Introduction to Node.js

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Agenda

- What is Node.js?

- npm

- Why would I use it?

- Syntax

- Some examples

- Links

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What is Node.js?

- From nodejs.org

  - Node.js is a platform built on Chrome's JavaScript runtime for easily building fast, scalable network applications. Node.js uses an event-driven, non-blocking I/O model that makes it lightweight and efficient, perfect for data-intensive real-time applications that run across distributed devices.

npm

- Node Package Manager, Node Packaged Modules (NPM)

- Installs packages and dependencies

- Without arguments discovers dependencies in current directory

- git url aware

- Packages can be: files, tarball, url

- npm search

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Why would I use it?

- Really quick way to put up a web server

- Quick and easy script editing

- My experience has been that installation is much quicker/easier than Rails (and gem)

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Syntax

Hello World

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

http.createServer(function (request, response) {
  response.writeHead(200, {'Content-Type': 'text/plain'});
  response.end('Hello World\n');
}).listen(8124);

console.log('Server running at http://127.0.0.1:8124/');


$ node example.js
Server running at http://127.0.0.1:8124/


 $ curl http://127.0.0.1:8124/
 Hello World
```

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Modules

- Libraries

- Include files

- Facilitates code organization

- Directory walk looking for 'node_modules/' to satisfy requires

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Modules

```
fs = require('fs');

fs.rename(files.upload.path, "/tmp/test.png",
  function(err) {
  if (err) {
      console.log('error');
   }
 });
```

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Functions

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EventEmitters

- on

- once

- removeListener

- once

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Debugging

- console.log

- debugger (node debug file.js)

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Some examples

Tricks

- Rapid deployment

  - screen

  - node server.js

  - return to the session with 'screen -r'

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Live demo

- http server

- fixed protocol response

- directory list

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Links

- nodejs.org

- npmjs.org

- github.com/joyent/node

- howtonode.org

- nodeguide.com

- expressjs.com

- github.com/dougtoppin/node

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