

12. JWT Summary

1. User Authentication (Login):

- **Endpoint:** /login
- **Process:**
 - User submits credentials (username/password) via POST request.
 - Credentials are verified using AuthenticationManager with a UsernamePasswordAuthenticationToken.
 - On successful authentication, a **JWT token** is generated.

2. JWT Token Generation:

- **Class:** JwtService
- **Token Construction:**
 - Claims (e.g., username, roles) are added using setClaims(Map<String, Object>).
 - The token includes metadata such as subject, issuedAt, and expiration.
 - The token is signed using a **HMAC-SHA256** algorithm with a secret key.
 - Output: A compact, self-contained token string.

3. Token Issuance:

- The token is returned to the client in the login response.
- **Client Responsibility:** Store the token securely (e.g., in localStorage or as an HTTP-only cookie).

4. Request with Token:

- For protected endpoints, the client includes the JWT in the Authorization header using the format:
Authorization: Bearer <JWT>.

5. JWT Validation on API Requests:

- **Filter:** JwtFilter (extends OncePerRequestFilter)
- **Flow:**
 - Extract the Authorization header.

- Validate the token signature using the secret key (`Key` object via `Keys.hmacShaKeyFor()`).
- Decode claims using `Jwts.parserBuilder().parseClaimsJws(token).getBody()`.
- Check token validity:
 - **Signature:** Ensures the token hasn't been tampered with.
 - **Expiration:** Confirms the token is not expired using `Claims.getExpiration()`.

6.Authentication Context Update:

- If the token is valid:
 - Extract the `username` via `extractUserName()`.
 - Load `UserDetails` from the user store (via `UserDetailsService`).
 - Create a `UsernamePasswordAuthenticationToken` and set it in `SecurityContextHolder`.
- If invalid:
 - Deny access or return an unauthorized response.

7.Security Filter Chain Configuration:

- **Session Policy:** `SessionCreationPolicy.STATELESS` (No server-side sessions).
- **CSRF:** Disabled for token-based security.
- **Filters:** Custom `JwtFilter` added before the `UsernamePasswordAuthenticationFilter`.

8.Token Claims and Validation:

- Claims extracted (e.g., `username`, `roles`) using functional interfaces like `Claims::getSubject`.
- Token is validated to ensure:
 - Subject matches authenticated user.
 - Token is not expired (using `extractExpiration()`).

9.JWT Libraries and Key Management:

- **Library:** `io.jsonwebtoken` (JWT).
- **Key Management:**
 - Secret key dynamically generated or securely configured using environment variables.

- Base64 encoding for portability, decoded for cryptographic operations.

10. Post-Validation Request Flow:

- Once authenticated, the request proceeds to the controller.
- Authorization checks are performed based on roles or permissions included in the token.

End-to-End Lifecycle

1. **Login** → User authenticated → JWT issued.
2. **Request** → JWT provided → Validated → User authenticated.
3. **Protected Resource Access** → Authorization ensured via claims.

This flow enables stateless, secure, and scalable API authentication using JWT.