

# API Reference

This page details how to render Pug using the JavaScript API.

## Tip

Pug is available in your Web browser's console! To test drive Pug's API, as documented on this page, try entering:

```
pug.render('p Hello world!');
```

## Options ¶

All API methods take the following set of options:

### filename: string

The name of the file being compiled. Used in exceptions, and required for relative includes and extends. Defaults to `'Pug'`.

### basedir: string

The root directory of all absolute inclusion.

### doctype: string

If the doctype is not specified as part of the template, you can specify it here. It is sometimes useful to get self-closing tags and remove mirroring of boolean attributes; see [doctype documentation](#) for more information.

### pretty: boolean | string

Adds whitespace to the resulting HTML to make it easier for a human to read using `' '` as indentation. If a string is specified, that will be used as indentation instead (e.g. `'\t'`). Defaults to `false`.

### filters: object

Hash table of custom filters. Defaults to `undefined`.

### self: boolean

Use a `self` namespace to hold the locals. It will speed up the compilation, but instead of writing `variable` you will have to write `self.variable` to access a property of the locals object. Defaults to `false`.

### debug: boolean

If set to `true`, the tokens and function body are logged to stdout.

### compileDebug: boolean

If set to `true`, the function source will be included in the compiled template for better error messages (sometimes useful in development). It is enabled by default unless used with `Express` in production mode.

**globals: Array<string>**

Add a list of global names to make accessible in templates.

**cache: boolean**

If set to `true`, compiled functions are cached. `filename` must be set as the cache key. Only applies to `render` functions. Defaults to `false`.

**inlineRuntimeFunctions: boolean**

Inline runtime functions instead of `require`-ing them from a shared version. For `compileClient` functions, the default is `true` so that one does not have to include the runtime. For all other compilation or rendering types, the default is `false`.

**name: string**

The name of the template function. Only applies to `compileClient` functions. Defaults to `'template'`.

## Methods ¶

### **pug.compile(source, ?options) ¶**

Compile a Pug template to a function which can be rendered multiple times with different locals.

**source: string**

The source Pug template to compile

**options: ?options**

An options object

**returns: function**

A function to generate the HTML from an object containing locals

```
var pug = require('pug');

// Compile a function
var fn = pug.compile('string of pug', options);

// Render the function
var html = fn(locals);
// => '<string>of pug</string>'
```

### **pug.compileFile(path, ?options) ¶**

Compile a Pug template from a file to a function which can be rendered multiple times with different locals.

**path: string**

The path to a Pug file

**options: ?options**

An options object

**returns: function**

A function to generate the HTML from an object containing locals

```
var pug = require('pug');

// Compile a function
var fn = pug.compileFile('path to pug file', options);

// Render the function
var html = fn(locals);
// => '<string>of pug</string>'
```

## **pug.compileClient(source, ?options) ¶**

Compile a Pug template to a string of JavaScript that can be used client side along with the Pug runtime.

**source: string**

The Pug template to compile

**options: ?options**

An options object

**returns: string**

A string of JavaScript representing a function

```
var pug = require('pug');

// Compile a function
var fn = pug.compileClient('string of pug', options);

// Render the function
var html = fn(locals);
// => 'function template(locals) { return "<string>of pug</string>"; }'
```

## **pug.compileClientWithDependenciesTracked ?options) ¶**

Same as `compileClient` except that this method returns an object of the form:

```
{  
  'body': 'function (locals) {...}',  
  'dependencies': ['filename.pug']  
}
```

You should only use this method if you need `dependencies` to implement something like watching for changes to the Pug files.

## **pug.compileFileClient(path, ?options) ¶**

Compile a Pug template file to a string of JavaScript that can be used client side along with the Pug runtime.

**path: string**

The path to a Pug file

**options: ?options**

An options object

**options.name: string**

If you pass a `.name` property on the options object, it will be used as the function name for your client side template function.

**returns: string**

A JavaScript function body.

First, our template file.

```
h1 This is a Pug template  
h2 By #{author}
```

Then, we compile the Pug file into a function string.

```
var fs = require('fs');  
var pug = require('pug');  
  
// Compile the template to a function string  
var jsFunctionString =  
  pug.compileFileClient('/path/to/pugFile.pug', {name:  
    "fancyTemplateFun"});  
  
// Maybe you want to compile all of your templates to a  
// templates.js file and serve it to the client  
fs.writeFileSync("templates.js", jsFunctionString);
```

Here's what the output function string looks like (written to `templates.js`).

```
function fancyTemplateFun(locals) {
  var buf = [];
  var pug_mixins = {};
  var pug_interp;

  var locals_for_with = (locals || {});

  (function (author) {
    buf.push("<h1>This is a Pug template</h1><h2>By "
      + (pug.escape((pug_interp = author) == null ? '' :
pug_interp))
      + "</h2>");
  }.call(this, "author" in locals_for_with ?
    locals_for_with.author : typeof author !== "undefined" ?
      author : undefined)
  );

  return buf.join("");
}
```

Be sure to send the Pug runtime ( `node_modules/pug/runtime.js` ) to the client in addition to the template that you just compiled.

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
  <head>
    <script src="/runtime.js"></script>
    <script src="/templates.js"></script>
  </head>

  <body>
    <h1>This is one fancy template.</h1>

    <script type="text/javascript">
      var html = window.fancyTemplateFun({author: "enlore"});
      var div = document.createElement("div");
      div.innerHTML = html;
      document.body.appendChild(div);
    </script>
  </body>
</html>
```

## **pug.render(source, ?options, ?callback) ¶**

**source:** string

The source Pug template to render

**options:** ?options

An options object, also used as the locals object

**callback: ?function**

Node.js-style callback receiving the rendered results. **This callback is called synchronously.**

**returns: string**

The resulting HTML string

```
var pug = require('pug');

var html = pug.render('string of pug', options);
// => '<string>of pug</string>'
```

## pug.renderFile(path, ?options, ?callback) ¶

**path: string**

The path to the Pug file to render

**options: ?options**

An options object, also used as the locals object

**callback: ?function**

Node.js-style callback receiving the rendered results. **This callback is called synchronously.**

**returns: string**

The resulting HTML string

```
var pug = require('pug');

var html = pug.renderFile('path/to/file.pug', options);
// ...
```

## Properties ¶

### pug.filters ¶

A hash table of custom filters.

This object has the same semantics as the `filters` option, but applies globally to all Pug compilation. When a filter is present in both `pug.filters` and `options.filters`, the `filters` option takes precedence.

#### Deprecated

This property has been deprecated in favor of the `filters` option.