Backend as a Service (Baas / mBaaS)

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https://spark.adobe.com/page/Dv12md0o5Dfcu/

What is BaaS/mBaaS

Backend as a Service is the business of creating and maintaining all of a consumer's backend development needs so that they can concentrate on frontend tasks and responsibilities. Examples of back end development needs are things like pre written server software, database management, user authentication, cloud hosting and many other server side responsibilities. Mobile Backend as a Service is the same but with an emphasis on mobile application backends.

Backend as a Service

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Five BaaS Solutions

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sept-12-mobile-backend-service/

AWS Mobile Hub - Lets users add and configure app features like user authentication, data storage and push notifications. AWS Mobile Hub is designed for mobile applications.

Microsoft Azure - A large BaaS with a very large selection of versions and modules to customize the service. Services include authentication, offline data sync, and automatic scaling.

MongoDB Stitch - A BaaS that allows the frontend developers to have access to a MongoDB database and its features without also needing to manage a MongoDB server.

Kinvey - One of the first services dedicated to mobile baas.

Apache Usergrid - An open source BaaS that has an integrated NoSQL database. Apache Usergrid provides registration and authentication as well as data and file storage.

Three Reasons To Use BaaS

Three reasons a company might opt to use BaaS could include having much less complication when dealing with complex backend services, the ability to save money and time and, the ease of automating certain app behaviors like authentication and database management. Using a BaaS can trivialize and automate many tasks and using back end as a service allows for developers to take APIs to interface with back end instead of having to create their won back end services for every project.

Three BaaS Solutions With Pros And Cons

Apache Usergrid - Although Apache Usergrid is open source and many people like to use it for its ease of use with data storage, it suffers from minimal implications of modules and features.

MongoDB Stitch - MongoDB Stitch is BaaS that allows the frontend developers to have access to a MongoDB database and its features. One downside might be access to the actual server or the ability to do custom work on a database.

AWS Mobile Hub - Has many uses being large modular BaaS with a very large selection of versions and modules mostly focused on AWS mobile needs but, a disadvantage of that may be that AWS Mobile Hub could be too limiting or streamlined for overly complex applications being forced into using AWS.

App Example, With One BaaS Solution, And Three Reasons Why

If a developer were to create a mobile app that kept track of people's collections then they could use

MongoDB Stitch to track user information like a user's current collection and wish lists or things of that nature without having do administrate your own database solution. Another perk of using something like MonoDB Stitch is that a company would probably save a lot of money in the process of foregoing the hiring of extra advanced or specialized developers in the back end field.

One Company Using Baas And Why

The company Ketchapp along with thousands of other mobile development companies use mobile baas with the Google Play and Apple services for it's applications. Ketchapp specifically uses these two services for leader board databases and the purchasing of in app goods. Using this type of baas cuts days and possibly weeks off of application development because all of the handling for these complex interactions is done by Google and Apple whereas the developer only needs to initiate these processes and feed information to them.

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