{x} JSON Schema   Specification   Examples   Software

JSON Schema

JSON Schema is a vocabulary that allows you to **annotate** and **validate** JSON documents.

Advantages

JSON Schema

- describes your existing data format
- clear, human- and machine-readable documentation
- complete structural validation, useful for
  - automated testing
  - validating client-submitted data

JSON Hyper-Schema

- describes your existing API - no new structures required
- links (including URI Templates for target URIs)
- forms - specify a JSON Schema for the desired data

Quickstart

The JSON document being validated or described we call the *instance*, and the document containing the description is called the *schema*.

The most basic schema is a blank JSON object, which constrains nothing, allows anything, and describes nothing:

```
{}
```

You can apply constraints on an instance by adding validation keywords to the schema. For example, the "type" keyword can be used to restrict an instance to an object, array, string, number, boolean, or null:

```
{"type": "string"}
```

JSON Schema is hypermedia ready, and ideal for annotating your existing JSON-based HTTP API. JSON Schema documents are identified by URIs, which can be used in HTTP Link headers, and inside JSON Schema documents to allow recursive definitions.

More

Interested? Check out:

- the specification
- some examples
- this excellent guide for schema authors, from the Space Telescope Science Institute
- the growing list of JSON (Hyper-)Schema software

Questions? Feeling helpful? Get involved on:

- the GitHub repo
- the Google Group
- the IRC channel (Freenode Webchat)

JSON Schema

○ json-schema-org
Discussion: Google Groups
Site edits: GitHub repo for site

The home of JSON Schema