

# Supporting Data Shaping

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# Coming Up



## Data shaping resources

- Learning about the [ExpandoObject](#)
- Shaping collection & single resources
- Handling errors



```
http://host/api/authors?fields=id,name
```

## Data Shaping Resources

**Data shaping allows the consumer of the API to choose the resource fields**  
**Shape on fields of the resource, not on fields of lower-level layer objects**

# Demo



**Creating a reusable extension method to  
shape data**



# Demo



## Data shaping collection resources



# Demo



## Data shaping single resources



# Demo



**Taking consumer errors into account when shaping data**



`http://host/api/authors?expand=course`

`http://host/api/authors?fields=courses.id`

Exploring Additional Options

**Including child resources**



```
http://host/api/authors?name.contains('Kevin')
```

## Exploring Additional Options

### **Advanced filters**

# Exploring Additional Options

**Don't implement functionality you don't reasonably expect consumers of your API to require**



## Summary



**Allow data shaping on resource fields, not on fields that lie beneath that layer**

**Use `ExpandObject` to dynamically create the object to return**

**Use separate methods for shaping single and collection resources for performance reasons**



# Summary



Return the **fields** parameter as query string in pagination links

Errors should be returned as level 400 errors



Up Next:  
Learning and Implementing HATEOAS

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