Defining Routes

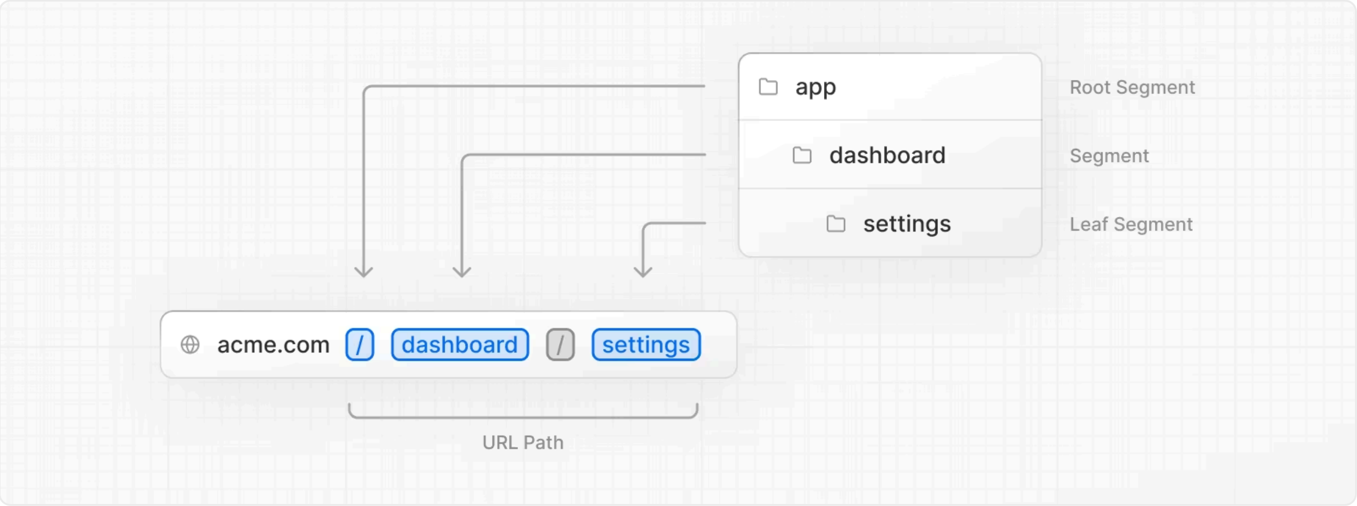
We recommend reading the Routing Fundamentals page before continuing.

This page will guide you through how to define and organize routes in your Next.js application.

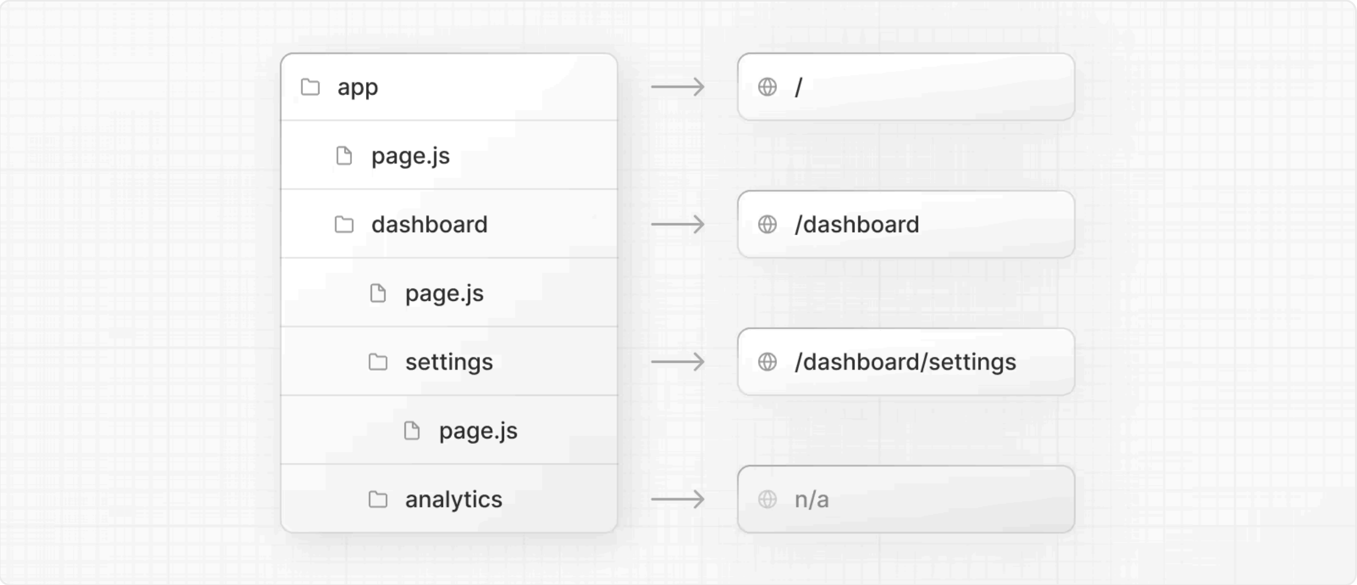
Creating Routes

Next.js uses a file-system based router where **folders** are used to define routes.

Each folder represents a **route** segment that maps to a **URL** segment. To create a nested route, you can nest folders inside each other.



A special `page.js` file is used to make route segments publicly accessible.



In this example, the `/dashboard/analytics` URL path is *not* publicly accessible because it does not have a corresponding `page.js` file. This folder could be used to store components, stylesheets, images, or other colocated files.

> **Good to know**: `.js`, `.jsx`, `.ts`, or `.tsx` file extensions can be used for special files.

Creating UI

Special file conventions are used to create UI for each route segment. The most common are pages to show UI unique to a route, and layouts to show UI that is shared across multiple routes.

For example, to create your first page, add a `page.js` file inside the `app` directory and export a React component:

app/page.tsx TypeScript

```tsx
export default function Page() {
  return <h1>Hello, Next.js!</h1>
}
```

Next Steps

Learn more about creating pages and layouts.

App Router > ... > Routing

Pages

Create your first page in Next.js

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