Exercise 1: Using the Postman REST Client

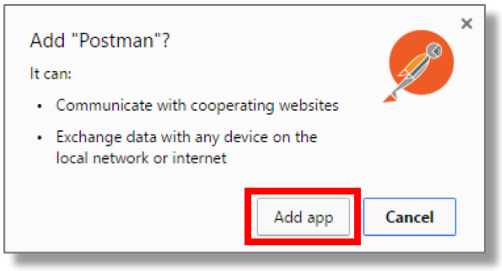
In this exercise, you will be using a GUI tool called Postman to make REST calls to the Swagger demo pet store API. Postman is a Google Chrome app, so you need to be running Chrome on a desktop device in order to use it.

Set up

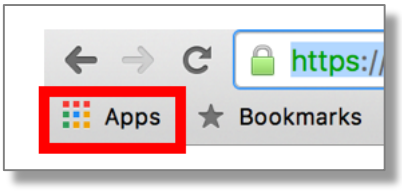
Follow these steps to install Postman:

1. If you do not have it already, download Google Chrome from the Chrome website. Install it.
2. Open Chrome and the navigate to the Postman web page in the Chrome app store: https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/postman/fhbjgbiflinjbdggehcddcbncdddomop?hl=en
3. Click on **Add to Chrome**.

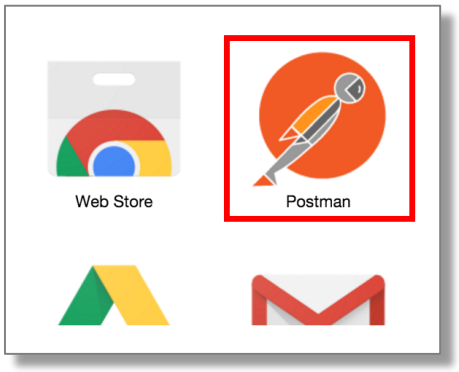
4. Click **Add App**.



5. Click on the **Apps** icon in the Bookmarks bar at the top of Chrome



6. Click on the **Postman** icon to open it.



Making HTTP Requests

If you have taken my Udemy course on REST, then you've already played around with the Swagger demo pet store database through the interactive Swagger documentation. Let's do the same exercise again, but this time using Postman to make the requests instead of the Swagger documentation.

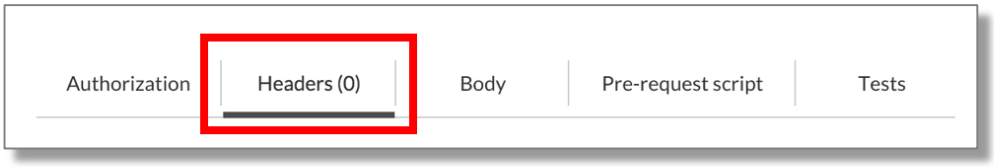
Create a User

Let's create a new user in the system. We are going to make a POST request to the URL `http://petstore.swagger.io/v2/user` and include data for the new user in the POST body in JSON format. Follow these steps:

1. Set the dropdown to **Post**.

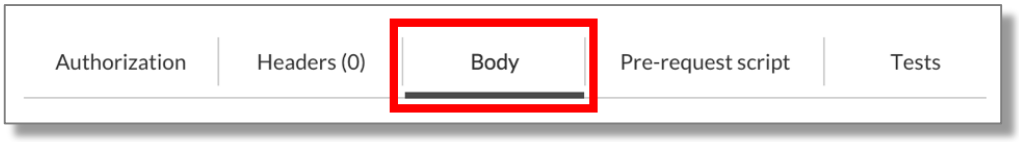
2. Where it says **Enter URL request here**, type: `http://petstore.swagger.io/v2/user`

3. Next, we need to add a header to indicate that the data we send will be in JSON. Click on the **Headers** tab.

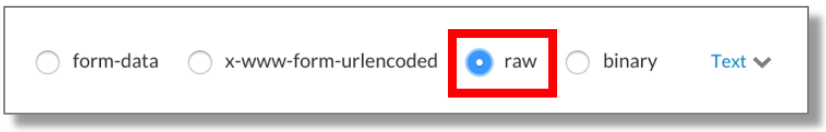


4. Add a Header named `Content-Type` with a Value of `application/json`.

5. Finally, we'll add the POST body. Click on the **Body** tab.

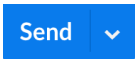


6. Select the **raw** radio button.

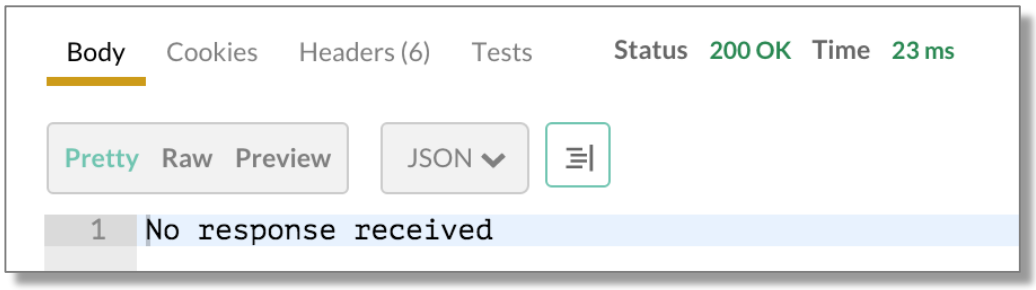


7. Copy and paste the following JSON code with user data into the body area:

```
{
  "id": 0,
  "username": "restexpert",
  "firstName": "Rachel",
  "lastName": "Rest",
  "email": "rachel@example.com",
  "password": "json",
  "phone": "5551212",
  "userStatus": 0
}
```

8. Click **Send**. 

9. If you are successful, you should see a **Status 200 OK** message, as well as the message **No response received** for the body.



Retrieve User Information

To retrieve user information, simply:

1. Change the dropdown from **POST** to **GET**.
2. Add the username /restexpert on the end of the URL.

3. Click **Send**.
4. Now you should see the data for the user you created in the returned body.

Delete the User

To delete the user, simply change the **GET** dropdown to **DELETE.** Click **Send**, and look for the **Status 200 OK** to see if it was successfully deleted.

Once, deleted, try to retrieve it again by setting the dropdown back to **GET** and clicking **Send**. Since the user is no longer there, this time you should see a status of **404 Not Found** and a body with a message "User not found".