Supporting Data Shaping



Kevin Dockx
Architect

@KevinDockx https://www.kevindockx.com



Coming Up



Data shaping resources

- Learning about the ExpandoObject
- Shaping collection & single resources
- Handling errors

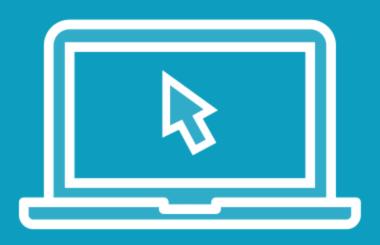
http://host/api/authors?fields=id,name

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



Creating a reusable extension method to shape data



Data shaping collection resources



Data shaping single resources



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 ExpandoObject 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

