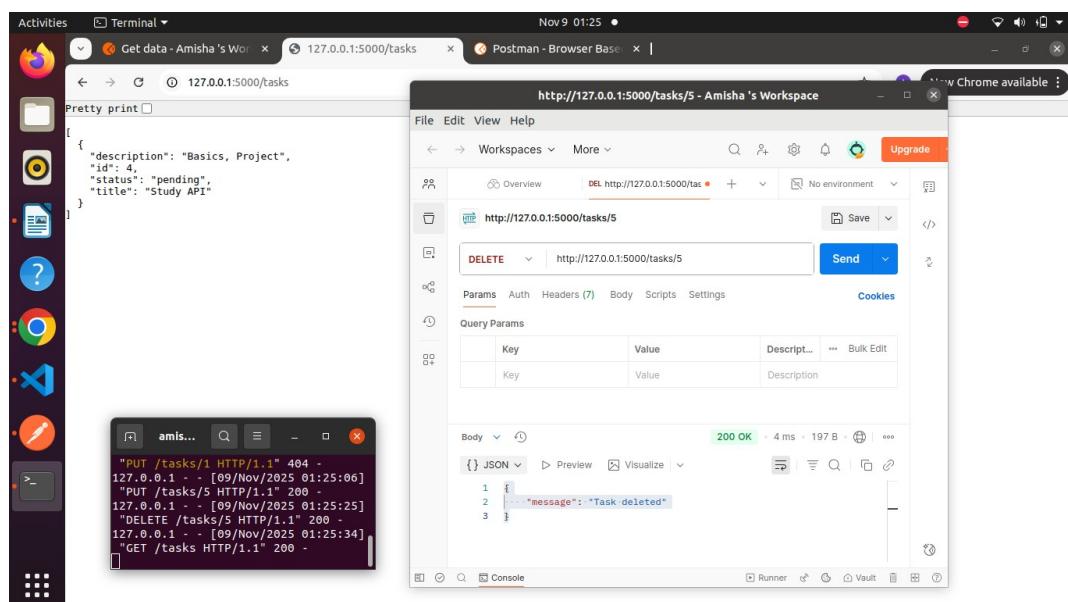
Postman - Browser Based API Testing

Pretty print

```
{
  "description": "Complete by Monday",
  "id": 1,
  "status": "pending",
  "title": "Finish project"
},
{
  "description": "Complete by Monday",
  "id": 2,
  "status": "pending",
  "title": "Finish testing project"
},
{
  "description": "Milk, eggs",
  "id": 3,
  "status": "pending",
  "title": "Buy groceries"
}
```

The screenshot displays a Linux desktop interface with several windows open:

- Activities**: A dock containing icons for various applications like a terminal, code editor, and file manager.
- Postman - Get data - Amisha's Wor**: A browser window showing a JSON response from `http://127.0.0.1:5000/tasks`. The response contains three tasks with IDs 1, 2, and 3, each with a title, status, and description.
- Postman - Browser Based**: A browser window showing a successful `DELETE` request to `http://127.0.0.1:5000/tasks/1`, resulting in a `200 OK` response with the message "Task deleted".
- Terminal**: A terminal window titled "backendtest" showing log output for a Python application. It includes logs for PUT, GET, DELETE, and POST requests to the /tasks endpoint.
- Postman - http://127.0.0.1:5000/tasks/3 - Amisha's Workspace**: A browser window showing a `404 NOT FOUND` response for the URL `http://127.0.0.1:5000/tasks/3`. The page contains an HTML error message indicating the task was not found.
- Postman - http://127.0.0.1:5000/tasks/ - Amisha's Workspace**: A browser window showing a `404 NOT FOUND` response for the URL `http://127.0.0.1:5000/tasks/`. The page contains an HTML error message indicating the requested URL was not found.
- Terminal**: Another terminal window titled "backendtest" showing log output for a Python application. It includes logs for PUT, DELETE, and POST requests to the /tasks endpoint.



Automation testing

Test cases:

test_get_tasks_empty(): Verify initial task list is empty.
test_create_task_and_get_by_id(): Create a task and retrieve it by ID.
test_update_task(): Create task, update status, verify update.
test_delete_task(): Create task, delete it, and ensure deletion.

Sample Script

```
import requests

BASE_URL = "http://127.0.0.1:5000"

def test_get_tasks_empty():
    resp = requests.get(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks")
    assert resp.status_code == 200
    assert resp.json() == []

def test_create_task_and_get_by_id():
    data = {"title": "Test task", "description": "Test description"}
    resp = requests.post(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks", json=data)
    assert resp.status_code == 201
    task = resp.json()
    assert task["title"] == data["title"]
    task_id = task["id"]

    resp2 = requests.get(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks/{task_id}")
    assert resp2.status_code == 200
    assert resp2.json()["id"] == task_id

def test_update_task():
    data = {"title": "Update test"}
    resp = requests.post(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks", json=data)
    task_id = resp.json()["id"]

    update_data = {"status": "completed"}
    resp2 = requests.put(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks/{task_id}", json=update_data)
    assert resp2.status_code == 200
    assert resp2.json()["status"] == update_data["status"]

def test_delete_task():
    data = {"title": "Delete test"}
    resp = requests.post(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks", json=data)
    task_id = resp.json()["id"]

    resp2 = requests.delete(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks/{task_id}")
    assert resp2.status_code == 200
```

```
assert resp2.json()["message"] == "Task deleted"

resp3 = requests.get(f"{BASE_URL}/tasks/{task_id}")
assert resp3.status_code == 404
```

The screenshot shows a Linux desktop environment with a terminal window and a browser window.

The terminal window (Postman - Browser Based) displays the output of a pytest run:

```
amisha@amisha-Lenovo-ideapad-330-15IKB:~/backendtest$ cd backendtest/
amisha@amisha-Lenovo-ideapad-330-15IKB:~/backendtest$ pytest test_api.py
=====
platform linux -- Python 3.8.10, pytest-8.3.5, pluggy-1.5.0
rootdir: /home/amisha/backendtest
collected 4 items

test_api.py .... [100%]

=====
warnings summary =====
../../../../../usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/requests/_init_.py:89
/usr/lib/python3/dist-packages/requests/_init_.py:89: RequestsDependencyWarning:
urllib3 (2.2.3) or chardet (3.0.4) doesn't match a supported version!
  warnings.warn("urllib3 ({}) or chardet ({}) doesn't match a supported "
                warnings.warn(
test_api.py::test_get_tasks_empty
test_api.py::test_create_task_and_get_by_id
test_api.py::test_create_task_and_get_by_id
test_api.py::test_update_task
test_api.py::test_update_task
test_api.py::test_delete_task
test_api.py::test_delete_task
test_api.py::test_delete_task
/home/amisha/.local/lib/python3.8/site-packages/urllib3/poolmanager.py:315: DeprecationWarning: The 'strict' parameter is no longer needed on Python 3+. This will raise an error in urllib3 v2.1.0.
  warnings.warn(
-- Docs: https://docs.pytest.org/en/stable/how-to/capture-warnings.html
=====
4 passed, 9 warnings in 0.10s =====
amisha@amisha-Lenovo-ideapad-330-15IKB:~/backendtest$
```

The browser window (Postman - Browser Based) shows a JSON response from the API endpoint `127.0.0.1:5000/tasks`:

```
[{"id": 1, "status": "pending", "title": "Test task", "description": "Test description"}, {"id": 2, "status": "completed", "title": "Update test", "description": ""}]
```

Summary of Findings

The API functions as intended for basic CRUD operations. Most endpoints respond with correct status codes and data formats. Error handling can be enhanced for non-existent resource IDs. Postman manual tests confirm usability and quick feedback loops for API testing.