Cheat Sheet for API Testing with Postman	
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Top API Testing Tools	
Katalon Studio	Postman
SoapUI	Rest-Assured
CITRUS	Karate
ReadyAPI	Airborne
Jmeter	apigee
API Terminologies	
API	Application Programming Interface (API) is software that acts as an intermediary for two apps to communicate with each other.
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol is the collection of rules for the transmission of data on the World Wide Web, like graphic images, text, video, sound, and other multimedia
HTTPS	The S in HTTPS stands for "secure." HTTPS uses TLS (or SSL) to encrypt HTTP requests and responses
URI	Uniform Resource Identifier is a string identifier that refers to a resource on the internet. It is a string of characters that is used to identify any resource on the internet using location, name, or both.
URL	Uniform Resource Locator is used to find the location of the resource on the web. It is a reference for a resource and a way to access that resource. A URL always shows a unique resource, and it can be an HTML page, a CSS document, an image, etc.
Layers of API Testing	
Three separate layers	Presentation (or user interface) layer, the business layer, and the database layer for modeling and manipulating data.
HTTP Important Response Status Codes	
Code	*Description*
1xx	informational response, request was received, continuing process
100	Continue: The client can continue with the request as long as it doesn't get rejected.
101	Switching Protocols: The server is switching protocols.
102	Processing, It indicates that the server has received and is processing the request, but no response is available yet.
103	Early Hints, it primarily intended to be used with the Link header, letting the user agent start preloading resources while the server prepares a response.
2xx	Success, request was successfully received, understood, and accepted
200	OK: The request succeeded
201	Created: The request succeeded, and a new resource was created as a result. This is typically the response sent after POST requests, or some PUT requests.
202	Accepted: Request accepted for processing, but in progress
203	Non-Authoritative Information: The information in the entity header is not from an original source but a third-party
204	No Content: Response with status code and header but no response body
205	Reset Content: The form for the transaction should clear for additional input
206	Partial Content: Response with partial data as specified in Range header
207	Multi-Status, Conveys information about multiple resources, for situations where multiple status codes might be appropriate.
3xx	Redirection, further action needed in order to complete the request
300	Multiple Choices: Response with a list for the user to select and go to a location

301	Moved Permanently: Requested page moved to a new url
302	Found: Requested page moved to a temporary new URL
303	See Other: One can find the Requested page under a different URL
305	Use Proxy: Requested URL need to access through the proxy mentioned in the Location header
307	Temporary Redirect: Requested page moved to a temporary new URL
308	Permanent Redirect: This means that the resource is now permanently located at another URI, specified by the Location: HTTP Response header.
4xx	Client Error, request contains bad syntax or cannot be fulfilled
400	Bad Request: Server unable to understand the request
401	Unauthorized: Requested content needs authentication credentials
403	Forbidden: Access is forbidden
404	Not Found: Server is unable to find the requested page
405	Method Not Allowed: Method in the request is not allowed
407	Proxy Authentication Required: Need to authenticate with a proxy server
408	Request Timeout: The request took a long time as expected by the server
409	Conflict: Error in completing request due to a conflict
411	Length Required: We require the *"Content-Length"* for the request to process
415	Unsupported Media Type: Unsupported media-type
417	Expectation Failed, it means the expectation indicated by the Expect request header field cannot be met by the server.
421	Misdirected Request, request was directed at a server that is not able to produce a response.
423	Locked, the resource that is being accessed is locked
429	Too Many Requests,user has sent too many requests in a given amount of time
5xx	Server Error, the server failed to fulfil an apparently valid request
500	Internal Server Error: Request not completed due to server error
501	Not Implemented: Server doesn't support the functionality
502	Bad Gateway: Invalid response from an upstream server to the server. Hence, the request not complete
503	Service Unavailable: The server is temporarily down
504	Gateway Timeout: The gateway has timed out
505	HTTP Version Not Supported: Unsupported HTTP protocol version
507	Insufficient Storage, method could not be performed on the resource because the server is unable to store the representation needed to successfully complete the request
511	Network Authentication Required, it indicates that the client needs to authenticate to gain network access
API Test Actions	
Verify correct HTTP status code	For example, creating a resource should return 201 CREATED and unpermitted requests should return 403 FORBIDDEN, etc.
Verify response payload	Check valid JSON body and correct field names, types, and values — including in error responses.
Verify response headers	HTTP server headers have implications on both security and performance.
Verify correct application state	This is optional and applies mainly to manual testing, or when a UI or another interface can be easily inspected.
Verify basic performance sanity	In case an operation was completed successfully but took an unreasonable amount of time, the test fails.
Client, Server and Host	

Client	A client is a computer hardware device or software that accesses a service made available by a server. The server is often (but not always) located on a separate physical computer.
Server	A server is a physical computer dedicated to run services to serve the needs of other computers. Depending on the service that is running, it could be a file server, database server, home media server, print server, or web server.
Host	A host is a computer, connected to other computers for which it provides data or services over a network. In theory, every computer connected to a network acts as a host to other peers on the network. In essence, a host reflects the logical relationship of two or more computers on a network.
Types of API	
Private APIs	APIs builts solely for use within an organization, classified as an in-house application for employees to automate business processes and delivery.
Public/Partner APIs	Openly promoted but available for known developers or business partners, usually represent software integrations between organizations.
External APIs	Completely external APIs, as the name implies, which are available to any third-party developer and are mostly designed or built for end-users/customers.
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API Test Scenario Categories	
1	Basic positive tests (happy paths)
2	Extended positive testing with optional parameters
3	Destructive testing
4	Security, authorization, and permission tests (which are out of the scope of this post)
5	Negative testing with valid input
6	Negative testing with invalid input
API Example with Test Matrix	
API Call	**Action**
GET /users	List all users
GET /users?name={username}	Get user by username
GET /users/{id}	Get user by ID
GET /users/{id}/configurations	Get all configurations for user
POST /users/{id}/configurations	Create a new configuration for user
DELETE /users/{id}/configurations/{id}	Delete configuration for user
PATCH /users/{id}/configuration/{id}	Update configuration for use
Web Services	
SOAP	(Simple Object Access Protocol) is a standard protocol defined by the W3C standards for sending and receiving web service requests and responses.
REST	(REpresentational State Transfer) is the web standards-based architecture that uses HTTP. Unlike SOAP-based Web services, there is no official standard for RESTful Web APIs.
CRUD	Create, Read, Update & Delete

HTTP Request Methods	
GET	It fetches the information from the server. Moreover, it is the most commonly used method which does not have a request body. Every time you open a website, the Get request fires to retrieve the website contents. Additionally, it is equivalent to the read operation.
POST	It works to send data to the server. User may add or update data using the Post request. They send the information that needs to update in the request body.
PUT	It is similar to the Post method since it updates the data. The only difference is that we use it when we have to replace an existing entity completely
PATCH	It s again similar to Post and Put methods, but user use it when they have to update some data partially. Moreover, unlike the Post and Put methods, user may send only the entity that needs updation in the request body with the Patch method.
HEAD	It is similar to the Get method, but it retrieves only the header data and not the entire response body. User use it when they need to check the document's file size without downloading the document.
DELETE	It deletes the server's representations of resources through the specific URL. Additionally, just like the Get method, it does not have a request body.
OPTIONS	It is not a widely used method when compared to other ones. It returns data specifying the different methods and the operations supported by the server at the given URL.
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